**MSW Foundation Year -Student Learning Agreement**

Walden University -- Barbara Solomon School of Social Work and Human Services --Social Work Program

*Used with SOCW 6500 and SOCW 651*0

**Agency Name:** South Bend Community School Corporation

**Agency Address:** 215 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Drive South Bend, IN 46601

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| Student Information | Instructor/Supervisor Information | Faculty Liaison Information | Agency Info |
| Name: Lowleta Thompson-Kimble  Walden Email: lowleta.thompson-kimble@waldenu.edu  Phone: 931-436-0186 | Name: Christine Pochert  Director of Grants & Social Workers  Email: cpochert@sb.school  Phone: 574-393-6108 | Name:  Email:  Phone: | Description: SCHOOL AGE MOTHERS PROGRAM (SAMP): Pregnant teenage girls in the 7th grade through 12th grade that live in the school distract areas and be referred by their home school counselor. The program offers small classrooms, child care, transportation, car seats, and all education curriculums along with child development coursers to meet graduation requirements. |
| Academic Term  Fall 2017  &  Winter 2018 | **Course Number**  SOCW 6500  &  SOCW 6510 |  | Population Served: 12-35 |

**Importance of the Learning Agreement**

Purpose of the Learning Agreement: The learning agreement is designed to ensure students are mindful about the learning expectations in their field placement. It was developed to help students and supervisors/instructors plan a well-rounded experience that will help students meet the learning objectives.

Learning Objectives: The Council on Social Work Education (CSWE) requires students gain competency in nine areas of social work practice. These areas of practice are defined as *core competencies* of the profession. Each *core competency* requires particular behaviors students should be able to engage and gain competency in. Students should provide examples of activities in the agency they can participate in to help them meet the learning objectives. Some examples of activities are provided. This is not an exhaustive list, so others can be added. **Students must have an opportunity to complete tasks in all nine areas of competency.**

Connection to the Student Evaluation: Not only is the learning agreement a helpful tool to plan the learning goals for the term, but it connects directly to the evaluation points in the student evaluation. Field Instructors/supervisors will be asked to complete student evaluations. Each student is evaluated on the nine core competencies of social work. Having a solid learning agreement aligns the learning goals with the student’s evaluation, so no areas are missed.

**Instructions**

Negotiating the Agreement: The learning agreement should be completed by week 3 at the agency. This is a collaborative process, where the field instructor/supervisor and student meet to establish goals for the term. The student will then submit the agreement to the faculty liaison for feedback and comments. Once everyone is happy with the agreement, all parties sign the agreement. During the evaluation session, toward the end of the quarter, the student and instructor/supervisor should meet to discuss progress and challenges with the plan and develop ways to adjust the learning for the remainder of the placement and the next quarter.

Form Layout:

Each page/grid is devoted to one of the nine *Social Work Core Competencies***. Students must have experience in all nine competencies.**

**Section Descriptions:**

Expected Behaviors – the expected behaviors are those that are identified by the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE). These behaviors should be demonstrated by students during the term of the field placement/internship.

Agency Activities-These are examples of particular activities that students can do at the agency to demonstrate the expected behaviors. Most of these are general to all settings. However, if they don’t quite match, feel free to **add/change these to fit with the context of your agency.** Check all activities that apply.

Field Course Assignments-These are a few examples of field course assignments that help reinforce the *Social Work Core Competencies.* **Students will be required to complete all field course assignments.**

How to Complete the From:

1. By week 2, students should complete all student designated sections on the learning agreement and discuss it with their supervisor/instructor.
2. By week 3, students should upload the learning agreement to Blackboard for the faculty liaison to review. (Only upload agreements that have been approved by your supervisor/instructor).
3. After the faculty liaison reviews and signs the agreement, the student and instructor should sign it.
4. After the agreement has been signed, the student will upload it to Meditrek.

