MAXIMIZING SOCIAL WORK'S POLICY IMPACT IN A CHANGING POLITICAL LANDSCAPE

always being sunshine... within ourselves, within our organizations, within our communities

we have the power and influence

strength in partnerships

stand up!

Social workers can be excellent political candidates because... we stand up for people and promote social justice

Social workers can be excellent policy practitioners because... we collect and connect the dots

Practice settings such as non-profit agencies need to be involved in policy advocacy because... they give voice to the emergent needs of vulnerable populations in policy making

The social work profession can do more to advocate effectively by... equipping social workers to collaborate, communicate, organize and get elected to public office

Coalition for Policy Education and Practice in Social Work

Advancing Equity and Social Justice

The divide between micro and macro social work practitioners can be closed by focusing on systemic solutions for systemic changes.

It is important for social workers to learn policy because it affects them, their clients and the communities they work in.

It is the context of our practice and the world our clients live in.

Jim Nettie / Drawley + Co.
MAXIMIZING SOCIAL WORK'S POLICY IMPACT IN A CHANGING POLITICAL LANDSCAPE

DAY 2

THIS IS WHY I BECAME A SOCIAL WORKER!

REAL COMMUNITIES
POVERTY

PERSPECTIVES ON POLICY PRACTICE IN A CHANGED POLICY ENVIRONMENT—STRATEGIES, COALITIONS, RESOURCES

SUPPORT BANK
GET THE STATISTICS
IT WORKS!

WORKING FAMILIES
WHAT ARE THE ECONOMIC CONDITIONS?
WHAT CAN BE DONE TO IMPROVE THEM?

FACIAL HEALTH
IS A RIGHT

OH BOY!
FOCUS ON THE HOPE
CALL!

REACH OUT ACROSS THE AISLE
GET THE STORIES

WHO CAN DELIVER THE MESSAGE?
YOU CAN BE AN ADVOCATE ANYWHERE
GET CONNECTED

THE MISSION CHANGE?

FEDERAL AND STATE LEVELS
FLEXIBILITY

WHO BENEFITS FROM THE ACA?

WHAT IS THE ROLE OF THE ACADEMY?

GET THE CONVERSATION

椒有 the CONVERSATION

FUNCTIONAL PARTNERS

THREATS TO THE SAFETY NET

KEEPING THE VICTIMS

KEEPING THE VICTIMS

NO!

DOES THE MISSION CHANGE?

NO!

BODY GRANTS
SAFETY AND SECURITY OF IMMIGRANTS

CELEBRATE VICTORIES!

OFFENSE AND DEFENSE

WHAT'S THE ROLE OF GOVERNMENT?

THIS IS A MOMENT THAT WAS MADE

THIS IS A MOMENT THAT WAS MADE

ENGAGE!

WHAT'S THE ROLE OF GOVERNMENT?

OPENING THE CONVERSATION

HOW DO WE GET IT TO UNDE_RELIC?

“STRANGE BEDFELLOWS”
Policy Practice Innovations in Social Work Education: Field Initiatives, Student Engagement, and Partnerships - Initiatives, Outcomes and Next Steps
**Policy in SW:**
- Build awareness among educators and research.
- Strengthen connections policy/practice/education and research.
- Build the case for policy through data and education.
- Increase the capacity for skill building.

**SW Education Engagement:**
- NADD to promote SW school engagement of govt.
- Educators develop lists of possibilities for policy experience.
- Identify policy priorities and home messages.
- Tenured faculty on local community boards.
- Schools and agencies celebrate successes in the media.

**Strategies to Expand Partnerships:**
- SW schools to conduct outreach to policy ORGs.
- Connect Alumni to schools.
- Connect students and alumni to ORGs.
- School and program advisory boards.

**Outcomes:**
- Increase placements/jobs.
- Wider societal benefits.
- Better policies and programs.
- Collective impact.

**Roles and Strategies for Educators/Academics:**
- Set expectations w/ students.
- Establish the pipeline.
- Social worker = policy change agent.
- Curriculum/extra-curricular activities (CEs).
- Policy implications & part of professional development.
- Invest in macro/placement - SW supervision.
- Emphasize that research reaches practitioners and policy makers.

**Understanding of the Impact of Policy on Non-Macro/Direct Practitioners:**
- Make micro/macrod connections.
- Policy/practice assignments.
- Free CEU credits for ongoing prof dev - policy impacts.
- Awards.

**Small Group Conversations:**
#1
**Small Groups #2**

**Criminal Justice Reform**
- Re-empower, SOLARITY, MENTAL HEALTH
- Jobs, Pipeline/Treatment, Voting Rights
- We need to quantify savings & investment
- Differences between persons & jails

**Immigration**
- Steps for immigration
- Local Advocates, Building Bridges
- Lack of immigrant SW's
- Education
- Social Responsibility

**Coalition Building Issues**

**Stand Up to Threats/Complicity**
- Safe Space Conversations, Advocacy?
- Confidentiality
- How do we serve immigrants?
- Local level policy
- Publicize our work
- Partners: Public Policy, Legal, Churches
- Info, tools, constraints, shifts, laws, messaging
- Support grassroots
- SW Curriculum
- Stories in the media – front and center
- Immigration Integration
- Long-term view

**Racial Equity**
- Facilitate storytelling, Public discourse
- Quantitative research
- Tools: media, tech, larger venues
- Put the question before the answer

**Economic Security**
- What is it
- Minimum
- How do we raise the bar
- Global Lease
- Security
- Feeling part of the community
- Define ourselves
- Messaging to create policy
- Tax reform
- Economic drivers
- Tools: workforce, dev, policy - what does it mean?

**Laws Above are only part of the equation

**Healthcare**
- SW in optimal position
- Access
- Delivery system
- Care in local govt.
- Stories
- Engage in advocacy, phone, media, messages - community well-being
- Prioritize issues
- Collective impact
- Long-term relationships

**Takeaways & Next Steps**
- Work with my own field instructors
- Take back to the policy council
- Own who we are - values expectations of our students - challenge our students
- Release info to advocate for greater policy content
- Formation of a standing committee for policy
- Professional development - CSU component / policy training - NASW and state/local affiliates
- Work with my field to develop macro placements
- Information to be posted to CE site
- Pull together and post images and video from the meeting

**Thank you all!**