

**SOCIAL WORK COMPETENCIES – SOCIAL JUSTICE**

| NASW Competency | |
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| Social Justice | Social justice involves advocating for the human rights of all persons. For the social worker in the psychological counseling center, this will involve working with him to address the issues that are causing him great distress in his life. Renewing DACA status and studying abroad are rights DACA students are afforded under the law. The social worker will need to explore Maynor’s needs in order to help him achieve his goal of international travel and service experience and break down barriers, like bureaucracy. The social worker will need to work with the college legal services program and if one is not available on campus, assist Maynor in identifying a local organization that provides free legal services. In addition, the social worker will need to provide Maynor with assistance in locating organizations and/or resources that provide DACA renewal financial assistance and assist Maynor in obtaining the resources. |

**SOCIAL WORK COMPETENCIES – SOCIAL JUSTICE - MICRO PRACTICE ACTIVITY**

NASW Core Principle: **Social Justice**

Social workers pursue social change, particularly with and on behalf of vulnerable and oppressed individuals and groups of people. Social workers’ social change efforts are focused primarily on issues of poverty, unemployment, discrimination, and other forms of social injustice. These activities seek to promote sensitivity to and knowledge about oppression and cultural and ethnic diversity. Social workers strive to ensure access to needed information, services, and resources; equality of opportunity; and meaningful participation in decision making for all people (NASW).

Foundation Activity: Consider the NASW definition above. As a social work student or intern, you learned the Guatemalan Consulate office offers individualized legal assistance. List two strategies in which you, as a social work student or intern, would ensure that Maynor is able to access the needed information and assistance from the Guatemalan Consulate. Are there any other legal aid organizations in the community that offer individualized legal assistance for immigration cases?

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IFSW Core Principle: **Promoting Social Justice**

Social workers have a responsibility to engage people in achieving social justice, in relation to society generally, and in relation to the people with whom they work (Challenging Discrimination and Institutional Oppression, Respect for Diversity, Access to Equitable Resources, Challenging Unjust Policies and Practices, and Building Solidarity) (IFSW).

Advanced Activity: Consider the IFSW definition above, as a social work student or intern, identify one state policy that directly oppresses individuals like Maynor and one federal policy that directly oppresses individuals like Maynor.

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