

SECTION II. MICRO SOCIAL WORK PRACTICE

SOCIAL WORK COMPETENCIES – DIGNITY AND WORTH

NASW Competency	
Dignity and Worth	Social workers work with individuals who are culturally and ethnically diverse. As the social worker meets with Maynor and begins to work with him, the social worker has a responsibility to treat Maynor with courtesy, consideration, respect and must always be mindful of their biases. The social worker must ensure they hear Maynor's story to understand his experiences and the context that led him to meet with you. Social workers have a natural curiosity about the history and cultural background of clients.

SOCIAL WORK COMPETENCIES – DIGNITY AND WORTH - MICRO PRACTICE ACTIVITY

NASW Core Principle: **Dignity and Worth of a Person**

Social workers treat each person in a caring and respectful fashion, mindful of individual differences and cultural and ethnic diversity. Social workers promote clients' socially responsible self-determination. Social workers seek to enhance clients' capacity and opportunity to change and to address their own needs. Social workers are cognizant of their dual responsibility to clients and to the broader society. They seek to resolve conflicts between clients' interests and the broader society's interests in a socially responsible manner consistent with the values, ethical principles, and ethical standards of the profession (NASW).

Foundation Activity: Consider the NASW definition above. As a social work student or intern, you learn Maynor had to take an unpaid day off work to meet with you. Please describe in two short sentences what you could do moving forward to support Maynor in continuing to meet with you while being mindful of his employment. Why might this be important to Maynor?

IFSW Core Principle: **RECOGNITION OF THE INHERENT DIGNITY OF HUMANITY**

Social workers recognize and respect the inherent dignity and worth of all human beings in attitude, word, and deed. We respect all persons, but we challenge beliefs and actions of those persons who devalue or stigmatize themselves or other persons (IFSW).

Advanced Activity: Consider the IFSW definition above. As a social work student or intern, state two actions or strategies you will utilize to connect Maynor to the Guatemalan Consulate that demonstrates dignity and worth of Maynor.
