



MESSAGE FROM BOARD CHAIR PA DER VANG, LICSW

Greetings,

I am so grateful for serving as Board Chair of the Minnesota Board of Social Work over the last two years. During this time, we accomplished many things that will go on to improve the experience of our constituents, licensees, and the public. We have completed our Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Vision and Values Statement which renews our ongoing commitment to serving the needs of our diverse community. We also welcomed our Executive Director, Youa Yang, who comes with many years of experience as a social worker herself. In addition, we have actively engaged the community regarding competence evaluation of future licensees and are currently discussing ways to be more inclusive in our licensing procedures.

Our board continues to grow and change as we welcome new board members and celebrate the many years of service of board members who have moved on over the last two years. This year we will have some vacancies and I encourage members of our social work community and the public to take a look at these service opportunities. I am especially excited for the upcoming legislative session as we continue to refine and improve our Social Work statute to be more inclusive of social workers from all backgrounds. I encourage folks to reach out to our Board Staff who have worked hard to ensure that the board is responsive to the needs of our community.

I thank the board's compliance, licensing, and administrative staff, and the community that surrounds us who make this work possible.

Pa Der Vang, LICSW

Board of Social Work, Chair