

Strengthening Our Practice Through SWHPN Membership

Dear Hospice and Palliative Care Social Work Colleagues,

As the Board Chair Elect of the Social Work Hospice & Palliative Care Network (SWHPN) and a Hospice Director, I want to take a moment to personally recognize the critical role you play in delivering compassionate, skilled, and person-centered care to patients and families during some of life's most vulnerable moments.

In the current regulatory environment—particularly considering the ongoing hospice moratorium and increasing scrutiny around documentation, eligibility, and interdisciplinary compliance—our work has never been more visible or more essential. Every discipline is being asked to clearly demonstrate contribution to eligibility, ongoing decline, and plans of care. Social work practice sits at the heart of this expectation, bridging clinical, psychosocial, and family-centered perspectives that support both quality care and regulatory integrity.

For this reason, I strongly encourage membership in the Social Work Hospice and Palliative Care Network (SWHPN). I view this membership not as an optional professional enhancement, but as a practical investment in sustaining excellence, protecting our practice, and ensuring we are prepared for the continued evolution of hospice regulation and care delivery.

SWHPN membership provides meaningful support in three key areas:

- Professional credibility and clinical strength. Access to evidence-informed practice resources, peer collaboration, and national standards strengthens our voice within interdisciplinary teams and reinforces the value of social work in hospice care.
- Continuing education and professional development. SWHPN offers CE opportunities designed specifically for hospice and palliative care social workers; this includes a discount on the Advanced Hospice and Palliative Care Social Worker Certification (APHSW-C), helping ensure we remain current in best practices, ethical standards, and evolving regulatory expectations.
- Support in regulatory readiness and advocacy. As documentation requirements and eligibility scrutiny continue to increase, SWHPN provides guidance and shared expertise that help us articulate the clinical necessity of our interventions and strengthen compliance across interdisciplinary documentation.

In addition, SWHPN fosters a broader professional network that enhances outreach, reduces isolation in practice, and connects us with peers who are navigating the same evolving challenges across the country.

Thank you for the work you do every day. Your expertise, compassion, and advocacy are essential to the families we serve and to the integrity of our hospice program.

With appreciation,

Maxwell K. Cleary, MSW, LISW-S, APHSW-C
Board Chair-Elect, Social Work Hospice & Palliative Care Network (SWHPN)
Hospice Director

Social Work Hospice + Palliative Care Network (SWHPN)

5727 Baker Way NW, Suite 200, Gig Harbor, WA, 98332

swhpn.org | info@swhpn.org

Letter of Support for Social Work Hospice & Palliative Care Network (SWHPN) Membership

Dear

As a current SWHPN Board Chair Elect & a Hospice Director, I am writing to request your support in investing in one of our most valuable resources—our hospice and palliative care social workers—through membership in the Social Work Hospice & Palliative Care Network (SWHPN).

Hospice and palliative care social workers are integral members of the interdisciplinary team, providing expert psychosocial assessment, advance care planning, caregiver support, crisis intervention, bereavement services, and advocacy for patients and families navigating serious illness. As regulatory expectations continue to evolve—including increased oversight following the hospice moratorium and heightened scrutiny of hospice eligibility documentation—it is more important than ever that every discipline contributes clear, comprehensive documentation supporting the patient's ongoing eligibility and plan of care.

Membership in SWHPN provides access to specialized continuing education, national conferences, clinical resources, research, peer collaboration, leadership development, and a network of professionals dedicated exclusively to hospice and palliative care social work. These resources directly enhance the quality of care our patients and families receive while supporting professional growth, workforce engagement, and employee retention.

By supporting SWHPN membership for your social workers, you are investing in:

- Excellence in patient- and family-centered care.
- Ongoing professional education and evidence-based practice.
- Stronger interdisciplinary collaboration.
- Leadership development within the hospice and palliative care workforce.
- Reduced burnout through connection with a national community of peers. Improved access to innovative programs, research, and best practices that can be implemented within our organization.
- Discounts on Continuing Education (CE) and the Advance Hospice and Palliative Care
- Social Worker (APHSW-C) credentialing.

The knowledge and collaboration gained through SWHPN membership extends far beyond the individual clinician. It strengthens our entire hospice program by fostering innovation, improving care delivery, and ensuring we continue to meet the evolving needs of our patients, families, and communities. I respectfully request your consideration of funding annual SWHPN memberships for your hospice and palliative care social workers as an investment in clinical excellence and organizational success.

