



ANNUAL MEETING OF MEMBERS OF THE ASSOCIATION

Hyatt Regency Hotel • Chicago, IL

Friday, June 13, 2025

PARTICIPANTS

NASW Board Members:

Yvonne Chase, President

Fatima Salman, Vice President

Robin Arndt, Secretary

Bisrat Abebe, Director, Region I Karen McLean,
Director, Region II

Ancy Lewis, Director, Region III

Yasoda Sharma, Director, Region IV

Alice Kay Locklear, Director, Region V

Marla Blunt-Carter, Director, Region VI

Carol Edwards, Director, Region VII

Dafna Berman, Director, Region VIII

Tony Raymer, Director, Region IX

Shawntelle Fisher, Director, Region X

LaTonya Charles, Director, Region XI

Michelle Pliske, Director, Region XII

Natasha Paddock, Director, Region XIII

Mavis Major, Director at Large

Sylvester Bowie, Director at Large

Emonie Robinson, Director - MSW Student

Hana Kisswani, Director – BSW Student

Other Association Members:

Anthony Estreet (MD)

Monica Alzate (TX)

Valerie Arendt (NC)

Jeremy Arp (WA)

Barbara Bedney (DC)

Gwen Bouie-Haynes (MS)

Duane Breijak (MI)

Karen Bullock (MA)

Cleopatra Castaneda (WI)

Gortrell Cox (AR)

Brandi Felderhoff (TX)

Michael Gianotti (TX)

Ke'Andra Hagans (WI)

Anthony J. Hill (SC)

Kim Howard (WI)

D. Lynn Jackson (TX)

Dina Kastner (MD)

Debra Lavender-Bratcher (TX)

Heidi McIntosh (MD)

Julia R. Melendez (PR)

Ebony Middleton (MD)

Latesha Newson (IL)

Lindsey Pollock

Brenda Rosen (KY)

Joel Rubin (IL)

Leanne Rupp (CO)

Adam Scheffler (IL)

Barbara Solt (MD)

Gail Woods Waller (MD)

National Staff:

Cheryl Bradley, Publisher, NASW Press

Ashlee Fox, Deputy Counsel

Sekou “Koe” Murphy, Chief Financial Officer

Doreta Richards, Senior Governance Associate

Danielle Spears, Executive Leadership Manager

SUMMARY OF MEETING ACTIONS/MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

The Annual Meeting of Association Members was convened at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Chicago, IL. The meeting was called to order on Friday, June 13, 2025, at approximately 12:00 pm CT by President Yvonne Chase. A quorum was established for the meeting.

President Chase welcomed members who joined the meeting in person and virtually and called for the approval of the agenda.

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda for the meeting was reviewed and approved as follows:

M/S/Carried

(Kisswani/Sharma)

To approve the agenda for the NASW 2025 Meeting of Association Members.

REVIEW OF MINUTES

Minutes of the 2024 meeting that were approved at the September 2024 NASW Board meeting were provided to attendees prior to the meeting.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Chase summarized highlights of her trip to Switzerland to meet with leaders of the International Federation of Social Workers (IFSW). The trip provided the opportunity for a broader understanding of IFSW's governance structure and its link to the United Nations (UN-NY) and for greater collaboration between those entities and the IFSW North America Region. The North America Region consists of Canada represented by the Canadian Association of Social Workers (CASW) and the United States represented by NASW. President Chase mentioned that the call for applications for IFSW Regional Representatives to the UN-NY had been issued. Members interested in being considered were encouraged to submit a chapter-endorsed application.

Also mentioned was IFSW's Executive Committee's censure of the Israeli Union of Social Workers for failing to promote peace. As citizens, Israeli social workers are legally required to bear arms. She noted that NASW-USA and CASW voted against the resolution and that there have been cooperative communications with IFSW on the issue so she is confident the censure will be lifted.

The Suicide Prevention Task Force established to develop social work practice standards of care was mentioned. It was noted that other professions have developed practice standards in this area. However, social workers have lagged in developing our own standards of care for suicide prevention, which makes the Task Force work timely. Members were encouraged to read the draft standards when posted and submit their comments. To conclude her remarks, she spoke briefly about President Trump's Executive Orders, their impact on social work practice and NASW's responses. She also referenced the Delegate Assembly triennial process and its culminating meeting that will occur in the fall of 2026 noting that the Delegate Assembly Planning Task Force has been seated and will be developing the agenda for the culminating meeting where delegates will be voting on the next set of program priority

goals and any changes to the Code of Ethics. Delegates will also revise and develop new public and professional policy statements for the next edition of *Social Work Speaks*.

