

# Cultivating Social Justice Learners



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# 12 Grand Challenges



# Why is teaching about social justice challenging?

- Field instructors have varying levels in skill and competence in teaching about social justice in practice.
- Varying level of time to spend in supervision
- Varying levels of commitment to further training on social justice
- Limited positional power
- Students present with varying level of interest in engagement with social justice exploration in practice.
- Lack of comfort with the field instructor relationship

**For  
Example:**

# Finding the Teaching Moments

- Ask your students to reflect on how privilege impacts engagement, treatment, policy, or programming at your field placement.
- Model having difficult conversations with your colleagues or team members when privilege, oppression, diversity or social justice impact your work with clients or agencies, then debrief and reflect on what went well and what didn't go well with your student.
- Include a social justice project as an assignment in the educational agreement
- Require reflective journaling and discuss in supervision
- Discuss current social issues and use the Code of Ethics to guide how social workers should respond

# Developing Social Justice Directed Professionals

	<b>“STUDENT WILL.....”</b>
Ensure healthy development for all youth	Include a physical, emotional and social health goal in treatment plan
Close the health gap	Review the policies for medicaid eligibility and identify providers in the community that accept medicaid and are accepting patients.
Stop Family Violence	Obtain the list of domestic violence shelters in the community.
Advance long and productive lives	Develop a resource manual that includes services specific to physical, emotional and social needs
End homelessness	Participate in point in time count event
Create social responses to a changing environment	Analyze a local policy and present findings to administration
Harness technology for social good	Support the organization in updating their web based presence. Review for accessibility
Promote smart decarceration	Review restorative justice practices and provide a presentation. Identify services in the organization that are accessible to returning citizens and contact local probation and parole offices.
Reduce extreme economic inequality	Facilitate research on social entrepreneurship. Seek funding to support training program for community members
Build financial capability for all	Collaborate with local financial institutions to provide education to participants
Achieve equal opportunity and justice	Participate in training focused on bias'

# Developing Social Justice Directed Professionals

Role modeling



Facilitating Exposure



Focused Discussion





# Developing Social Justice Directed Professionals

At your table, brainstorm:

SPECIFIC Ways You Will Develop Social Justice Directed Professionals

Role Model:

Facilitate Exposure:

Focused Discussion:



**“I WILL.....”**

# Developing Social Justice Directed Professionals

What can YOU do?

**“I WILL.....”**

Role Model	Engage in an event focused on policy change. Inquire about social justice implications within the workplace
Facilitate Exposure	Invite student to workgroups and meetings where social justice is discussed.
Focused Discussion	Include topic on social justice issues in supervision

## QUESTION & ANSWER



Any Questions, Comments, Thoughts, Ideas?

# References

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