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Activity Journal 1

SWK555 Policy

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While visiting the NASW websites to explore the “Milestones in the Development of Social Work and Social Welfare,” I had access to many sources of knowledge. Some of the things that I viewed on this website confirmed what I already believed to be true. Many of the things that I viewed on this website were new and exciting developments for me.

The NASW website created a lovely interactive timeline that shows the origin of Social Work in the 1800’s and how it has progressed up until now. For example, if you click on the “Beginnings” section of the timeline, it opens up its own timeline and informs us that Jane Addams is deemed “the mother” of social work due to her being one of the pioneers in 1889. The interactive timeline leads us all the way up to President Bidens announcement of his plan for debt relief in 2022. I found this way of learning to be fun. Being able to scroll through various time periods and learning social work facts from that era was an exciting experience for me.

Some of the things I learned through this timeline were that in the year 2009, a law was created that reversed women’s’ inability to sue for discrimination in pay. I knew about the fight for equality in women’s pay, but I was not aware that there was a law in place that prohibited women from suing for discrimination. I was also unaware that a law was created to reverse that law. I was empowered by that. Another fact that I learned from the NAWS interactive timeline was that in the year 2016, the NASW fought against former President Trumps ban against all transgenders presence in the military. I remember when this topic was discussed in the news

back then, however, I was not aware that it was the NASW themselves who aided in this pushback.

The NASW is a great tool. It can help aspiring as well as practicing social workers to find out about the rich history. There are many facts on this website. It is an adequate learning tool.

Now that I am aware of this resource, I will reference it often.