Meet Peter, the (questionable) social worker penguin. He sometimes needs a lesson or reminder from his social worker friend Patty on how to do & be his best. It might take Peter time, but he always seems to be able to turn himself around in the end.

Meet Patty, the penguin with the heart of a social worker. She is always happy to help remind her colleague Peter about the values & ethics of professional social work practice. Patty values uniqueness, diversity, treating others with respect & dignity, & being a life-long learner. Patty respects a penguin's right to trust & confidentiality, (which helps build & maintain connection) as well as doing her best to advocate for change & equality for ALL penguins! You can’t spell equ-ALL-ity without “all”.

*The values that are most meaningful to Patty show up throughout the comic in RED text* These highlighted values are important to Patty because she believes all penguins are inherently good & deserve to be treated with loving-kindness & respect. Patty has been lucky enough to go through her own healing journey & became a social worker to offer her support & best to those on their own journey of healing & growth.

Comic Written by: Jenna Horback (CASW Code of Ethics, 2005)
Hi Patty, don’t look but there is a strange penguin beside you!

>This is my cousin Paul from the south!

He looks different from us! He sounds different from us. He even dresses funny! What a weirdo!

I respect the unique worth & inherent dignity of all penguins & strive to uphold penguin rights. He has the right to make his own decisions about his life & how he wants to live, the same rights you & I enjoy Peter. As social worker penguins, we need to respect the diversity among penguins in society & their right to unique beliefs & self expression.

I don’t like change, I don’t like things I don’t understand!

I understand that change and new things can be intimidating but change can also be fun! Diversity & staying open to new things can also make you grow as a penguin. You might discover something new that you love! Paul is a great penguin Peter. You should give him a chance & get to know who he is as a penguin.

THIS IS FUN!! I’ve never built a sandman before! Thanks Paul! Can I keep the hat!?

*Chirp Chirp*

Comic written by: Jenna Horback (CASW Code of Ethics, 2005)
Value 2: Pursuit of Social Justice (advocating for equal treatment for all)

Hey Patty, did you hear that girl penguins only earn 1 fish for every 2 fish we male penguins earn?

Yes, I’m on my way to the protest now!

Well have fun! I’m going swimming!

Would you like to join me?

THIS IS FUN!!

Yes, I’m on my way to the protest now!

Female rights are penguin rights!! Equal fish for all!!

Hens are Penguins too!

Female Pengunis

Social workers uphold the right of penguins to have access to resources to meet basic penguin needs. We advocate for fair & equitable access to public services & benefits, for equal treatment & protection under the law & challenge injustices, especially injustices that affect the vulnerable & disadvantaged. How would you feel if male penguins only earned 1 fish for every 2 fish a female penguin earned?

Comic written by: Jenna Horback (CASW Code of Ethics, 2005)
Hey Patty, I have a client who is ready to end their sessions, but I don't think I will tell them right away because in a few more sessions I will be able to afford a boat! Why would I!? Your suggestion doesn't get me on a boat!

Peter, if your client is ready to leave, you shouldn't continue to see them for your own self-interest!

It will be a BIG boat with blue windows & a green bottom! I will name the boat "Peter!"

Peter, are you listening to me?

Social workers place the needs of others above self-interest when acting in a professional capacity, we strive to use the power & authority vested in us as professionals in responsible ways that serve the needs of clients & the promotion of social justice. We promote individual development, the pursuit of individual goals, as well as the development of a just society FOR ALL. We use our knowledge & skills to bring about fair resolutions to conflict & in assisting those affected by conflict. If you just want a boat, I think I can help!

THIS IS SO FUN!! CALL ME CAPTAIN PETER!!!

Comic written by: Jenna Horback (CASW Code of Ethics, 2005)
Hi Patty! It is such a small world! Guess what happened to me?!

what's going on Peter?

My ex-girlfriend's current partner is seeing me for counselling!

Oh dear! Have you disclosed this information to your client yet?

Of course not! I have so much insight! He is going to think I am a genius! This is going to be a piece of cake!

Peter, social workers demonstrate & promote the qualities of honesty, reliability, impartiality & diligence in their professional practice. We adhere to the values & ethical principles of the profession. Peter, you must establish appropriate boundaries in relationships with clients & ensure that the relationship serves the needs of clients. We value openness & transparency & avoid relationships where our integrity or impartiality may be compromised. If a conflict of interest is unavoidable, the nature of the conflict is fully disclosed.

I guess you're right Patty. Any chance you'd like a referral?

Comic written by: Jenna Horback (CASW Code of Ethics, 2005)
Value 5: Confidentiality in Professional Practice (respecting the right to confidentiality)

Hi Patty, wait till you hear the drama my client just dished!

No, thank you Peter.

What? You don't want to know! This tea is scolding!!!

No, we can't.

What do you mean we can't? It's MY client! I can share whatever I want to, I experienced it.

Just because they disclosed things to you, does not make it yours to share Peter. I want to respect the importance of trust & keeping confidence in the relationship with clients, mine, or yours. Respecting the client's right to confidentiality of information shared in a professional context is important. It builds trust & demonstrates respect. Social workers only disclose confidential information with the informed consent of the client or permission of the client's legal representative. Social workers can only break confidentiality & communicate client information without permission when required or permitted by relevant laws or court orders. How would you feel if your social worker "spilled YOUR tea" Peter?

I wouldn't like that at all! You're right Patty, we should just stick to drinking tea!
Hi Patty! What are you up to today?

Just reading the CASW Code of Ethics.

Why would you do that now that you're out of school?

Because I want to be a lifelong learner who can best uphold the right of clients to be offered the highest quality service possible, to maintain & increase my professional knowledge & skill.

That sounds like too much work! I'm already registered, why should I bother?

Just like our clients, we are always changing, growing, experiencing & evolving. If we do not take time to learn & critically reflect, how are we going to offer our best to our clients? To live is to learn. You should give it a try!

You're right Patty! I'm learning so much about myself & my practice! I want to be a life-long learner too!

Comic Written by: Jenna Horback (CASW Code of Ethics, 2005)