

2026 SOCIAL WORK MONTH PROCLAMATION

SOCIAL WORKERS — UPLIFT. DEFEND. TRANSFORM.

WHEREAS, Social Workers positively impact the lives of millions of Americans daily, in hospitals, schools, child welfare agencies, community, centers, and within the federal, state and local governments nationwide;

WHEREAS, for more than a century, Social Workers have worked to improve human well-being, advocate for justice, and support everyone's basic needs;

INASMUCH AS, Social Workers select this profession out of a deep commitment to help uplift, defend, and transform the lives of people, their families and communities;

WHEREAS, the 2026 theme, "Social Workers: Uplift. Defend. Transform," shines a light on the resolute spirit of social workers who transform lives while bringing hope, healing, and justice to the communities they serve - especially in times of profound change and challenges;

BECAUSE, Social Workers follow a Code of Ethics that calls on them to stand for equity in every community, uphold human dignity, and fight injustice;

WHEREAS, Social Workers are on the frontlines defending vulnerable populations, including immigrants, LGBTQIA2S+ individuals, and those facing discrimination or poverty, while uplifting vital social safety net programs and ensuring the rights of everyone;

CONSIDERING, Social Workers assist those navigating trauma, grief, and systemic biases, and help people recover from natural disasters, public health crises, and other issues while transforming their lives in encouraging ways;

INASMUCH AS, Social Workers confront oppression and racism, advocate for human rights, and advancing fair policies for all persons by obliterating barriers that prevent individuals, and families from thriving;

WHEREAS, Social Workers care for those who have mental health issues, are recovering from substance use disorders, and support the well-being of children;

BECAUSE, the profession continues to grow, with more than 810,000 social workers in the United States who transform lives by shaping a more just and compassionate society through leadership, education, advocacy and direct practice;

NOW, THEREFORE, in recognition of the critical contributions of social workers across our nation, I _____ proclaim the month of March 2026 as National Social Work Month, and call upon everyone to join the National Association of Social Workers and

_____ [insert your organization] in celebrating and supporting the vital work of Social Workers who uplift, defend, and positively transform our communities each and every day.