

Dainty Broughton

Social Welfare Policy & Services

January 30, 2023

Journal #1

As I explore “Milestones in the Development of Social Work and Social Welfare”, I learned that Social Work started in 1888. I learned that in the summer of 1889 the first social work class was offered at Columbia University. According to the timeline of Social Work History, social workers have led the way by developing private and charitable organizations to serve people in need. I learned that today Social Workers continue to address the needs of society and bring nations’ social programs to the public attention.

I learned that today Americans enjoy a lot of privileges because early social workers saw miseries, injustices and took action as well as inspiring others along the way. I learned that many of the things we take for granted, we are able to do and enjoy freely due to social workers. For example each person have civil rights no matter ones race, faith, gender or sexual orientation, there are laws to prevent and investigate child abuse and any person with a mental health disorder can get treatment without any stigma.

I learned Jane Addams is known as the mother of social work. Something I did not know was that Jane Addams was the first women to receive the Nobel Peace Prize in 1931. Jane Addams is known for creating settlement houses known as Hull Houses in Chicago for immigrants in the early 1900s. Addams and Ellen Gates Star provide services such children’s clubs, nurseries, library, employment, lunchroom and so forth. What is interesting for to learn is that Addams along with her colleagues lived with the people they helped. That to me is inspiring.

Another woman I learned that was a social work pioneer was Frances Perkins. Perkins was the first woman to be appointed to the cabinet by a U.S. President. Frances Perkins served as President Roosevelt's Secretary of Labor in which she drafted much of the New Deal legislation in the 1940s. This, I did not know. Other famous social workers that I learned about are Whitney M. Young Jr, Harry Hopkins, Dorothy Heigh and Jeanette Rankin. Each person contributed to the social work profession in their own way.

As I explore further, I learned there were seven organizations that joined force to become National Association of Social Workers (NASW). I also learned that National conference of Social Workers was held at the White House in 1923. The first NASW national conference was held in St. Louis in which 250 delegates from 140 chapters attended.

I learned that blacks helped shaped the social work profession. African Americans such as Ida B. Wells and George Edmund Hayes. They were social workers, educator and co-founder of the National Urban League.

While exploring "Milestones in the Development of Social Work and Social Welfare", I learned in 1995 NASW successfully pushed to have clinical social workers included as medical providers under the Family and Medical Leave Act. I learned that the supreme court made a ruling in 1996, Jaffe vs. Redmond, that protect the psychotherapist-patient privilege to licensed social workers, "an evidentiary privilege which is now recognized in federal courts through the country" Social Workers.org – Interactive Timeline.

The social work profession does not get the credit the profession deserves. Social Workers have been providing helping services for those in need and for those who cannot advocate for themselves. Once I heard that social workers are superheroes. I can honestly say now I know why.

Reference

<https://www.socialworkers.org/about/ethics/code-of-ethics>