

NASW FL Immigration Justice Task Force Goals_Current Issues

The primary goal of the NASW FL Immigration Justice Task Force is to provide leadership for the social work profession on Immigration Justice education, services, advocacy and legislation. The Task Force will represent NASW FL on meetings, conversations and workshops regarding immigration justice and will serve as a liaison and advisor entity with the NASW FL units on all immigration issues. Current issues include:

1. Advocating and promoting the value of all immigrants, as written in the NASW Code of Ethics, including but not limited to the value of human life and the dignity and worth of a person;
2. Promoting direct action through education, services, advocacy and legislation to break down systemic social work practices of inhumane and abusive impacts on immigrants, and other people of color, Black, and Indigenous;
3. Calling on and advocating for NASW National, Council on Social Work Education and the schools of social work to hold agencies accountable for those that engage in historical systemic social work practices of forced family separation / child removal. These agencies [disproportionately](#) impact immigrants, and other people of color, Black, and Indigenous families and children;
4. Calling on and assisting NASW National in creating professional support and techniques for social workers to navigate their professions to advocate, provide direct action, and refuse to work in inhumane and unethical workplaces;
5. Advocating for the whole person by developing trauma-informed education and awareness in the historical contexts of culture, race, and community as it pertains to the long-term negative psychological impacts of immigrants;
6. Working with NASW National and state chapters, and interprofessional collaboratives in promoting these goals and advancements on immigration justice. Regarding progressive NASW state chapters with their history of grassroots and political social advocacy, NASW FL Immigration Task Force wants to learn from these chapters' expertise, and create stronger collaborations.

Membership Processes-NASW FL Immigration Justice Task Force

Voting Process-Task force members

Active Members have voting rights

- To pass vote: Majority # of the members need to be present, ex. If 10 members comprise the task force, 6 of 10 members need to be present.
- Majority vote 50%+. If it is an even split, the vote does not pass.

Voting Process - Voting in new task force members

- NASW member submits their resume and a written statement on the reasons they want to be a part of this task force, on what they can add to this membership, and confirming that they understand the commitments of being a part of this task force.
- The task force members will vote for the member in the next month meeting.
- The task force will notify NASW FL State Chapter of the new member, and then the Task Force Chair or Vice-Chair will notify this person of the voting results with a letter.
- If a NASW member has served on this task force in the past, they will need to submit all the requirements as a new member.

Voting Process-Task force Leaders

- Leadership positions - Chair and vice-chair determined, but in consultation with the Task Force members, by the President of NASW-FL and the Legislative Chair, then approved by the NASW-FL Board of Directors.
- Other positions, permanent and ad hoc, can be added and removed at any time by Voting Process-Task force members and in agreement with the NASW FL Legislative Chair.
- Any active task force member can seek an open leadership position(s), permanent or ad hoc, by submitting to the Chair and Vice-Chair a written statement on the reasons they want to be in this position, on what they can add to this position, and confirming that they understand the commitments in being a part of leadership.
- Upon receiving written statements of interest in open leadership position(s), permanent or ad hoc, the Chair and Vice-Chair will review information submitted, seek approval from NASW FL Legislative Chair, and then notify the task force of an upcoming election.
- Any task force member who feels the need to address grievance(s) of task force processes, actions, and/or activities beyond the task force and/or leadership can submit their grievance(s) to the NASW FL Legislative Chair or the President of NASW FL.

Current leadership roles and responsibilities

- Chair
 - Organizes and conducts monthly meetings of NASW FL Immigration Task Force.
 - Attends 10 out of 12 monthly meetings.
 - Guides decision making of proposals, projects, workshops, and advocacy on immigration justice.
 - Represents NASW-FL Immigration Task Force / Legislative Committee at state unit meetings, events and conferences.
 - Represents NASW-FL Immigration Task Force / Legislative Committee at NASW National Working Group events.
- Vice-chair
 - Assists Chair in organizing and conducting monthly meetings of NASW-FL Immigration Task Force.
 - Attends 10 out of 12 monthly meetings.

- Assists Chair in guiding decisions for proposals, projects, workshops, and advocacy on immigration justice.
- Assists Chair in representing NASW-FL Immigration Task Force / Legislative Committee at state unit meetings, events and conferences.
- Assists Chair in representing NASW-FL Immigration Task Force / Legislative Committee at NASW National Working Group events.
- Monitors social media site: Twitter.

