

## **MODULE 6: “TIPS” FOR THE TRAINER**

- When recruiting volunteers for the “Fish Bowl Activity”, participants may be reluctant to “role play” as they are afraid to make a mistake or embarrass themselves. Thus trainers can minimize the risk by explaining there is no right or wrong way to portray the individual. *The role of social worker requires the most involvement and some knowledge of group processes so try to recruit someone who is a “risk taker” and knowledgeable for that position.* Encourage participants to draw on behaviors they have witnessed in their clients for authenticity in the role they are playing.
- When the participants in the role play have left the room to get their instructions from one trainer, the other trainer should engage the rest of the participants by explaining their roles as observers. The trainer tells the observers that each role player knows only who the person is that he/she represents, but not what is written on his/her name tag about how others are to respond to him/her. Share what is written on the name tags and ask observers to notice if other role play participants are reacting to that person in the manner directed and to think about how their response influences his/her participation in the discussion. *Being in on the “secret” helps to engage observers and enhances the discussion at the end of the role play.*