2026-2030

Strategic Plan Progress Report

Updated November 20, 2026

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Annual Progress Report Model

This progress report serves as an annual overview of organizational achievements across the three categories included within the Council of Social Work Education's 2026-2030 Strategic Plan (SP'30): AI & Technology, Transformative Leadership, and Student Engagement. The reporting period for this update is August 2025 through August 2026

Annual Dissemination
Published annually each November.

FY2026 Focus: CSWE Organizational Achievements
To kick off the SP'30 Progress Reports, FY2026 focuses on CSWE's organizational achievements across Goals 1, 2, and 3.

FY 2027 & Beyond: CSWE Organizational Achievements + Membership Spotlights
Future reports will include both CSWE organizational achievements and spotlights of social work programs' achievements across Goals 1, 2, and 3.

Strategies in the strategic plan consist of both existing high ROI activities elevated and new activities generated by the strategic plan.

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1 AI & Technology

Anticipate the implications and opportunities of artificial intelligence (AI) and other disruptive technologies and position the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE) to be a leader in this area on behalf of social work education and the profession of social work.

Objective 1

Increase CSWE's knowledge about AI and disruptive technologies across education and practice



Key Strategies

- Identify experts on AI from CSWE membership and other disciplines.
- Understand how AI is impacting SW education and education broadly.
- Develop training in AI and disruptive technology for CSWE membership.
- Establish CEO Advisory Group for AI and Technology.



Results Thus Far

- Published **COEP Task Force on Technology** report
- **Program Directors Academy & Teaching Academy** incorporated dedicated sessions on AI & Technology.
- **Webinar** on AI for the Human Side of Social Work with University of Washington Center for Firearm Injury Prevention (sponsor: Noodle).
- **Webinar** on Exploring AI in Social Work: Leveraging Culture, Place, & Ethics—A case study from Hawai'i Pacific University.
- **EPAS 2029 Competency 10 and core expertise/skill:** Ethical & effective use of technology in practice and scholarship, standards for appropriate, ethical, & secure AI use.
- Established national **CSWE Advisory Board on AI & Technology**.

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1 AI & Technology

Anticipate the implications and opportunities of artificial intelligence (AI) and other disruptive technologies and position the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE) to be a leader in this area on behalf of social work education and the profession of social work.

Objective 2

Increase social work representation in Interdisciplinary technology groups

Key Strategies

- Identify target interdisciplinary technology groups where CSWE is currently absent.
- Actively engage with those target groups to build long-term partnerships.

Results Thus Far

- Board Member on **Inter-Professional Education Collaborative (IPEC)** and **Planning Advisory Committee**; participated in national conference on Education & AI—The Digital Shift: IPE for a Tech-Driven Future.
- Presented to **Association of Specialized and Professional Accreditors (ASPA)** on the Impacts of AI in Social Work Education.

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1

AI & Technology

Anticipate the implications and opportunities of artificial intelligence (AI) and other disruptive technologies and position the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE) to be a leader in this area on behalf of social work education and the profession of social work.

Objective 3 **Increase external resources/funding and connections to AI and technology**

Key Strategies

- Increase grantsmanship and philanthropy.
- Develop training in AI and disruptive technology for CSWE membership.

Results Thus Far

- **Engaged MFP and DSPF doctoral fellows** who are focused on research in AI and technology.
- Launched new **CSWE.org website** offering additional opportunities for AI and technology engagement internally and externally.
- Hosted **Congressional Briefing on AI & Social Work** with experts on AI in social work education.

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2 Transformative Leadership

Develop transformative leaders that uphold our core professional values and stand with our accredited social work education programs to effect change on behalf of society.

Objective 1 — Increase capacity for evidence-informed communication and dialogue

Key Strategies

- Create census of membership expertise in communication/intergroup dialogue.
- Position identified experts as informational resources to members.
- Develop additional training, resources, tools, and models for effective communication.

Results Thus Far

- **Completed membership survey**, established an individual member database to track expertise
- Elevated quality and volume of **communications** on social work values across digital and print platforms
- Expanded **online digital thought leadership** and organizational statements on leading national topics
- Implemented annual **Fellows Forum,** providing Hill Day training and visit with Congressional offices for CSWE fellows
- **Program Directors Academy** incorporated a dedicated session on Navigating Challenging Conversations

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2 Transformative Leadership

Develop transformative leaders that uphold our core professional values and stand with our accredited social work education programs to effect change on behalf of society.