**Learning Agreement**

Social Work Core Competency 1 – Demonstrate Ethical and Professional Behavior

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| Expected Behaviors – You will be evaluated on these at the end of the quarter | Agency Activities to help you achieve the expected behaviors- Check all that apply | Field Course Assignments – Complete these in the course when assigned. |
| a- make ethical decisions by applying the standards of the NASW Code of Ethics, relevant laws and regulations, models for ethical decision-making, ethical conduct of research, and additional codes of ethics as appropriate to context.  b- use reflection and self-regulation to manage personal values and maintain professionalism in practice situations.  c-demonstrate professional demeanor in behavior; appearance, and oral, written, and electronic communication.  d-use technology ethically and appropriately to facilitate practice outcomes.  f- use supervision and consultation to guide professional judgment and behavior. | Familiarize self with clients' rights and respect these at all times and adhere to the *NASW Code of Ethics*.  \_\_Advocate for those who are incapacitated, incompetent and those who cannot represent their own best interests.  \_\_Discuss personal values in supervision when they conflict with the values of the profession.  \_\_Discuss case scenarios with my supervisor and faculty liaison that require ethical reasoning.  Seek guidance when you experience and ethical dilemma.  \_\_Dress professionally, use appropriate, professional language and behavior.  \_\_Adhere to agency polices about technology and record keeping.  **Add other activities here:** | SOCW 6500 (Field I) Assignments:  Blog entries on supervision, use of self, confidentiality and boundaries.  Process Recording on Values and Ethics |
| For Student: After reviewing the Agency Activities and Field Course Assignments, describe how these expectations and activities will help you gain competence in ethical and professional behavior (be specific). | | |
| For Student: Write two goals that you want to achieve to help you develop as a professional social worker:   1. Participate in monthly meetings, workshops, and trainings relates to South Bend Community School Corporation social work department. 2. Be prepared for weekly supervision meetings to reflect on the previous and upcoming week, cases, and community resources.   For Student: Write down any questions you have for your instructor/supervisor or faculty liaison:  Instructor/Supervisor’s Feedback for Evaluation: (To be completed during evaluation). | | |

Social Work Core Competency 2 – Engage Diversity and Difference in Practice

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| Expected Behaviors – You will be evaluated on these at the end of the quarter | Agency Activities to help you achieve the expected behaviors- Check all that apply | Field Course Assignments – Complete these in the course when assigned. |
| a-recognize and manage personal values in a way that allows professional values to guide practice  b-make ethical decisions applying the standards of the social work ethical codes  c-tolerate ambiguity in resolving ethical conflicts  d-apply strategies of ethical reasoning to arrive at principled decisions | \_\_Interact with those who are different from you based on age, SES, color, culture, disability, ethnicity, gender, religion, sexual orientation, etc.  \_\_Discuss in supervision and in class the strengths of engaging diversity and the challenges you have when engaging difference.  \_\_Engage in self-refection about personal biases related to client population and discuss with supervisor.  **Add other activities here:** | SOCW 6500 (Field I) Assignments:  Week 7 – Focus on diversity, including a blog post on the diversity represented in your agency and a process recording focused on cultural competency in your agency. |
| For Student: After Reviewing the Agency Activities and Field Course Assignments, describe how these will help you engage diversity and difference in practice (be specific): | | |
| For Student: Write two goals that you want to achieve to engage diversity and difference in practice:   1. Continue to demonstrate knowledge and respect of differences in relation to age, class, color, disability, ethnicity, family structure, gender, marital status, national origin, race, religion, sex, and sexual orientation in social work generalist practice 2. Continue to develop a positive worker/client relationship with diverse populations.   For Student: Write down any questions you have for your instructor/supervisor or faculty liaison:  Instructor/Supervisor’s Feedback for Evaluation: (To be completed during the evaluation). | | |

Social Work Core Competency 3- Advance Human Rights and Social, Economic, and Environmental Justice

