



**New York State Society for Clinical Social Work, Inc**

[info.nysscsw@gmail.com](mailto:info.nysscsw@gmail.com)

August 18, 2024

Dear Governor Hochul,

*The New York State Society for Clinical Social Work (NYSSCSW) was founded in 1968 to address the need for professional recognition and advancement for social work psychotherapists by initiating scope of practice licensing and insurance reimbursement legislation for mental health services. For the last four decades NYSSCSW, Inc. has continually provided educational, professional and legislative services to its membership. Our notable achievements include: legislative efforts to increase access to clinical social work mental health services; collaboration with other clinical social work organizations to develop a clinical Code of Ethics; and launching and expanding insurance coverage for our psychotherapy services. In 2002, the Clinical Society's efforts resulted in New York State enacting the most comprehensive clinical social work scope of practice license in the United States.*

The NYSSCSW thanks you for your effective ongoing efforts to address the workforce shortages in the mental health field and your continued commitment to recruiting and training these vital health care professionals. Too often the mental health needs of children and adults is forgotten as public policy and fiscal support focuses primarily on physical health needs. As trained mental health professionals, LCSWs recognize the profound interconnection between these two components of wellness, and encourages you to continue to support both mental health and physical health professionals.

Please count on us to support your efforts.

*Marsha Wineburgh, DSW, LCSW-R*  
Legislative Chair, NYSSCSW

*Karen Kaufman, PhD, LCSW-R*  
President, NYSSCSW

Government representations:

Diana Georgia: [georgialawfirm27@gmail.com](mailto:georgialawfirm27@gmail.com)

Pam Madieros: [madirosp@gtlaw.com](mailto:madirosp@gtlaw.com)