

GUIDE TO THE PLACEMENT INTERVIEW

Students: The following material is intended to assist you in preparing for your field placement interviews. Please take the time to reflect on yourself as a person and as a developing social worker, identify your strengths, areas for further development, your goals and your hopes and expectations for the learning experience in field placement. This rehearsal will help prepare you for your meeting with your prospective field instructor. Be prepared to share your "Field Portfolio" or a writing sample during the interview, (See Placement Guide for details.) Be punctual and dress appropriately for the agency and its clientele.

- I. **For Students** --- *Questions you may be asked:*
 - A. What are your areas of interest?
 - B. What are your professional strengths/weaknesses? What are some positive personal qualities and characteristics you are working to improve?
 - C. Why are you interested in this agency?
 - D. What are you hoping to learn from this placement?
 - E. What are your long term/post graduate goals and how will this placement facilitate your achieving your goals?
 - F. What do you perceive the role of a student to be and how, if at all does it differ from an employee?
 - G. What was your most memorable learning experience in class/in your field placement?
 - H. Describe your prior experiences – be prepared to not only describe where you might have worked, but what you did, how you did it and how it affected you and your decision to pursue graduate education. Be prepared to explain any jargon used.
 - I. What are you looking for in supervision?
 1. What is your preferred learning style?
 2. What seems to facilitate the learning/what interferes?
 3. How well do you accept critical feedback?
 4. How do you resolve differences when you don't agree with clients, supervisors, agency policies?

Field Instructors: Please review the list below in preparation for placement interviewing social work students for field placement. Your intern candidate may expect you to respond to these questions. You are also encouraged to address these topics in your overview of learning opportunities and expectations that exist in your agency.

- II. **For Field Instructors-** Questions/issues you may be asked
 - A. What is the range of services offered by the agency?
 - B. Who are the clients?
 - C. What are the social work functions within the agency?

1. What are the Micro opportunities?
2. What are the Macro opportunities?
- D. What is the supervisor's clinical experience?
- E. What is the supervisor's clinical orientation?
- F. What is the supervisor's approach to help you with your primary learning tasks?
- G. What agency policies could affect students at this site? (working after hours, transporting clients, home visits, required physical exams or background checks.)
- H. What is the supervisor's approach/expectations regarding supervision?
 1. How are process recordings used as instructional tools to aid in the learning process?
 2. What is the supervisor's approach to the evaluation process?

NOTE TO Field Instructors regarding Feedback to Students: If a match does not seem feasible please take a moment to review with the student why their expectation may not be met in this setting. This may guide students elsewhere or encourage a necessary reevaluation of their goals.

The deadline for completion of all second year matches is **May 1st**.

If after reviewing these questions you need assistance with this process, please contact your current field liaison or a member of the Field office.