

**REFLECTIONS FROM THE  
EDITORS-IN-CHIEF:  
EMILY CARCHIA,  
EZZIE PEREZ,  
& SARAH THOMAN**

2025-2026 has been a watershed year for Columbia University and the School of Social Work, echoing ongoing and significant social, political, and economic changes nationally and globally.

Here at the *Columbia Social Work Review*, we remain committed to amplifying the vital and timely voices of students and alums on a range of social work and social justice issues. As such, a significant restructuring of the Review's Editorial Board and Advisory Board this year helped align our mission and goals, while fostering organizational longevity.

Our combined, collaborative Editor-in-Chief team across the Review and Amsterdam decenters colonialism, hierarchy, and builds community. It also elevates The Amsterdam, our blog featuring contemporary, short-form, and creative think pieces, and enables more authors to engage with our audiences in important and meaningful ways, particularly at a time when knowledge, access, and connection continue to be curtailed. In addition, we also instituted content specific leadership roles among our Editorial Board and furthered relationships across Review and Amsterdam staff promoting development opportunities and unity. Furthermore, refreshing our Advisory Board this year, poises the Review and Amsterdam to further the School of Social Work's mission and vision, and to make decisions in concert with important campus partners to ensure that both publications enrich discourse and practice for years to come.

This year's Review represents a range of content within the social work zeitgeist. Authors take us across the globe with a critical look towards the intergenerational toll of bonded labor practices in India, and call for change within mental health policy and practices in New York's involuntary psychiatric

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admissions, as well as in how we diagnose and support the mental health and developmental needs of African American boys and youth. We also learn of needed reform related to the care and (mis)treatment of pregnant, incarcerated women in the U.S. Each of these pieces asks us to face uncomfortable, necessary truths and harness the hope, skills, stamina, and advocacy within our social work toolkit to further essential inquiries and steps towards justice.

This year, we aimed to build bridges and encourage growth and change within the Review and Amsterdam. We wanted to offer both a platform and a sandbox - a place where important conversations are raised, while also leaving room for creativity, learning, and connection.

It's been our honor and privilege to steward the Review and Amsterdam into a new era of scholarship and advocacy. The power of the pen (or computer keystroke!) has never been more needed or timely. In addition, the Review and Amsterdam would not be possible without the time and dedication of its authors and editors and we continuously thank those who have helped us along the way including our faculty advisor Dr. Witte, our Advisory Board, and campus partners.

We hope whatever influence we may have had on the *Columbia Social Work Review* and *Amsterdam* will inspire more creativity, collaboration, and interdisciplinary work for a continued holistic and community driven approach to social work and social justice for all.

In community and gratitude,



**EMILY CARCHIA**

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF, 2025-2026  
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**EZZIE PEREZ**

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