MACRO PROJECT ASSIGNMENT

The macro project is intended to provide you with an experience of initiating change at a larger systems level. Ideally it should take place in the agency or community beyond the level of working with individuals or small groups. The student and field instructor should mutually agree on the content of the macro project. There is a guide for planning the project in the Macro project planning paper assignment in the field seminar. The Macro project should be something that complements the skills you are using in your placement, is helpful to the agency community, and is a learning experience for you.

An outline of the macro project must be included in the spring learning agreement (due date can be found on the field calendar) if it has not been submitted earlier. The field liaison will review and send email confirmation of approval or request additional information. If the macro project idea is developed in the fall semester after the initial learning agreement has been submitted, it can be written on a separate paper and include signatures from the field instructor and student. The student should not begin her/his macro project until it has been approved by the field liaison.

Examples of projects in the past have included planning and giving workshops, developing a short video, doing some community organizing, political action, policy work, grant writing, fundraising, developing directories, resource manuals, etc. The amount of time devoted to this project varies widely among settings, and should be determined by field instructor and student, based on its potential merits as compared with other learning assignments. After the macro project has been completed a write-up must be submitted to the liaison by the date indicated on the field calendar.

Sample Macro Assignments

Community Based Initiatives
  a) Developing outreach relationships with community organizations
  b) Developing and implementing a community needs assessment

Alliances and Coalitions
  a) Outreach and coalition development with other agencies
  b) Collaboration and facilitating coalition meetings
  c) Developing a monthly luncheon of area providers

Fund Raising
  a) Participating in agency annual fund raising events
  b) Develop new strategies for capital campaigns
  c) Organizing potential sources for volunteer involvement
Social Action/ Lobbying/Advocacy
   a) Contacting county and state legislators regarding issues relevant to your clients
   b) Develop a voter registration drive
   c) Organize and train clients in advocacy and accompany on visit to legislators
   d) Compile a list of federal, state and local public officials serving on key committees

Administration and Supervision
   a) Participate in training and supervision of agency volunteers
   b) Chair meetings

Data Collection/Research
   a) Developing/implementing client satisfaction surveys
   c) Developing/implementing a client needs assessment instrument

Program/Group Development
   a) Developing the curriculum/ doing outreach for a new support group
   b) Developing a parents advisory committee in a day care center

Resource Development
   a) Developing a resource manual for new students
   b) Developing a resource manual for agency clients