



STATE OF NEW JERSEY  
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

*Proclamation*

WHEREAS, the profession of Social Work was founded and emerged in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century as a means to address economic and social justice issues; and

WHEREAS, social work is a career calling that focuses on the wellbeing and structural dynamics of individuals, families, groups, and communities; and

WHEREAS, social workers are dedicated to enhancing the lives of people in every age group, race, culture, gender, and religion, every day, through advocacy and empowerment; and

WHEREAS, the 2026 Social Work Month theme, "Social Workers: Uplift. Defend. Transform," highlights the importance of empathy and tangible actions within the profession; and

WHEREAS, the social work profession is one of the fastest growing careers in the United States that provides a unique education and training to support individuals, families, and communities through complex sociological issues; and

WHEREAS, social workers are employed in many sectors of society including government, schools, universities, non-profit and faith-based agencies, the military, and mental health, substance use disorder, and health care facilities to address the needs of individuals, families, and communities; and

WHEREAS, social workers are on the frontlines of the nation's many social crises, including addiction, suicide, youth mental health, housing, food insecurity, social and criminal justice, and so much more, helping people get the treatment and services they need to thrive; and

WHEREAS, social workers have helped people cope with death and grief, and supported communities' recovery from natural disasters, pandemics, and individual and community violence; and

WHEREAS, social workers are the largest group of social service providers in the United States, working daily to help people achieve sustained wellness; and

WHEREAS, social workers believe that each person has dignity and worth and that there is no limit to human potential; and

WHEREAS, social workers have helped this nation live up to its values by vigorously advocating for civil and human rights for all;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Mikie Sherrill, Governor of the State of New Jersey, do hereby proclaim:

MARCH 2026  
AS  
SOCIAL WORK MONTH

in New Jersey.



GIVEN, under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of New Jersey, this twenty-fifth day of February in the year two thousand twenty-six, the two hundred fiftieth year of the Independence of the United States.

*Dale G. Cahill*  
Lt. GOVERNOR

*Mikie Sherrill*  
GOVERNOR