Objective 2 — Augment advocacy efforts to support and empower member policy influence

Key Strategies

- Position CSWE as primary convener and information source on social work education issues

Results Thus Far

- **Developed Advocacy 101 materials and implemented policy communication** programming at annual conference and throughout the year
- Created a curated **Advocacy Hub** on CSWE.org and launched a quarterly Policy Advocacy Newsletter
- Executed **large-scale campaign** on professional degree loan limits and accreditation regulations
- Secured **VoterVoice** grassroots engagement system for members
- **Extensive year-round advocacy** for training, education, student financial support, and accreditation
- Strengthened advocacy with **coalition building** within social work and across professions
- Placed **DSPF fellows** in congressional offices in Washington D.C.

2 Transformative Leadership

Develop transformative leaders that uphold our core professional values and stand with our accredited social work education programs to effect change on behalf of society.

Objective 3 **Communicate the value of social work education and the profession**

Key Strategies

- Develop mechanisms to create, submit, and publish crowd-sourced content across platforms

Results Thus Far

- Established **Advocacy Hub and quarterly advocacy newsletter** for multi-channel storytelling of social work core values
- Submitted formal statements to the Department of Education and joined coalition efforts on **student financial aid and accreditation**
- Launched national **BSW Degree Campaign** highlighting baccalaureate degree value
- Produced **short video** on the value of social work with SW Leadership Roundtable

2 Transformative Leadership

Develop transformative leaders that uphold our core professional values and stand with our accredited social work education programs to effect change on behalf of society.

Objective 4

Increase organizational capacity to provide excellent member experiences

Key Strategies

- Conduct a comprehensive member needs assessment (Membership Survey)

Results Thus Far

- Completed **Membership Survey** and launched responses to membership needs
- Reimagined **Annual Conference** programs and experiences around 2025 Theme: Disability Justice & Disability Joy
- Established monthly **Membership Meetings** and **Deans & Directors** meetings
- Launched new **CSWE.org** to enhance digital member experience

2 Transformative Leadership

Develop transformative leaders that uphold our core professional values and stand with our accredited social work education programs to effect change on behalf of society.

Objective 5

Continue unwavering commitment to antiracism, diversity, equity, inclusion, and belonging

Key Strategies

- Keep members informed of state and federal policy developments
- Regularly distribute policy statements and reaffirm CSWE leadership in ADEI and Belonging

Results Thus Far

- **Webinar** on Navigating Challenging Conversations focused on program civility
- ADEI and Belonging **Webinar Series** through the Diversity Center
- Hosted 2025 Annual Conference **Pre-Conference Institute** on disability justice and joy led by Diversity Center.
- Consistent dissemination of information on policy changes, issues, decisions, and resolutions through the weekly **Compass, Spark, Advocacy Hub, and quarterly newsletter**
- BOA issued an **accreditation guidance** document for EPAS 2022 to support programs navigating anti-DEI laws

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3

Engaging Students

Become increasingly accessible and responsive to the needs of CSWE's student members

Objective 1 **Increase student representation in governance and CSWE events**

Key Strategies

- Examine/update policies to allow greater student representation reflecting membership structure
- Create targeted marketing campaigns to encourage student event attendance

Results Thus Far

- **Fellows Forum** in Alexandria, VA with Capitol Hill visits
- Annual Conference **Student Volunteer** opportunities
- Annual Conference **Student Summit**
- Annual Conference **Sunday Student Passes, Admissions Track, and Student Track**
- Annual Conference **Doctoral Student Breakfast**

3 Engaging Students

Become increasingly accessible and responsive to the needs of CSWE's student members

Objective 2

Increase funding and resources for student-centered initiatives

Key Strategies

- Increase grantsmanship for student programming
- Increase philanthropic and fundraising efforts for student initiatives

Results Thus Far ($2.29M+)

- **Minority Fellowship Program** (SAMHSA) Grant Award: $1,924,620
- **SUDEALS** (AAAP-ORN/SAMHSA): $280,774
- **PCSS-MOUD Webinars** (AAAP-ORN/SAMHSA): $40,000
- **Doctoral Student Policy Fellowship** (NYCT): $50,000
- **Teaching Academy** expanded to include Doctoral students
- **Kendall Institute Dissertation Grants** launched for Doctoral students

3 Engaging Students

Become increasingly accessible and responsive to the needs of CSWE's student members

Objective 4

Create opportunities to socialize students into social work education

Key Strategies

- Enhance existing efforts to socialize students including partnering with other social work organizations
- Explore creation of new associate membership categories for individuals who want to remain connected

Results Thus Far

- **Fellows Forum** in Alexandria, VA, with Capitol Hill visits.
- **Annual Conference** Student Summit, Student Track, Doctoral Breakfast
- **Webinar** on Social Workers in the Federal Government workforce
- **BSW Degree** Campaign spotlights


CSWE