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| Expected Behaviors – You will be evaluated on these at the end of the quarter | Agency Activities to help you achieve the expected behaviors- Check all that apply | Field Course Assignments – Complete these in the course when assigned. |
| a-apply their understanding of social, economic, and environmental justice to advocate for human rights at the individual and system levels.  b-engage in practices that advance social, economic, and environmental justice. | \_\_Identify barriers clients face when accessing services at my agency or at other agencies and discuss during supervision.  \_\_Discuss with supervisor about how social, economic, and environmental factors affect client outcomes.  \_\_Work with instructor/supervisor to engage advocacy for needs and services for clients.  \_\_Become familiar with a local or national organization that advocates for your population.  **Add other activities here:** | SOCW 6500 (Field I) Assignments: |
| For Student: After Reviewing the Agency Activities and Field Course Assignments, describe how these will help you advance human rights and social, economic, and environmental justice (be specific): | | |
| For Student: Write two goals that you want to achieve to help you advance human rights and justice:   1. Attend a public hearing or organizational meeting focused on increasing social and economic   justice.   1. Demonstrate critical thinking and problem-solving skills by finding potential solutions and   discussing the same with Agency Field Instructor and/or Faculty Field Liaison.  For Student: Write down any questions you have for your instructor/supervisor or faculty liaison:  Instructor/Supervisor’s Feedback for Evaluation: (To be completed during the evaluation) | | |

Social Work Core Competency 4 – Engage in Practice-Informed Research and Research-Informed Practice

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| Expected Behaviors – You will be evaluated on these at the end of the quarter | Agency Activities to help you achieve the expected behaviors- Check all that apply | Field Course Assignments – Complete these in the course when assigned. |
| a-use practice experience and theory to inform scientific inquiry and research.  b-apply critical thinking to engage in analysis of quantitative and qualitative research methods and research findings.  c-use and translate research evidence to inform and improve practice, policy, and service delivery. | \_\_Research the context and treatment models used by the agency.  \_\_Read current research/literature on best practices with the population you serve. Discuss those articles with your supervisor. (See assignment in SOCW6500)  \_\_Work with your supervisor to create a brief-interview questionnaire that could be used during an intake process with your population. (see assignment in SOCW 6510)  **Add other activities here:** | SOCW 6500 (Field I) Assignment:  Assignment to find 5 research articles for best practices in your agency setting.  SOCW6510 (Field II) Assignment:  Use the articles identified in quarter 1 of Field 6500 to develop a short questionnaire that could be used with your client population during intake |
| For Student: After Reviewing the Agency Activities and Field Course Assignments, describe how these will help you engage in practice-informed research and research-informed practice (be specific). | | |
| For Student: Write two goals that you want to achieve to help you improve use research in your practice:   1. Utilize program evaluation techniques to assess program effectiveness. 2. Read professional journal articles relevant to agency population.   For Student: Write down any questions you have for your instructor/supervisor or faculty liaison:  Instructor/Supervisor’s Feedback for Evaluation: (To be completed during evaluation). | | |

Social Work Core Competency- 5- Engage in Policy Practice

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| Expected Behaviors – You will be evaluated on these at the end of the quarter | Agency Activities to help you achieve the expected behaviors- Check all that apply | Field Course Assignments – Complete these in the course when assigned. |
| a-identify social policy at the local, state, and federal level that impacts well-being, service delivery, and access to social services.  b-assess how social welfare and economic policies impact the delivery of and access of social services.  c-apply critical thinking to analyze, formulate, and advocate for policies that advance human rights and social, economic, and environmental justice. | \_\_Become familiar with local, state, federal and agency policies that affect the client population and discuss them in supervision and in class.  \_\_Explore how the service delivery in the agency is affected by social welfare policies.  \_\_Find opportunities at the agency or in advocacy organizations to work with others to advocate to advance human rights and justice.  **Add other activities here:** | SOCW 6500 (Field I) Assignment:  Policy Paper Assignment  SOCW6510 (Field II) Assignment:  Policy Paper identifying policies that affect a sub-population of the clients served at the agency |
| For Student: After Reviewing the Agency Activities and Field Course Assignments, describe how these will help you engage in policy practice (be specific). | | |
| For Student: Write two goals that you want to achieve to engage in policy practice:   1. Identify relevant organizational and informational web sites that provide social policy information relevant to the agency’s service population, or serve as clearinghouses for legislative issues. Review them with the Field Instructor. 2. Research a minimum of one policy that directly affects the well-being of client population. Discuss impact of this policy on your clients and policy change ideas with Field Instructor.   For Student: Write down any questions you have for your instructor/supervisor or faculty liaison:  Instructor/Supervisor’s Feedback for Evaluation: (To be completed during evaluation) | | |

Social Work Core Competency 6- Engage with Individuals, Families, Groups, Organizations, and Communities

