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Media Release

For Immediate Release

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Dr. Tyler Argüello receives the Social Worker of the Year award from the National Association of Social Workers (NASW), California Chapter

Burbank, California – Dr. Tyler Argüello received the Social Worker of the Year award for 2023 at the Annual Conference of the National Association of Social Workers, California Chapter.

Dr. Argüello was nominated by his peers for his accomplishments, multi-level benefits to the public, students, and interprofessional colleagues, as well as contributions to the profession. In particular, he was recognized for exemplary and meritorious social work practice, inclusive of critical pedagogy, impactful leadership, public service, scholarship of teaching, and for on-going community-embedded clinical work.

A nominating colleague referenced the merits of his critical pedagogy: Dr. Argüello's first book is an exemplar of him synergizing his teaching, clinical, and scholarly expertise, animated by a central value of duty to marginalized communities. *Queer social work* (Argüello, 2019) has been met with rave reviews from scholars, researchers, and practitioners in the field, e.g., "As a practical guide for a starting point in the discussion of the intersectionality in LGBTQ+ individuals' lives, Argüello's book is essential" (Graves, 2021, p.1).

One testimonio from a graduate student articulated the impact of Dr. Argüello's teaching and practice: My academic journey has not been linear. My decision to obtain an MSW came later in life and was based on a practical goal: I wanted to become a therapist. The mentorship I received from Dr. Argüello at California State University, Sacramento, a federally designated Minority Serving Institution, changed my life: it ignited my passion for addressing racial disparities through research.

Tyler Argüello is a Professor of Social Work and the Director of the School of Social Work at California State University, Sacramento. The School offers bachelors and Master's degrees in Social Work. For more information about Dr. Argüello's scholarship, teaching, clinical work, and service can be found through linktr.ee/DrTylerArguello.

This year's NASW-California conference theme was "Re-Emergence: A new path for social work." The Social Worker of the Year is one of four awards given each year to leaders and community members who have made exceptional contributions to the profession and to honor the ways they are improving lives, transforming systems, and living social work values and ethics every day. The Social Worker of the Year award, in particular, recognizes a social worker in California who consistently demonstrates the six core values of the NASW *Code of Ethics* (service, social justice, dignity and worth of the person, importance of human relationships, integrity, and competence), broad professional social work experience and demonstrated leadership, NASW experience, diverse and multicultural experience, impact on social policy, advocacy for clients, and exceptional practice.

Founded in 1955, the National Association of Social Workers (NASW) is the largest membership organization of professional social workers in the world. NASW works to enhance the professional growth and development of its members, to create and maintain professional standards, and to advance sound social policies. NASW and its 55 chapters are one organization legally, financially, and programmatically. NASW chapters offer members a wide variety of continuing education, robust state-based advocacy efforts, and professional networking opportunities.