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Clinical Social Work Practice III with Groups

Journal #7

This week's activity topic allowed us to utilize stage 3 of the Adlerian approach to therapy. In this stage, the social worker helps the group members build awareness and insight. Group members are encouraged to discuss their goals and personal desires for change with one another. This stage also helps members to practice hearing feedback from others.

In today's group, we discussed professional goals and social issues that members of the group wanted to address. The main issue that was discussed was the Alliance University graduation ceremony and events. One member brought up the topic and described how hard she has worked to be able to earn the degree. She felt very confused and frustrated by the lack of information that was sent to graduating students. She expressed that emails continue to be sent, but there is still no ticket information being provided. She also stated that the hooding location seems to have changed, but not all graduating students received the new email.

After this group member shared the details of this issue that impacts her professional career and others within the university, other group members offered their perspectives and suggestions. One member stated that she was frustrated as well since we only have a month and a half until the ceremony, and we are not clear on how many guests we can invite. She felt invitations to guests should be sent out more than 1 month in advance. She suggested that each

group member who wanted to should write an email to those in authority so that we can gain some clarity.

Another group member added that we should send a survey to those graduating in the MSW program to see how many other students were feeling concerned or frustrated with the lack of details being provided. He stated that after collecting the survey responses, we could use this data in our email to those in authority. He felt this would add some weight to our complaints.

A third group member mentioned that there was a meeting with faculty regarding the hooding and graduation ceremony at the end of March, so perhaps we should wait until after Spring Break. She felt that would allow faculty to have the answers we desired prior to us reaching out. This group member also mentioned that she has emailed in recent weeks, but was told ticket information would be provided in the beginning of April.

The group vetted all of these options and all group members felt validated in their concerns and frustration. However, they were also glad to have more information about the timing of ticket information. The group decided that they would wait until the beginning of April before sending out a survey or reaching out to those in authority.