

National Association of Social Workers/Texas Chapter (NASW/TX)
Mental Health Policy Fellow - Full Time Exempt- For 24 months-Grant Funded

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:

MSW degree required (within the last 18 months). Experience in legislative and/social policy analysis, working knowledge of both the legislative and political processes at the state level, understanding of social work values and policies; sensitivity, knowledge, and experience with minority issues is desirable.

KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, AND ABILITIES REQUIRED:

- Ability to communicate effectively in both oral and written form.
- Knowledge and experience with computer software and social media
- Ability to represent the Association in establishing, maintaining, and enhancing cooperative working relationships with other organizations, members of state government (elected officials and agency staff), coalitions, stakeholders, the media, and the general public.
- Ability to assist with legislative strategies and public policy initiatives for the benefit of NASW/Texas.
- Understanding of the objectives of a membership organization.
- Ability to persevere and focus in the face of obstacles.
- Ability to work with individuals with diverse political views, particularly in terms of identifying areas of mutual interest when appropriate.
- Ability to think and plan proactively and creatively.
- Ability to work some nights and weekends.

DUTIES/RESPONSIBILITIES:

The Mental Health Policy Fellow works with the Executive Director and Director of Government Relations, Ad Hoc Legislative Committee and TPACE Board to assist with the development, management, and implementation of strategies to inform and influence mental health public policy at the state level on issues and in areas of importance to NASW/Texas.

A. Legislative Arena

1. Develops background research to support NASWs mental health legislative initiatives.
2. Provides analysis of proposed legislation related to aforementioned legislative agenda
3. Tracks legislation affecting clients and/or the profession
4. Works with Executive and GR Director to communicate support, opposition, or amendments to legislation through letters, fact sheets, testimony, and meetings with legislators and committee staff. Maintains positive relationships with government officials and their staff.
5. With Executive and Government Relations Director, develops and implements action strategies to influence legislators, including developing and coordinating expert testimony by members and staff. Prepares talking points for association-related bills.
6. Assists in mobilizing membership to advocate for chapter legislative agenda as needed. Develops and distributes legislative alerts as appropriate.

B. Regulatory Arena

1. Mobilizes membership as needed for communicating with state policymakers.
2. Social Work Professional Arena
3. Educates and mentors social work interns at the association with regard to public policy advocacy and legislative action

Interested individuals should email, fax or mail a letter of interest postmarked by **June 10, 2016**, along with a resume to:

Miriam Nisenbaum, LMSW, ACSW, Executive Director,
NASW/Texas
810 West 11th Street
Austin, TX 78701-2010
mnisenbaum@naswtx.org
512-474-1317 (Fax)

Competitive salary plus excellent benefits including Medical, Dental, Vision, Retirement, 11 paid holidays and 2 weeks vacation, 2 weeks sick leave. Position is in Austin, Texas and will begin in early July 2016.