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Dr. Ellen Fink-Samnack Recipient of Prestigious Lifetime Achievement Award from the National Association of Social Workers of Virginia

Burke, VA-EFS Supervision Strategies, LLC is proud to announce that its principal, Dr. Ellen Fink-Samnack was named recipient of the *2025 Lifetime Achievement Award* at the recent National Association of Social Workers of Virginia Annual Conference in Charlottesville, Virginia.

Dr. Fink-Samnack's 42-year professional career reflects her commitment to advancing the professional identity of social work and other interprofessional colleagues. Her entrepreneurial vision is at the core of every effort. She is known for her work in ethics, health care quality, health equity, integrated care, interprofessional teams, professional case management, supervision and mentoring, and trauma-informed leadership. Dr. Fink-Samnack is the author of 5 books, including *The Ethical Case Manager: Tools and Tactics*. Her 6th title, *Behavioral Health for Case Management*, will be published in Spring 2025. She is also editing her first book, *Integrated Behavioral Health: Applying the Biodyne Model in Healthcare*, to be published in January 2026.

Dr. Fink-Samnack is a doctoral faculty member, academic advisor, and the IRB coordinator for [Cummings Graduate Institute of Behavioral Health Studies](#). She is also an adjunct faculty member for [George Mason University's College of Public Health](#). She holds a Masters in Social Work (MSW) from the [University of Buffalo School of Social Work](#) and a Doctorate in Behavioral Health (DBH) from Cummings Graduate Institute.

"We are in unprecedented times. I have witnessed many challenges through my tenure in our profession, though one constant connects them all. There will always be something to challenge our professional identity and our purpose. However, social work will always step up with our brain trust of indomitable knowledge, skills, abilities, and competencies. We will flex our muscles to intervene with, support, empower, and advocate for all individuals, families, groups, & communities, as well as for our workforce. For my colleagues in hospitals and healthcare organizations, know our value to existing and emerging case management models is indisputable. We will disrupt the status quo to advance needed change. Any lesser action is unacceptable under our watch", stated Dr. Fink-Samnack during the award ceremony

About the [NASW of VA Lifetime Achievement Award](#): The NASW of Virginia Chapter's Lifetime Achievement in Social Work Award is the highest honor given to a social work professional in the region. The award recognizes a social worker's career-long contributions and achievements.

About [The National Association of Social Workers Virginia Chapter \(NASW of VA\)](#): NASW of VA is the Virginia Chapter of The National Association of Social Workers, with over 120,000 members. Located in Richmond, Virginia, the Virginia Chapter (NASW-VA) is the top provider of social work professional development in the Commonwealth and advocates for professional practices and social justice in the interest of thousands of social workers and their clients.

About [EFS Supervision Strategies, LLC](#): EFSS is a sole proprietor company dedicated to empowering interprofessional knowledge acquisition and wholistic health equity quality through consultation, content development, education, and training.

Principal: Dr. Ellen Fink-Samnack DBH, MSW, LCSW, ACSW, CCM, CCTP, CRP, FCM

efssupervision@me.com

www.efssupervisionstrategies.com

(703) 867-4500

Burke, VA. 22015