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SWK 555 Activity Journal #1:

January 31st, 2023

From viewing this timeline I was able to thoroughly understand and learn about the history of events that happened in the history of NASW. I learned about the impact the NASW and its members had on society and the profession in the past 67 years. NASW worked to provide health care to the elderly through Medicare, secure voting rights for all Americans, and ensured equal rights for African Americans, women, the LGBT community and other marginalized groups.

The "Mother" of Social Work was Social Work Pioneer Jane Addams; James Addams and Ellen Gates Star opened Hull House in Chicago to provide services to the area, which included a large immigrant population. The first formal classes in "social philanthropy" were offered by the COS of New York City during the summer of 1898. While often not discussed, I learned that people of color helped shape the new profession of social work; while the roles they've played and still play are often overlooked it's great to know of their contributions to a great profession. The first copy of the code of ethics was created to provide a guide to the everyday professional conduct of social workers. Although the code of ethics continues to be revised, the message doesn't change. In 1963, NASW introduced National Social Work Month in March for the first time. I never knew prior to that social work had a month to celebrate. I learned the theme for 2023 is "Social Work Breaks Barriers."

In the more recent years, cultural competency became a huge aspect. NASW developed and released the standards for cultural competence in social work practice in 2001 to prepare social workers to serve an abundance of broad clients.