



Professional Association of Social Workers in HIV & AIDS Professional Development Competency Areas

Professional Development will be guided by competencies in the following areas. General competencies related to Social Work Practice ([CSWE](#)) and HIV and AIDS with a focus on ending the epidemic:

Advance and support Social Work and allied professional to be leaders in the Field of HIV & AIDS.

- Advance social work supervision and leadership;
- Promote certification, credentialing, mentorship, and supervision of social works in the field; and
- Support allied professionals in social work.

Promote enhanced Social Work Practice to improve health and optimal well-being of persons living with and affected by HIV and AIDS.

- Demonstrate Ethical and Professional Behavior
- Demonstrate knowledge and competency around the intersection of HIV medical care and psychosocial approaches to promote HIV prevention, access to care, maintenance of care, and equitable well-being;
- Engage Diversity and Difference in Practice particularly to promote health and racial equity among persons unjustly impacted by HIV;
- Engage with Individuals, Families, Groups, Organizations, and Communities, especially to intentionally engage persons with lived experience;
- Assess Individuals, Families, Groups, Organizations, and Communities, including health and race equity and social injustice;
- Intervene with Individuals, Families, Groups, Organizations, and Communities Competency; and
- Promote cross-disciplinary practices that relate and enhance social work practice.

Promote practice informed and emerging research/evaluation.

- Research and evaluate practice with Individuals, Families, Groups, Organizations, and Communities;
- Engage in Practice-informed Research and Research-informed Practice;
- Increase knowledge of evidence-based and promising practices; and
- Promote health and racial equity through action-oriented research and evaluation, including the intentional involvement of lived experience.

Promote Advocacy/Policy to address social injustice, health and racial inequities, and systemic racism that perpetuate on-going HIV inequities.

- Advance Human Rights and Social, Economic, and Environmental Justice, including systems change and innovation to end system racism which continues to drive HIV; and
- Engage in Policy Practice to promote HIV prevention, treatment, and comprehensive care to achieve health and race equity.