

The Social Work Professional Oath

I solemnly pledge to consecrate my life to the service of humanity and to social justice;

I will practice my profession responsibly with conscience, integrity, and dignity which are consistent with its values, ethical principles, and ethical standards;

The welfare of my client will be my first consideration; I will respect the secrets which are confided to me, even after my professional relationship with my client has ended;

I will maintain by all means in my power, the honor and the traditions of the social work profession; My colleagues are my brothers and sisters;

I will not permit considerations of gender, age, religion, race, ethnicity, sexual affiliation, physical ability, mental ability, political philosophy, or socio-economic standing to intervene between my duty and my client;

I will be sensitive to cultural and to ethnic diversity and strive to end discrimination, oppression, poverty, and other forms of social injustices;

I will maintain the utmost respect for the inherent dignity and worth of every human being even under threat to myself;

I make these promises solemnly, freely and upon my honor.

Norman Matsuzaki, Jr.
MSW Student

The Social Work Professional Oath is a blend of the modern day Hippocratic Oath from the Declaration of Geneva of the World Medical Association and the NASW Code of Ethics.

The oath was meant to be an affirmation of why we choose to become social workers, to serve humanity.

For those of us, who have lost our way, it was meant to be a reminder of why we came to this school to be social workers.

It is the moral compass of our profession.

It is my gift to the Department, to the profession, to all those who tirelessly serve our clients - and to our teachers, most of all.

Norman Matsuzaki, Jr.
MSW Student