

Written Testimony to U.S. House of Representatives for FY2009

Subject: FY2009 Budget Appropriations

Venue: Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies, Committee on Appropriations, U.S. House

Date of speech: March 31, 2008

On behalf of the Council on Social Work Education, I am pleased to offer this written testimony to the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies for the official committee record. I will focus my testimony on issues pertaining to fostering a diverse social work workforce through training and accessibility to higher education. In particular, this statement will touch on the importance of funding the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration's (SAMHSA) Minority Fellowship Program at \$6 million for Fiscal Year 2009; the need to protect the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) minority training program which is also in jeopardy of cancellation; and the importance of sustaining funding for programs within the Department of Education that expand accessibility in higher education. See the attached file for full details.