



Board of Social Work News EXAMINER

Welcome New Board Members!

Kara Frome, LCSW-C

Ms. Frome was appointed to the Board of Social Work Examiners by Governor Moore effective July 1, 2026. She has been a licensed social worker for 20 years. Ms. Frome is a resident of Prince George's County and earned her MSW from the University of Maryland in 2006.



She currently works in the Counseling Center at the University of Maryland, College Park as a Care Manager and serves as a Search Committee Chair. As a UMD College Park grad, Ms. Frome enjoys her work supporting students at her alma mater.

Prior to the Counseling Center, Ms. Frome worked as a medical social worker in the ICU and NICU at Holy Cross Hospital for 13 years where she supported patients and families while working on a multidisciplinary team. She looks forward to serving in her new role of BSWE Board Member.

Heather M. Garner, PhD, LCSW-C, CST

Dr. Garner has spent the past 20 years in social work, with a career spanning healthcare, hospice, community mental health, inpatient behavioral health, crisis intervention, private practice, and academia.



She currently serves as an oncology social worker with the UM UCMC Cancer LifeNet Program, supporting individuals and families throughout the cancer experience. She is also the founding and practicing clinician at Garnering Change Psychotherapy, a private practice specializing in intimate relationships, sexual health, and the transition to and through parenthood.

Heather is an AASECT-Certified Sex Therapist and a Certified Relational Life Therapy (RLT) Therapist. She has a longstanding passion for clinical education, supervision, and mentoring the next generation of social workers and has served as an adjunct faculty member with the University of Maryland School of Social Work, as well as a clinical supervisor and practicum instructor.

Throughout her career, Heather has remained deeply committed to thoughtful, ethical social work practice and to the continued growth

August 2026: Issue XX

Board Meetings!

Please click the link for upcoming meetings and information on public attendance:

[BSWE Board Meetings](#)

Social Work Compact Update

As of July 2026, the Social Work Licensure Compact has now passed in 35 states. States that recently passed legislation to join the Compact include: Wisconsin, West Virginia, and Alaska.

See the full, updated Compact Map [here](#).

Multistate licenses are not yet available. As of July 2026, the overall implementation process for the compact is approximately 18-24 months before social workers are able to begin applying for multistate licenses.

Maryland Social Workers will apply for the multistate license through the Board. We will continue to update licensees via our website, digital newsletter, and Open Session meetings.

Provisional License for LBSW and LMSW

Pursuant to [SB 18](#), "Provisional License to Practice Social Work," the Board's Statutes and Regulations Subcommittee is hard at work drafting regulations. When they are posted in the Maryland Register, the Board will make an announcement on the Board website; at the Open Session; and here in the newsletter.

of the profession. She is honored to bring the perspective gained from 20 years of clinical practice, education, and supervision to the Maryland Board of Social Work Examiners and looks forward to serving Maryland's social workers and the communities they serve.



Renew Today! October 31st at Midnight is the Deadline!

Please note this is a busy time for Board Staff. Please don't leave the same message with multiple different staff members. This only slows response times down. As a reminder, our renewal webpage can answer many of your questions: [RENEWAL WEBPAGE](#)

Renewal Reminders:

1) Criminal History Records Check (CHRC): Mandated for new license applications and at **RENEWAL**:

1. **CHRC Instructions:** Follow these [instructions](#) if you have **NOT** been fingerprinted.
2. **Attestation:** Agree to participate in the "Rap Back Service" [10.42.01.02(B)(9)] at the end of your renewal application.

If you previously acknowledged RapBack, **re-fingerprinting is not required.**

- 2) Sign and upload the FBI Privacy Statement.
- 3) Ensure your CEUs are properly logged for each category.
- 4) Attest to the one-time Implicit Bias and Structural Racism requirement for all Health Occupations at the end of the application.

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