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| Expected Behaviors – You will be evaluated on these at the end of the quarter | Agency Activities to help you achieve the expected behaviors – Check at least one from each category | Field Course Assignments – Complete these in the course when assigned. |
| a-apply knowledge of human behavior and the social environment, person-in-environment, and other multidisciplinary theoretical frameworks to engage with clients and constituencies.  b-use empathy, reflection, and interpersonal skills to effectively engage diverse clients and constituencies. | **Individuals**  \_\_Show care, empathy, and genuineness with clients to initiate professional relationships with clients.  \_\_ **Other engagement activities with individuals:**  **Families**  \_\_Initiate professional relationships with families to support client needs.  \_\_ **Other engagement activities with families:**  **Groups**  **\_\_** add community activity  \_\_ **Other engagement activities with groups::**  **Organizations**  \_\_Consult with organizations to assist with client needs.  **\_\_Other engagement activities with Orgs:**  **Communities**  \_\_connect with community organizations that provide services related to the clients you serve.  \_\_**Other engagement activities Communities:** | SOCW 6500 (Field I) –First 11 weeks  Blog on use of self  SOCW6510 (Field II)- Second 11 weeks  Week 1 and 2 focus on engagement with a blog and process recording |
| For Student: After Reviewing the Agency Activities and Field Course Assignments, describe how these will help you engage with individuals, families, groups, organizations, and communities (be specific). | | |
| For Student: Write two goals that you want to achieve to help you develop your engagement skills:   1. Continue to use empathy and other interpersonal skills. 2. Continue to develop a mutually agreed-on focus of field placement and desired outcomes.   For Student: Write down any questions you have for your instructor/supervisor or faculty liaison:  Instructor/Supervisor’s Feedback for Evaluation: (To be completed during the evaluation) | | |

Social Work Core Competency 7-Assess Individuals, Families, Groups, Organizations, and Communities

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| Expected Behaviors – You will be evaluated on these at the end of the quarter | Agency Activities to help you achieve the expected behaviors- Check at least one from each category | Field Course Assignments – Complete these in the course when assigned. |
| a-collect and organize data, and apply critical thinking to interpret information from clients and constituencies  b-apply knowledge of human behavior and the social environment, person-in-environment, and other multidisciplinary theoretical frameworks in the analysis of assessment data from clients and constituencies.  c-develop mutually agreed-on intervention goals and objectives based on the critical assessment of strengths, needs, and challenges within clients and constituencies.  d-select appropriate intervention strategies based on the assessment, research, and values and preferences of clients and constituencies. | **Individuals:**  \_\_Utilize agency appropriate forms, tools, and processes to assess clients’ needs, strengths, and limitations to inform appropriate intervention strategies.  \_\_**Other assessment activities with individuals:**  **Families:**  \_\_Assess family support systems for clients that support intervention goals and strategies.  \_\_Work with families to assess needs, strengths, and limitations in order to provide resources and services.  \_\_**Other assessment activities with families:**  **Groups:**  \_\_ Work with groups to assess needs and to inform group intervention goals and strategies.  \_\_ Develop a needs assessment that would inform the design and development of a group for clients.  \_\_**Other assessment activities with groups:**  **Organizations:**  \_\_ Discuss with your supervisor the needs of clients, the strengths of the services offered, and the areas where more services may be needed.  \_\_ Assess how other organizations assist with client needs and where there may be gaps in services.  \_\_**Other assessment activities with organizations:**  **Communities:**  \_\_assess the role the community plays in providing services for your clients (financial, legislative, representative, etc.) Discuss your findings with your supervisor.  \_\_**Other assessment activities with organizations:** | SOCW6500 (Field I) – First 11 weeks  Discuss with supervisor evidence-based practices used in agency setting.  SOCW 6510 (Field II)- Second 11 weeks  Week 3 and 4 devoted to the assessment process, with assignments of blogs and process recordings. |
| For Student: After Reviewing the Agency Activities and Field Course Assignments, describe how these will help you assess individuals, families, groups, organizations, and communities (be specific): | | |
| For Student: Write two goals that you want to achieve to help you develop your assessment skills:   1. Continue to assess client strengths and limitations. 2. Continue to develop mutually agreed-on intervention goals and objectives.   For Student: Write down any questions you have for your instructor/supervisor or faculty liaison:  Instructor/Supervisor’s Feedback for Evaluation: (To be completed during supervision) | | |

