



With gratitude



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ASWB Chief Executive Officer

No one who achieves success does so without the help of others. The wise and confident acknowledge this help with gratitude.—Alfred North Whitehead

There is much to be grateful for as I think about the last year and consider the last three years since I had the honor to be hired as your chief executive officer in 2013. ASWB has evolved into a complex, mature, and influential organization that is leading the social work profession in important initiatives such as practice mobility and license portability. The strength of ASWB is in its people: the staff, the Board of Directors, and our membership. It is to all of you that I offer more than thanks for your contributions—I offer my gratitude.

First, I am grateful for our excellent ASWB staff who have done an incredible job of working “Full Speed Ahead” this year, a reference to our operational theme of 2016. I also thank their families for supporting their dedication to our organization and our members. Our staff is one of ASWB’s most important assets.

Over the last three years, staff size has increased from a full-time equivalent (FTE) of 28 to 47 FTE today. We will most likely reach 50 staff members in 2017. By working together through collaborative interdepartmental partnerships, staff is ensuring that the organization is “outperforming our assets” to position ASWB to achieve our strategic objectives.

As staff size has increased, so also has our balance sheet. It has doubled from \$12 million to \$24 million. The Finance Committee, Board of Directors, and staff have provided stewardship of our human and fiscal resources in support of that growth.

I am grateful to the dedicated and knowledgeable members of the Board of Directors for providing governance to the organization. They each have embraced their governance responsibilities to guide the association in a mutually respectful partnership with staff. It has been my privilege to learn, stretch, and grow with them this past year.

Finally, I am grateful to you, our members. We could not function at such a high level without you—especially those who have stepped up to serve in a volunteer leadership capacity for ASWB this year and those who “threw your hat in the ring” for the largest election held in ASWB history.

I was blown away by the enthusiastic response to the Nominating Committee’s call to action and the sincere interest in contributing to ASWB in a volunteer capacity demonstrated by the members who participated in the process.

One of the four strategic Initiatives

on the 2014-2018 Strategic Plan is to develop leadership capacity throughout the organization.

The elections just completed at the 2016 Annual Meeting of the Delegate Assembly are a major accomplishment and manifestation of successful progress toward this objective.

I am grateful because I know that most of you are already volunteering your precious time by serving on your jurisdictional board or college, so we truly thank you for digging deep and finding the time to say yes to ASWB's further requests for your time and expertise.

You are all exceptional leadership resources for ASWB, and our organization is stronger because of you.

Thank You!