



# **SOUTH AFRICAN COUNCIL FOR SOCIAL SERVICE PROFESSIONS**

## **MEDIA STATEMENT**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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### **WORLD SOCIAL WORK DAY 2025 *Strengthening Intergenerational Solidarity for Enduring Wellbeing'***

Today, 18 March 2025 the world is celebrating World Social Work Day (#WSWD2025) under the theme '*Strengthening Intergenerational Solidarity for Enduring Wellbeing'*' which emphasises the importance of caring and respecting across generations to build strong societies, sustain the environment and share wisdom for a better future. This theme underscores the importance of intergenerational care and connections as fundamental to everyone's well-being and the creation of functional economies and societies. Despite their critical role, these connections are often overlooked or ignored by governments and policymakers. Through this theme, the social work profession emphasises the need for societies to actively support and strengthen respectful intergenerational solidarity to ensure the enduring well-being of all.

*"Through our connections we build solidary across generations, across borders and across continents. The strength of any connection lies in the mutual respect that binds those in the connection"*, says Professor Paul Mbedzi, President of the 5<sup>th</sup> SACSSP.

*World Social Work Day 2025* focuses on the value for social workers to engage all social work networks and the community they work within to make contributions to the values and principles which enable all people to have their dignity respected through shared futures. The global theme also reminds the social workers that we are all connected, despite our spatial divides and co building a new reality in the form of eco social work will require partnerships, alliances and different types of collaborations which include communities.

*"In serving all generations, social workers must draw from the past to invest in the future to ensure effective, efficient and relevant services for improvement of the lives of individuals, families and communities"*, says Ms Ida Strydom, Chairperson of the Professional Board for Social Work, in her message on *World Social Work Day 2025*.

*World Social Work Day 2025* is an opportunity to think about why our values are so important for peace and social cohesion globally. Social workers recognise their role in illuminating and supporting the diverse range of care arrangements that contribute to well-being and solidarity across generations.

Ms Winnie Morake, Vice-Chairperson of the Professional Board for Social Work echo's the above in her message on World Social Work Day 2025: *"Let's also utilise the African principles of Ubuntu, a culture that represents a philosophy that emphasises humanity, interconnectedness, and shared responsibility"*.

The South African Council for Social Service Professions (SACSSP) recognises this day and celebrates with all social workers, social auxiliary workers, student social workers and student social auxiliary workers across the globe the value of intergenerational solidarity. They are advocates of social justice as they tackle serious social issues on a daily basis to help find solutions for those most in need. Their importance is immeasurable.

In emphasising the value of social workers locally and across the world, Mr Hitler Sekhitla, Registrar of the SACSSP, indicated in his message on World Social Work Day 2025, *"There will never be an enduring wellbeing for the future generations in an environment that does not value human life and strive for peaceful societies. We call upon all social workers to remain resolute as "the voice" of vulnerable communities, for a better future"*.

The SACSSP's Professional Board for Social Work regulates the practising of the social work profession (including social auxiliary work), which include, setting requirements for registration (entry into the profession), standards of professional conduct, minimum standards of education, training and continuous professional development.

The SACSSP, the Professional Board for Social Work and the Professional Board for Child and Youth Care Work salute all social workers and social auxiliary workers in our country as well as across the world; and remind them and other social service professionals about our motto, **NON NOBIS – Not for ourselves**.

**ISSUED BY:** SACSSP Communications

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**ABOUT THE SOUTH AFRICAN COUNCIL FOR SERVICE PROFESSIONS**

The South African Council for Social Service Professions (SACSSP) is a statutory body established in terms of section 2 of the Social Service Professions Act 110 of 1978 ("the Act") with the purpose to regulate the social service professions; and has two Professional boards under its auspices: the Professional Board for Social Work and the Professional Board for Child and Youth Care Work. The SACSSP, in conjunction with its Professional Boards, regulates the professions of social work and child youth care work in aspects pertaining to registration (entry to the professions); education and training (qualifications); professional conduct and ethical behaviour; ensuring continuing professional development; and fostering compliance with standards for professional practice. By regulating the professions, it protects the integrity of the social service professions as well as the interest of the public at large. To safeguard the public and indirectly the professions, registration with the SACSSP in terms of the Act is a prerequisite before practicing social work and child and youth care work. Registration is a legal requirement for social workers, social auxiliary workers, student social workers, learner social auxiliary workers, child and youth care workers, auxiliary child and youth care workers and student child and youth care workers.