STATE OF THE ASSOCIATION

In his State of the Association address Chief Executive Officer Dr. Anthony Estreet noted the exhilaration of being in Chicago for the NASW National Conference, and the events of the next few days of over two thousand social workers gathered to focus on social and economic justice, artificial intelligence, immigration and other topics of import to the profession. He complimented the collaborative efforts of the NASW Chicago Chapter and the National offices for the planning and implementation of the conference.

In reflecting on the year, Dr. Estreet mentioned the Democratic National Convention and the excitement that was generated and later (November 2024) the election of Donald Trump for a second term US presidency. He reminded the Board that the social work theme, “Compassion and Action” shows NASW stands firmly behind its core values and will not back down from the challenges brought on by the current administration. Dr. Estreet lauded the accomplishments of the national office and chapters, some of which he highlighted during his remarks.

In January 2025, NASW began its public response to the multiple Executive Orders that attempted to dismantle centuries old programs, institutions and civil rights that the social work profession helped to create. NASW reaffirmed its values and mission are non-negotiable and with the help of social workers across the country, the message of well-being, human rights, anti-hate and democracy reached a broad swath of the American public. In April, NASW documented its concerns in a letter to the US Secretary of Veterans Affairs regarding its workforce reduction and the implications for access to quality care for our veterans. Later the Association began a mobilizing campaign to reduce support for the Big Beautiful Bill.

NASW also developed a [Blueprint of Public Policy Priorities for the 119th Congress](#) and, with the help of our chapters, has been instrumental in passing compact laws in 26 states and is moving closer to obtaining the Interstate Social Work Licensure Compact to promote license portability. Other legislative activities include: the Housing Opportunities Made for Everyone (HOME), a tenant rights education and protection program led by the Mississippi Chapter; the Expanding Seniors Access to Mental Health Services Act that increases support for Medicare beneficiaries and is awaiting a vote in the House and Senate; the Kentucky Chapter’s stance in protesting cuts to Medicaid, Medicare, Social Security and other social programs in one of the poorest states in the US.

Other highlights include: NASW’s rebranding including a new logo that promotes a bold, unified look; the strategic harnessing of Association resources to create a more streamlined approach to our business operations; our *Stronger Together* initiative to resist the dismantling of America’s safety nets and our *Win Back* campaign to re-engage our lapsed members as part of our 70th Anniversary multi-pronged celebration and re-engagement efforts.

In closing, Dr. Estreet thanked members for their support, encouraged their continued engagement so that the Association can continue to collectively effect positive change.

RATIFICATION OF THE 2025 NATIONAL ELECTION RESULTS

The results of the NASW 2025 national election of officers and members of the Board and the National Committee on Nominations and Leadership Identification (NCNLI) were read into the minutes by Secretary Robin Arndt as follows:

NASW Board of Directors

- | | |
|------------------------|------------------------|
| • President Elect | Karen Bullock (MA) |
| • Secretary | Carly Ellman (PA) |
| • Member at Large | Aviva Vincent (OH) |
| • BSW Student Member | Zahraa Alrafish (MI) |
| • Director, Region V | Anthony J. Hill (SC) |
| • Director, Region VII | Jessica Hare (GA) |
| • Director, Region XI | Brandi Felderhoff (TX) |
| • Director, Region XII | Ruddy Taylor (AK) |

NCNLI

- Region V Representative Tiffany Burks-Sanders (TN)

After the reading of the election results, a motion was taken for the ratification of the results.

M/S/Carried

(Arndt/Charles)

To ratify the results of the NASW 2025 national election, which ended on May 30, 2025.

OTHER BUSINESS AND ADJOURNMENT

The President invited members who wished to address the participants of the meeting to indicate their interest. Members spoke about the changes of the current administration and their impact on specific populations. Social work salaries were also brought up as an issue that needs more attention.

In closing, President Chase thanked the attendees for their participation. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 12:45 p.m. CT by consensus.