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**Swk499: Integrative Seminar**

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**Reflective Assessment on Competency 8**

**Intervene with Individuals, Families, Groups, Organizations, and Communities**

***In what ways have I accomplished this competency/practice behaviors?** I have accomplished this competency by supporting Participants and co-worker to reach goals. I have also implemented this competency by stepping out into the community to provide support. For example, I have used inter-professional collaboration with the education system and the judicial system to get my participants the resources needed to reach their goals.*

***How has my thinking changed over time?** My thinking has changed by becoming more aware of the need to research and understand what would be the best evidence-informed intervention to associate my client with. Before, I used to think that I could apply the same approach to all of my participants. However, after learning about this competency, I understand that it takes a lot more effort to apply intervention.*

***What are the practice behaviors that indicate my competency in this area?** One of the practices that indicate my competency in this area was during a class SWK 416 Generalist Practice I: Individuals & Families. In this course, I completed a Critical Analysis Paper: I examined an “SFBT” solution- focused intervention for at-risk junior highschool students, this intervention consisted of using scaling questions, asking miracle and exception questions. The goal was to study academic achievement due to their SFBT intervention.*

***What curriculum content areas (social policy, practice, etc.) relate to successfully completing this competency?** The curriculum content that related to successfully completing this competency happened during my Generalist SWK Practice II: Groups Organizations & Communities. Throughout this course, a couple of my classmates & I were able to assess a community located in the upper west side of Manhattan named “ Washington Heights”. I was responsible for learning the history of that community. We had to personally go to that area and interact with the members from that community.*

*What learning experiences helped me to accomplish this competency?* I learned experience that helped me accomplish this competency was that the only way we can assess and take place in an intervention process, is by interacting and engaging with the individual, groups, or communities. I also learned that it takes a lot of more work to help someone than just having good intentions. We have to research and collaborate with other professions to bring about a greater outcome.

*What “gaps” can I identify in my learning experience? What will I do about these “gaps”* Researching and reading different articles to better understand a client and their needs is a gap I need to confront. I would take more time out to study, join different coalitions groups to become informed about the multi-disciplinary theoretical framework in interventions.

*Professional Growth Plan, identify goals for continued personal and professional growth and discuss how you plan to reach these goals).*

### **Integrative Questions**

**Identify a case situation you have worked with and describe the interventions that were selected and applied in your work with the case.** I’m currently working with an individual that was arrested and was referred to my agency by the judicial system. He was mandated by the judge to commit to the program and show improvement by the next court in order to remain free in society. The intervention that I apply to this case was Solution-focused intervention. I allowed the client to imagine what it would look like for the judge to allow him to remain free. After that, I directed him to take the steps necessary to accompany the goals he set up for himself.

**What systems have you accessed or will you access in order to provide effective intervention?** In this same case, I accessed the educational system by helping my client enroll back to school. I also accessed the family system by doing home visits and having discussions with the client’s mother about my clients childhood and current situation. Lastly, I accessed the judicial system by communicating with the defense attorney and the judge about recent progress my client was making. By accessing all of these three systems it helped me provide a more effective intervention to my client.

**In what ways did you apply your knowledge of human behavior in the social environment and person-in-environment to assist in the intervention process?** First, I interacted with the individual and the social support “family” of my client in order to get a better understanding on how to apply the intervention process. I also did research on similar studies and went over with my client the intervention and step I wanted him to exercise. I also worked alongside different co-worker at my agency to achieve a more beneficial outcome. Lastly, I advocated for my client and made alliances with other support systems which in this case was my client’s local church.

**Describe your use of inter-professional collaboration in your agency setting.** I rely a lot on my co-workers' participation. We do different dynamics with our clients and run group sessions together to help with the interactive process. I also collaborate with schools and non-profit programs to interchange resources and information with one another. I also do weekly meetings with the supervisor and other colleagues to discuss cases and come up with strategies as a team.

**Describe specific ways in which you were able to negotiate, mediate, and advocate on behalf of the client system identified above.** I was able to negotiate for my client to only attend the program once or twice a week due to the fact that he decided to continue his education. I also was a mediator for my client’s employment status. More importantly, I am advocating for my client to overcome his difficult challenges in the judicial system and regain his liberty.

**How did you or how will you facilitate an effective ending with this client?** I must admit, I did not handle this part correctly the first time around in my field practicum. I completed my hours and said bye to my supervisor and colleagues. However, after witnessing how much the participants in my agency asked for me and how connected they felt with me, I would make sure to facilitate my ending correctly this time around.