

*Cal State Fullerton, Department of Social Work*

**COMMITMENT TO DIVERSITY, EQUITY, AND INCLUSION**

**FACULTY STATEMENT**

As the CSUF Department of Social Work Faculty, we believe in the value of diversity and acknowledge the significant contribution made by all people of diverse backgrounds to our society. Diversity, equity, and inclusion are an inherent part of the social justice mission of social work. We believe that an inclusive environment enhances the well-being of all people and our society. “The primary mission of the social work profession is to enhance human well-being and help meet the basic human needs of all people, with particular attention to the needs and empowerment of people who are vulnerable, oppressed, and living in poverty” (NASW Code of Ethics, Preamble). This work is not simply an ideal toward which we aspire as a profession, but the very essence of who we are in the world.

The CSUF Department of Social work is committed to fostering diversity, equity, and inclusion in social work education, policy, and practice based on equal opportunity and respect. The Department of Social Work understands that the pursuit of social justice is informed by the past and also requires a focus on “the here and now” and “the not yet,” addressing contemporary injustices while proactively anticipating and addressing future challenges and needs. As such, the department promotes advocacy to empower those in greatest need and uses a person-in-environment approach, which acknowledges the nature of discrimination, oppression, and unjust policies and practices at the individual and systemic levels.