



SOCIAL WORK QUICK FACTS:

- There are more social workers nationwide than psychologists, mental health counselors, psychiatrists, and marriage and family therapists combined.
- The Bureau of Labor Statistics predicts that employment for social workers is expected to grow faster than the average for all occupations through 2018.
- Approximately 31% of all social workers are employed within the government.
- There are more than 40 schools of social work in Pennsylvania. The Commonwealth is the second largest educator of social workers nationwide.
- There are approximately 40,000 degreed social workers throughout Pennsylvania.



SOCIAL WORKERS CHANGE FUTURES

Social workers make change possible by working with individuals, families, groups and communities to improve human well-being in a variety of ways. Social workers are on the front lines advocating for people and facilitating positive social change. Do you want to be a part of the change? The social work profession may be the field for you.

For more information visit our website:

www.NASW-PA.org

Or connect with NASW-PA through Social Media



WHAT IS SOCIAL WORK?



Courtesy of the National Association of
Social Workers, Pennsylvania Chapter



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Paving the Way for Change

WHAT IS SOCIAL WORK?

The main goal of social work is to improve human well-being and help meet the basic needs of all people. Social workers help empower individuals, especially those who are vulnerable, oppressed, and living in poverty. Social workers are committed to social justice and enhancing the quality of life for individuals, families, groups, communities, and systems.

WHO ARE SOCIAL WORKERS?

Social workers are professionals who have graduated from an accredited social work program at the bachelor, master or doctoral level. Social workers enhance the lives of others by working to create positive opportunities for the future. Each social worker uses a large network of resources to help connect a person to community services that will help them overcome challenges.

Social workers are the largest providers of mental health services across the nation, with over 642,000 degreed and licensed professionals. There are more social workers than psychologists, psychiatrists, professional counselors, and marriage and family therapists combined.

DO SOCIAL WORKERS FOLLOW AN ETHICAL CODE?

Yes. Social workers follow the NASW *Code of Ethics*. This comprehensive code sets forth values and standards that all social workers follow. The core values of social workers are service, social justice, dignity and worth of all persons, the importance of human relationships, integrity and competence.

WHERE ARE SOCIAL WORKERS EMPLOYED?

Social workers are everywhere! They are found in hospitals, veterans's clinics, schools, senior communities, government, health care facilities, children and youth agencies, juvenile and adult corrections facilities, drug and alcohol rehabilitation centers and more.

HOW DO I BECOME A SOCIAL WORKER?

Social workers are educated, trained and experienced practitioners. In Pennsylvania, an individual must earn a bachelor, master or doctoral degree from an accredited social work program to be called a social worker. The Counsel on Social Work Education provides a list of approved colleges and universities with social work programs. A complete list can be found at www.cswe.org under the accreditation tab.

WHAT CAN I DO AS A SOCIAL WORKER?

Social workers can be found in many settings including working with individuals, groups, families, and communities, however many social workers are involved in more than one of these. Direct practice with clients can include therapy, case management, assessment and behavioral intervention. Within communities and organizations social workers will often be involved in community planning, policy development, advocacy efforts, teaching, and research. Social workers are trained in many methods of assessment, intervention and evaluation and utilize evidence based practice to ensure that clients receive the best services possible.

Social Workers Change Futures



THE FUTURE OF SOCIAL WORK...

The US Bureau of Labor Statistics projects that social work will grow faster than average when compared to all other occupations. The major areas of predicted growth in social work include substance abuse treatment and prevention, gerontology, autism, public health, and work with the military.