

Weekly Field Placement Journal

Name: Mike Hoback

Week of: 12/10/2012-12/16/2012

Hours worked this week: 35

Total hours this semester: 410.5

Describe meaningful *learning activities/experiences* for this past week.

This week I completed a decision-making guide based on the NASW code of ethics for analysis of complex practice environments. I also spoke with my field supervisor about a situation in which the developed decision-making guide was used to help me resolve an ethical situation involving a client. I also developed my mission statement that helps direct me in practice with clients. I also conducted biopsychosocial and alcohol and drug assessments with clients this week and with one client who was a former firefighter, I implemented new counseling techniques I learned when attending an outside seminar that discussed counseling police officers and firefighters. I believe the therapy session went well and I connected with the client in a way in which he advised “nobody else understands.”

1. Analyze experiences you engaged in this week that challenged you to use what you’ve learned in a social work course including:

a. Describe how learning experiences fulfilled *practice behaviors*.

Completing my decision-making guide which is based on the NASW code of ethics and then implementing the guide to help me resolve an ethical decision involving a client helped me reach competency 2: Apply social work ethical principles to guide professional practice-Develop a framework using ethical considerations, for analysis of complex practice environments. It also helped me work towards Competency 2-2: Demonstrate autonomous ethical use-of-self and value-grounded practice. **Developing my mission statement helped me work towards Competency 2: Apply social work ethical principles to guide professional practice-Critically analyze personal values and ethical social work principals when designing and implementing interventions across systems.** Implementing emerging therapeutic techniques/skills with the former firefighter client helped me work towards Competency 3: Apply critical thinking to inform and communicate professional judgments-Demonstrate autonomous application of critical thinking to diverse complex professional scenarios.

b. Discuss how you implemented learning from class work.

When developing my ethical decision making guide I looked back on several papers I wrote while at Southern concerning ethics. I used these papers as a

foundation for my decision making guide and it also helped me see how I had grown since first writing these papers. When writing my mission statement I reviewed a class in which we discussed mission statements and how to write them. I also reviewed our mission statement for our cohort group last year as a guide in which to follow. When counseling the former firefighter client I felt more at ease and in control of the session due to the training and the videos we had to complete in both of my first two years at Southern. I have watched these old videos several times and I am pleased which how far I have progressed since the very first one.

2. Describe areas of growth or concern to address during supervision.

This week I think I think I did a good job with communication. I spoke with several outside social workers and psychologists that work at area agencies and discussed client progress and what we can do to better enhance the success rate of the clients in our care. Dr. Wells from Action counseling was especially helpful this week in explaining to me how individuals in drug therapy progress when given the right tools for the situation.

3. Supervisor comments:

Student Signature

Date

Field Instructor

Date