

**A ROUND TABLE SPONSORED BY THE LATINO SOCIAL WORK TASK FORCE  
IN COOPERATION WITH ITS COSPONSORS:**

**November 5<sup>th</sup> , 2104**

**Fordham University, Graduate School of Social Service**

**Asian American Federation**

**Acacia Network**

**Black Agency Executives**

**Council of Family and Child Caring Agencies**

**Hispanic Federation**

**NASW NYC Chapter**

**NYS Association of Deans of Social Work**

**The Coalition of Behavioral Health Agencies Inc.**

**“Assuring a Strong Culturally Diverse Linguistically  
Competent Social Work Workforce”**

**Bridging the Provider and the Social Work Profession around the  
Future of Licensing and the Fairness of the Licensing Exam**

The Latino Social Work Task Force presented this Policy Round Table with the aim of providing an overview of the Social Work licensing in New York State with recommendations from advocacy groups throughout the city. The Round Table was by Special Invitation only geared to Policy Makers, University Leadership, State and Local government representatives and special guests.

The goal of the roundtable is to have leaders in the social work profession as well as leaders in agencies and government participate in a conversation about how to move forward (Pa'lante). It is the assumption of the Task Force that by everyone listening to the concerns of each other, we can come to a reasonable approach that reflects the standards of social work while meeting the needs of social work employers. This conversation has the potential of narrowing the issues and providing an opportunity to find optimal solutions for everyone involved.

Past policy Round Tables have been very successful in achieving our aims, which were to identify the challenges of social work licensure and develop strategies to facilitate hiring and retention of high caliber social workers who for various reasons find obstacles preventing them from passing the exam.

The ending of the licensure exemption, if not extended, will be highly detrimental to not for profit agencies and their ability to deliver mental health services to special populations. The rippling effects of this policy will resonate in several areas including unemployment, lack of access to services, closing of mental health units and shortages of culturally sensitive services, etc.



**c/o Hispanic Federation  
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