

SECTION II. MICRO SOCIAL WORK PRACTICE

SOCIAL WORK COMPETENCIES - SERVICE

NASW Competency	
Service	<p>Empowering individuals, families, and communities is a primary goal of all social workers. Service is the value from which all other social work values stem. Social workers regularly elevate the needs of their communities above their own personal interests and use their skills and knowledge (from education and experience) to enhance the wellbeing of others. In addition, social workers often volunteer their time or expertise above and beyond their professional commitments.</p> <p>For example, during the COVID-19 pandemic, many social workers coordinated mutual aid, community meals, and personal protective equipment (PPE) drives (Tulane University School of Social Work, 2023).</p> <p>.Achara’s social worker has a responsibility to be Achara’s advocate and social justice warrior in the classroom and out. Within the school, the social worker may assist Achara in securing resources, like English language assistance, academic and psychological counseling, empowerment workshops, peer support, and a tutor. With Achara’s recent discovery of her involuntary sexual behaviors, a social worker may create a plan with Achara’s family that involves an escape plan from her current boyfriend. There are many potential areas with which to tackle, a social worker must provide service to Achara that empower hers personally and academically, and from a holistic standpoint.</p>

SOCIAL WORK COMPETENCIES – SERVICE – MICRO PRACTICE ACTIVITY

NASW Core Principle: **Service**

Social workers’ primary goal is to help people in need and to address social problems. Social workers elevate service to others above self-interest. Social workers draw on their knowledge, values, and skills to help people in need and to address social problems. Social workers are encouraged to volunteer some portion of their professional skills with no expectation of significant financial return (pro bono service).

Foundation Activity: Consider the NASW definition above. As a future social worker, state what you believe is Achara’s immediate concern, from her perspective, and the action(s) you would take to address the problem.

IFSW Core Principle: Treating People as Whole Persons

Social workers recognize the biological, psychological, social, and spiritual dimensions of people's lives and understand and treat all people as whole persons. Such recognition is used to formulate holistic assessments and interventions with the full participation of people, organizations, and communities with whom social workers engage.

Advanced Activity: Consider the IFSW definition above. In your own words, state two reasons it is critical you develop and sustain rapport and good communication with Achara's sister, Su, and perhaps, Achara's parents, who live in Thailand.