Social Work Core Competency 8-Intervene with Individuals, Families, Groups, Communities, and Organizations

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| Expected Behaviors – You will be evaluated on these at the end of the quarter | Agency Activities to help you achieve the expected behaviors- Check all that apply | Field Course Assignments – Complete these in the course when assigned. |
| a-critically choose and implement interventions to achieve practice goals and enhance capacities of clients and constituencies.  b-apply knowledge of human behavior and the social environment, person-in-environment, and other multidisciplinary theoretical frameworks in interventions with clients and constituencies.  c-use inter-professional collaboration as appropriate to achieve beneficial practice outcomes.  d-negotiate, mediate, and advocate with an d on behalf of diverse clients and constituencies  e-facilitate effective transitions and endings that advance mutually agreed-on goals. | \_\_Use agency-appropriate processes to help clients set goals.  \_\_Discuss with supervisor relevant prevention strategies with clients served.  \_\_Utilize prevention strategies with clients.  \_\_Participate in interdisciplinary team meetings  \_\_Assist clients by negotiating, mediating, and advocating for needed services.  \_\_Talk with supervisor about planning for termination with clients.  \_\_Work with clients to transition services when they transition from your service.  **Add other activities here:** | SOCW 6500 (Field I) First 11 weeks  Discuss with supervisor evidence-based practices used in agency setting  SOCW 6510 (Field II) Second 11 weeks  Weeks 5 and 6 focus on intervention with assignments of blogs and process recordings.  Week 9 focuses on termination (ending services) with clients. |
| For Student: After Reviewing the Agency Activities and Field Course Assignments, describe how these will help you intervene with individuals, families, groups, communities, and organizations (be specific): | | |
| For Student: Write two goals that you want to achieve to help you apply appropriate intervention strategies:   1. Continue to help clients resolve problems. 2. Continue to facilitate referral process of client to another agency, when appropriate.   For Student: Write down any questions you have for your instructor/supervisor or faculty liaison:  Instructor/Supervisor’s Feedback for Evaluation: (To be completed during evaluation) | | |

Social Work Core Competency 9- Evaluate Practice with Individuals, Families, Groups, Organizations, and Communities

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| Expected Behaviors – You will be evaluated on these at the end of the quarter | Agency Activities to help you achieve the expected behaviors- Check all that apply | Field Course Assignments – Complete these in the course when assigned. |
| a-select and use appropriate methods for evaluation outcomes.  b-apply knowledge of human behavior and the social environment, person-in-environment, and other multidisciplinary theoretical frameworks in the evaluation of outcomes.  c-critically analyze, monitor, and evaluate intervention and program processes and outcomes.  d-apply evaluation findings to improve practice effectiveness at the micro, mezzo, and macro level. | \_\_Explore how the agency assesses outcomes for its clients and discuss with supervisor.  \_\_Explore if funding sources at the agency require certain outcomes and discuss with supervisor.  \_\_Meet with clients to assess the progress of their goals and make changes in treatment plans as necessary.  \_\_Evaluate how support resources support client needs.  **Add other activities here:** | SOCW 6500 (Field I) First 11 weeks   Agency presentation will have you explore the funding sources for your agency, which may tie to their client success/outcomes.    SOCW 6510 (Field II) Second 11 weeks  Weeks 7 and 8 focus on evaluation of client success with assignments of blog posts and process recordings. |
| For Student: After Reviewing the Agency Activities and Field Course Assignments, describe how these will help you evaluate your practice and outcomes with individuals, families, groups, organizations, and communities (be specific). | | |
| For Students: Write two goals that you want to achieve to help you understand how to evaluate clients and other systems:   1. Evaluate assessments/data collection and intervention practices during supervision. 2. Continually review goals and objectives with client to monitor progress.   For Students: Write down any questions you have for your instructor/supervisor or faculty liaison:  Instructor/Supervisor’s Feedback for Evaluation: (To be completed during evaluation) | | |

**Signature Page**

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The Field Office accepts e-signatures, so feel free to type in your full name and email as your official signature.