

SWK 557 FIELD EXPERIENCE
COMPETENCY JOURNAL #7

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Review of Competencies Practiced:

This competency journal was based from my interactions with one of our clients at Rikers on 4/9/2022. The Field Learning Agreement that was completed and indicated is in Competency 6: Engagement with Individuals. The Practice Behaviors are 6:2. In Practice Behavior 6:2, "Use reflection and self-regulation to manage personal values and maintain professionalism in practice situations".

The activity: The setting was at the dayroom of RNDC Mod 2 North of Rikers. The house has twelve detainees at that time. It was Saturday, many of the detainees were still in bed, or few on the wall phone, and few watching t.v., some hanging around when we arrived. The table at the center of the dayroom facing the door was the place TCM/Intern usually occupy. One person still was still in his make shift bed inside the dayroom at that time. This scenario was not new to us anymore. As the day unfolds, slowly one by one clients began to engage with us.

The main focus for this interaction was with one of our clients, named K.L. The challenge was not that I was not able to engage the client, but during the engagement, my thoughts played ahead of supposedly self-regulated personal thoughts, values and preferences, although I've kept my professional behavior and maintained a successful engagement. The client's discussion of his preferences of not attending college, instead will join his uncle in marijuana dispensary business was the point of this challenge. He continued to say that young people at this time like him, wants big houses, nice cars and many are millionaires without college degrees. On the other hand, this absolutely is true although this does not belong to my own values or preferences.

What was the challenge? Competency 6: Social workers understand how their personal experiences and affective reactions may impact their ability to engage with diverse clients. Social worker must value the importance of human relationships.

Strengths:

Reflecting on my performance for this competency, I believe what went well was my ability to maintain professionalism and engage the client, although it was clear he was laying down a plan for his own life, which was not according to my own values and preferences.

Taking on a strength-based perspective, the client's ability to think a plan which might be suited for him was not a bad idea. To dream and be inspired by the successes of many young people who are millionaires is a noble idea and it is his right if he desires to pursue the same, on the other hand.

Limitations:

To focus more on my growing awareness of self-regulation and to manage my personal values and be sure they will not interfere providing correct interpretations to any given situation, or discussions, and or at any environmental setting and provide a quality service to all.

My personal feeling:

I feel empowered every time my personal values and slackness in self-regulation is being challenged. The idea of inclusivity, and commitment to diversity and equity, liberated me to become more inspired to serve.

Knowledge, Values, and Skills

Interpretation of success is different to many cultures. Thus, I believe the knowledge of cultural humility is important to explore more as was related to the challenge presented here. Commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion is a must to practice in this situation. The

inherent worth of my client, as a human who has a unique characteristics and desire to become successful in life must celebrated and supported. Active listening, empathy, and open mind to possibility, a must to advance my practice.

Plan for Progress:

I learned having an open mind to any possibility for my client will advance my practice. This tantamount to bringing up hope to the hopeless. To make this happen and for my personal growth, the practice behavior concerning values to commit to diversity, equity, and inclusion at all times at all environmental settings is a must. In addition, to build an enduring relationship, I need to deepen my respect to unique characteristics of every individual, together with my commitment to an open and honest communication in order to advance my practice.