This investment yields significant returns through enhanced staff development, improved patient outcomes, and continued advancement of compassionate, high-quality end-of-life care. Thank you for your consideration and your commitment to supporting the professionals who provide compassionate care during life's most meaningful moments.

Sincerely,

Maxwell K. Cleary, MSW, LISW-S, APHSW-C

Board Chair-Elect, Social Work Hospice & Palliative Care Network (SWHPN) | Hospice Director

Social Work Hospice + Palliative Care Network (SWHPN)

5727 Baker Way NW, Suite 200, Gig Harbor, WA, 98332

swHPN.org | info@swHPN.org

Strengthening Our Practice Through SWHPN Membership

Dear Hospice and Palliative Care Social Work Colleagues,

As the Board Chair-Elect of the Social Work Hospice & Palliative Care Network (Social Work Hospice and Palliative Care Network) and a Hospice Director, I want to personally recognize the essential role you play in providing compassionate, person-centered care to patients and families during life's most vulnerable moments.

In today's regulatory climate—particularly with the ongoing hospice moratorium and increased focus on documentation, eligibility, and interdisciplinary compliance—our work is more visible and more vital than ever. Every discipline is expected to clearly demonstrate contribution to patient eligibility, decline, and plans of care. Social work remains central to this effort, bridging clinical, psychosocial, and family systems perspectives that strengthen both care quality and regulatory integrity.

For this reason, I strongly encourage a SWHPN membership.

SWHPN supports social workers in three key ways:

- Professional credibility and clinical strength through access to evidence-based resources, peer collaboration, and national practice standards.
- Continuing education and certification support, including CE opportunities and discounts toward the Advanced Hospice and Palliative Care Social Worker Certification (APHSW-C), ensuring ongoing professional growth and regulatory readiness.
- Advocacy and regulatory support, helping clinicians navigate evolving documentation expectations and strengthen interdisciplinary communication.

SWHPN also provides a national network that reduces isolation in practice and connects social workers facing similar challenges across the country.

This membership is not simply professional development—it is an investment in sustaining excellence, protecting our practice, and ensuring we are prepared for the continued evolution of hospice care.

Thank you for the work you do each day. Your expertise and advocacy make a profound difference for the families we serve and the integrity of our hospice program.

With appreciation,

Maxwell K. Cleary, MSW, LISW-S, APHSW-C
Board Chair-Elect, Social Work Hospice & Palliative Care Network (SWHPN) | Hospice Director

Social Work Hospice + Palliative Care Network (SWHPN)

5727 Baker Way NW, Suite 200, Gig Harbor, WA, 98332

swhpn.org | info@swhpn.org

Letter of Support for Social Work Hospice & Palliative Care Network (SWHPN) Membership

Dear

As the Board Chair-Elect of the Social Work Hospice & Palliative Care Network (SWHPN) and a Hospice Director, I encourage your support for an important investment in hospice and palliative care social workers through annual SWHPN membership.

Social workers play a vital role in providing psychosocial assessment, advance care planning, caregiver support, crisis intervention, bereavement care, and advocacy for patients and families facing serious illness. As regulatory expectations continue to evolve—including increased oversight following the hospice moratorium and heightened scrutiny of hospice eligibility documentation—it is more important than ever that every discipline contributes clear, comprehensive documentation supporting the patient's ongoing eligibility and plan of care. SWHPN membership provides access to evidence-based education, clinical resources, leadership development, research, national conferences, peer collaboration, and discounts on continuing education and the Advanced Hospice and Palliative Care Social Worker Certification (APHSW-C).

Supporting your social workers with a SWHPN membership strengthens clinical excellence, interdisciplinary collaboration, staff engagement, professional development, and workforce retention while ultimately enhancing the care provided to patients and families.

I respectfully encourage you to consider funding annual SWHPN memberships for your hospice and palliative care social workers. This modest investment supports a stronger workforce and advances high-quality, compassionate care.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Maxwell Cleary, MSW, LISW-S, APHSW-C

Board Chair-Elect, Social Work Hospice & Palliative Care Network (SWHPN) | Hospice Director

Social Work Hospice + Palliative Care Network (SWHPN)

5727 Baker Way NW, Suite 200, Gig Harbor, WA, 98332

swhpn.org | info@swhpn.org