

MY FIRST YEAR as the Executive Director has been a year of learning about opportunities and challenges for social work regulation. This past year, I engaged in local as well as national conversations related to social work regulation. Many of you from the social work community have provided feedback on the Social Work Licensure Survey for consideration as the Board engages in conversation about ensuring public protection while considering regulation changes. The Social Work Board is critically analyzing how to increase diversity and inclusivity in social work regulation to ensure we carry out the Board of Social Work's commitment to Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging (DEIB). The Board will continue to work collaboratively with relevant state and federal agencies to monitor critical issues that affect social work regulation.

IN ADDITION, there are increased demands for the Board's core services including licensing, investigation and complaint resolution, and outreach and education. Board staff work diligently to respond to inquiries. The Board implemented new initiatives like electronic renewal notifications to improve operations and reduce costs. Furthermore, complaint resolution process improvement have led to an increase of complaints resolved within one year. Educational presentations on the Social Work Practice Act and complaint resolution process are ongoing.

THE BOARD continues to be guided by its strategic framework. Although many strategic initiatives and successes have been executed, there is still much exciting work in social work regulation in the future. I want to thank Board Members and Staff for their hard work in carrying out the Board of Social Work's mission. It's a privilege to provide leadership for the Minnesota Board of Social Work.

With Appreciation,

your yang

Youa Yang, LICSW

Executive Director, Board of Social Work