Social workers stand up for millions of people each day.

They stand up by comforting people who are experiencing devastating illnesses and mental health crises, ensuring they get the best care while on the road to recovery. They stand up and support our brave military personnel, veterans and their families. They work in communities and with national, state and local government to provide services and pass legislation to stand with and help the most vulnerable.

Join us at the 29th Annual NASW Georgia Conference…

Offering up to 20 continuing education hours

Friday Keynote Speaker

Social Workers Stand Up to Meet 12 Grand Challenges Facing our Nation
Richard L. Jones, PhD, Chicago, IL

The National Association of Social Workers has joined the American Academy of Social Work and Social Welfare in launching a new project, "The 12 Grand challenges for Social Work." The initiative is a call to action for all of us to work together to tackle our nation’s toughest social problems. Dr. Richard Jones, our keynote speaker, will provide information about the 12 challenges and discuss how Social Workers from the State of Georgia and across the country can encourage members of the U.S. Congress and other key decision-makers to embrace policies which are supportive of healthy and positive individual and community development. How can our profession make a difference when we consider the incredible forces we are up against as we stand up for social justice for all of our neighbors in Georgia and across the country? As the current Administration completes its first year in office what have we learned and what can we expect? How do we mobilize our profession and all of the resources we have at our disposal to ensure that all Americans will have equal access to social justice, health care, a great education and a chance to earn a decent wage in an ever changing and competitive world? Dr Jones will explore these and other questions as we reflect on the role that Social Workers can assume shaping the narrative that is emerging all around us today.

Richard L. Jones, PhD is an Organizational Consultant & Executive Coach who has served in major leadership roles in the non-profit sector throughout the country. He served as the Senior Vice President of Community Investment of the United Way of Metropolitan Chicago. He has also served as Administrator of Employment and Family Services and the Cuyahoga Support Enforcement Agency for Cuyahoga County in Ohio, and as President and CEO for Metropolitan Family Services in Chicago. Dr. Jones’ leadership is recognized nationally and internationally. He completed his MSSA and PhD at the Mandel School of Applied Social Sciences of Case Western University. A graduate of the Leadership Cleveland Class of 1993, Dr. Jones is a member of the Visiting Committee of the Mandel School of Applied Social Sciences of Case Western Reserve University and the Program Strategy Committee of the Saint Luke’s Foundation.

Friday Legislative Update Speaker

Legislative Advocacy
Wendi L. Clifton, Esq., NASW-GA Legislative Advocate

The social work profession was founded in social change. Social Workers have a long, proud history of legislative advocacy. NASW Georgia Chapter Legislative Advocate Wendi Clifton will highlight legislative issues that impact the social work profession.

Wendi L. Clifton, Esq. has extensive public policy experience in Georgia and is a founding partner of two political consulting firms in Atlanta. She earned a BA in Political Science from the University of Georgia and a Juris Doctorate from Georgia State University College of Law, with a concentration in legislative, administrative and environmental law and policy.