Terms of leadership and membership

- June 1 - May 31 term (coincides with NASW-FL State Chapter).
- Leadership positions and membership will be confirmed yearly, each May, by the President of NASW-FL and the Legislative Chair, then approved by the NASW-FL Board of Directors.
- At the end of a term of leadership, i.e. Chair, Vice-Chair will identify with the NASW FL Executive Committee potential candidates for the upcoming open position(s), seek interest and create working partnerships to facilitate the continuation of human rights and immigrant justice centered guidelines, standards and processes of the task force and the NASW Codes of Ethics.
- Task force leadership and membership - continual, provided that the leadership and membership requirements are met.
- The task force will have an annual meeting, preferably the May meeting, to determine the commitment of leadership and membership for the upcoming year and reevaluate adherence of the task force to human rights and immigrant justice related to the vision, goals and commitments of the task force and the NASW Codes of Ethics.

Requirements for task force membership (based on annual term)

1. Attend 10 out of 12 monthly meetings
2. Each member would be encouraged to lead / co-lead a project, workshop, or event, or hold admin position, i.e. social media.
3. If there is a disagreement or discord among task force members and it cannot be resolved in discussion, then a vote on the dispute can be made by the Voting Process-Task force members.
4. If a task force member is unable to meet membership requirements, they should feel free to request disengagement from the task force or request membership in a working group if able to meet the working group responsibilities.
 - a. If a task force member does not approach the task force leaders about their lack of engagement in the task force, then the task force leaders may recommend to the member to step down or suggest a working group (if member is able to meet the working requirements) after consulting with the NASW FL Legislative Chair.
5. Once a member steps down from the task force, this person may reapply at the new year term, but will need to follow the Voting Process - Voting in new task force members.
6. If someone fails to meet the requirements of the task force due to unexpected circumstances, i.e. hospitalization, then the task force leaders and members can revise

the expectations (with the consultation of the NASW FL Legislative Chair) on an individual basis, including the ability to apply the following year.

Meetings - Task force: 1 meeting per month; 12 meetings per year.

- Special project meetings, ad hoc meetings may be created as needed.

Create:

- Internship for BSW
- Working Groups:
 - Immigrant Justice Working Group: An interdisciplinary working group of non-NASW social workers and students, non-social work professionals, non-degree seeking individuals, and social workers (liaisons) in other states.
 - Liaison: Members of the NASW FL Task Force moving to other states will be supported and will be considered liaisons in their role of creating stronger relationships with their NASW Chapters and immigration community organizations nationwide.
 - Requirements for Immigration Justice Working Group membership (based on annual term)
 1. Attend minimum 4 out of 12 monthly meetings - Group members will be invited to all monthly meetings.
 - a. Special project meetings, ad hoc meetings may be created as needed. These meetings can be counted as part of the minimum requirement.
 2. Each member would be encouraged to lead in a project, workshop, or event, i.e. contribute expertise in research for an article or proclamation.
 - If a working group member is unable to meet the membership requirements, they should feel free to request disengagement from the task force working group.
 - If a working group member does not approach the task force leaders for their lack of participation, then the task force leaders may recommend to the member to step down after consulting with the NASW FL Legislative Chair.
 - Once a member steps down from the task force, this person may reapply at the new year term, but will need to follow the Voting Process - Voting in new task force members.
 - If someone fails the requirements of the committee due to unexpected circumstances, i.e. hospitalization, then the task force leaders and members can revise the expectations (with the consultation of the NASW FL

Legislative Chair) on an individual basis, including the ability to apply the following year.

- Annual term of membership:
 - June 1 - May 31 (coincides with NASW-FL)
 - Renewal of membership - continual, provided that the membership requirements are met.
- Voting Process - Voting in new Immigration Justice Working Group members
 - Person submits their resume and a written statement on the reasons they want to be a part of the Immigration Justice Working Group, what they can add to this membership, and confirm that they understand the commitments of being a part of the Immigration Justice Working Group.
 - The task force members and the NASW FL Legislative Chair will vote for the member in the next month's meeting.
 - The task force will notify NASW FL State Chapter of the new member, and then the Task Force Chair or Vice-Chair will notify this person of the voting results with a letter.
 - If a prior Immigration Justice Working Group member has served on this committee in the past, they will need to submit all the requirements as a new member.

Honorary Founding Members:

Alexis Davis, MSW

Robbie G. Singh, MSW Candidate 2020

Claudia Ramirez, MSW

Shimon Cohen, MSW, LCSW

Edith Caballero, LCSW

Stephanie Vasquez, MSW

J.Oscar.Rivera, MSW, LCSW

Susan Mankita, LCSW

Martha Vallejo, LCSW

Vicki Rosenthal, MSW

Pam MacDill, LCSW, DCSW

Acknowledging the origin of this important task force based on the resilient determination and commitment towards the NASW FL Code of Ethics, human rights, and immigrant justice, these founding members will have continual honorary membership in this task force.

With expressed gratitude for the support of Dawn Brown, MSW for the creation of this task force.

Created 7/7/20