

## Frequently Asked Questions

Updated 1/13/23

### **What is the purpose of the UNC School of Social Work's Strategic Plan[t]ing process?**

Our goal, broadly defined, is to collectively determine the future of the UNC School of Social Work. The process to do this work is designed to be collaborative and transparent, as our success is dependent upon the involvement of everyone in our community.

Dean Ramona Denby-Brinson has offered a framework for the shared visioning process: one where our three pillars of excellence — teaching, research, and community engagement — demonstrate an authentic embrace of diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility (DEIA). *What does it look like when DEIA is at the heart of everything that we do?*

We want to imagine a future UNC School of Social Work that is leading by preparing diverse practitioners, partnering with diverse communities, and implementing research discoveries that improve life and change systems on behalf of diverse individuals, children, families and communities.

### **What is the timeline?**

The official kickoff for the Strategic Plan[t]ing process took place at the School's faculty and staff retreat held on August 10, 2022, at the Friday Center in Chapel Hill. The Organizational Assessment phase took place in November and December, followed by the Strategic Leadership and Strategic Planning phases through February 2023. The last phase is Organizational Development, currently scheduled for March through October 2023. Learn more about the goals and timeline [here](#).

### **Whose input is being solicited as part of the process?**

The School of Social Work is soliciting input from all key stakeholder groups, including faculty, staff, alumni, donors, students and community partners (including University partners).

### **How is "community partner" being defined?**

A community partner is an individual, organization, unit or agency that works with (or has previously worked with) the School of Social Work in some capacity and who is able and willing to provide constructive, growth-producing feedback during this planning process.

### **Who are the consultant partners assisting the School in this work?**

The School of Social Work has partnered with [Kairos Insights](#), an organizational development firm based in Winston-Salem. The Kairos team will help us to organize and accelerate our planning efforts so that the School will be well-positioned to capitalize on critical opportunities as we face the future.

### **How can I share my input and/or questions?**

You are welcome to share general input and/or questions any time using the FAQ submission form on the [Strategic Plan\[t\]ing web page](#).