

2018 Social Work Day Legislative Action Priorities

Chief Action Priorities

- **Medicaid!** Medicaid is health insurance that WV desperately needs! Work requirements & income verification don't improve health. They discourage eligible people from applying & diminish health
 - **Stabilize Child Protective Services (CPS)** Offer a bonus' to hire more degreed Social Workers, establish a career ladder to advanced direct practice, improve salaries in all classes, hire additional support staff, lower caseloads to national standard levels, and attend to safety and technology issues
 - **Reduce Truancy!** Expand **Social Workers in Schools** to facilitate school attendance and success
 - **Increase Addiction Treatment & Workforce!** Provide funding for treatment, loan forgiveness, tuition help
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Additional Child Welfare, Family & Juvenile Services Priorities

- **Fund Early Intervention/Prevention Programs:** *In-Home Family Education, Right from the Start, School-based Health Centers, West Virginia Birth-to-Three program, Etc.*
 - **Juvenile Justice Reform:** Promote, fund community & school-based prevention/treatment programs
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Additional Health Care, Mental Health Care, Medicaid & Related Priorities

- **Mental Health Matters!** Keep West Virginia's kids mentally and emotionally healthy in their own communities
 - Increase/apply **Taxes on tobacco, sugary soft drinks, etc.** Dedicate \$ to prevention, cessation, health care
 - Require **public notice & comment** prior to submitting Medicaid state plan amendments or waiver changes
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Additional Professional Social Work Priorities

- Offer nationally-certified **School Social Workers** the incentives enjoyed by other school professionals
 - Maintain strong **Social Work licensing regulations** to protect the public from unscrupulous practice
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Additional Economic & Social Justice Priorities

- **Protect vital social infrastructure** support programs through tax revenue enhancements
 - **Oppose efforts** to drug test those receiving public assistance, or to establish work requirements for eligibility/participation in Medicaid, SNAP or other public assistance programs
 - Create a **State Earned Income Tax Credit** program to help struggling low-income families
 - Fully implement/fund the **West Side of Charleston Revitalization & Transformation** Initiative
 - Support the **Consensus Agenda on Disability Policy**
 - Promote and support passage of laws that promote **equality & social justice & celebrate diversity**
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