

FINAL
Meeting Summary
Social Worker/Human Service Professional Series Meeting Series

Thursday, September 15, 2005, 2:00 – 4:30 p.m.
Supreme Court Conference Room
Aliiolani Hale (417 S. King Street)

Present: Rachel Guay, Sharlene Furuto (by phone), Sherri Higa, Wayne Iha, Sheila Ishimine, Patricia Johnson, Janice Kemp, Clayton Kitamori, Beverly Koito, Eric Kuniyoshi, Bonnie Lee, Jeanette Mastumoto, Kevin Mulligan, Wendell Murakawa, Vera Onouye, Sharon Otagaki, Suzanne Sasaki, Mary Sheridan, Debbie Shimizu, Alicia Sumida, Clayton Takemoto, Carleton Taketa, Patti Taketa, Renee Tarumoto, Donna Yoshinaga, and Dawn Young

Facilitation Team: Jen Graf and Elizabeth Kent

Welcome and Introductions

Elizabeth Kent welcomed attendees to the meeting, thanked them for their attendance and the attendees introduced themselves. The draft agenda was reviewed and accepted. The September 1, 2005 meeting summary was reviewed and finalized. The finalized version is attached (Attachment A).

Specifications Subcommittee

Dawn Young reviewed and explained changes in the updated specifications (Attachment B), and the group discussed them. Specifications should be finalized by the end of the month. During the course of the discussion, a question was posed with regard to whether a retention issue might arise if an employee is working toward a professional credential that requires supervision by a MSW.

It was suggested that program representatives form a subcommittee to discuss recruitment and retention. Sharlene Furuto offered to do a literature search on minimal competencies for social workers.

Recruitment Subcommittee

Renee Tarumoto reviewed the Recruitment Timeline process (Attachment C) and the group discussed this process.

Transactions

Dawn reviewed the latest discussions regarding the transitioning of those without social work degrees to the HSP series (Attachment D). The group agreed to aim for the following in the transition process: portability, mitigating adverse impacts, providing an incentive to get a degree, and liberal application of the intent of the law. A subcommittee will be formed and headed by Dawn. Those interested in participating should contact her as soon as possible. This issue must be resolved by October 7, 2005.

Overview of Available Educational Programs for Social Workers

BYUH, HPU and UH shared information regarding the educational opportunities available for social work students.

BYUH has 100 BSW students and graduates 30- 40 per year. One third of the graduates stay in Hawaii and most work for DHS if they obtain a government position. The school is concerned with the future of social work and upward mobility of social workers. Title protection, professionalism and licensure are also concerns. They are considering starting masters programs at the school. The first would be in business and may start in 5 years. The second program would likely be in social work. The school is also looking at distance/on-line learning for Asian Rim and Pacific Island countries. The school would consider starting a program on the neighbor islands given sufficient interest. This would be facilitated by the fact that Latter-Day Saints' Churches have satellite TV capabilities.

HPU has a fully accredited BSW program and focuses on working students. Classes are held in the evenings or on weekends. There is no expiration date for past college work and they count credits for learning experiences liberally. They are interested in distance learning and would consider offering classes on the neighbor islands, trying to put as much as possible on-line. The masters program is also committed to working students. The school is in pre-candidacy for accreditation. They graduate 10- 20 BSWs per year.

UH has the only accredited MSW program in the state, an accredited BSW program, and a Ph.D program. The MSW program has internships, responds to returning students, has started as distance education program for the state and just hired Dr. Ann Alvarez as distance education director. The school provides special stipends for students in child welfare and child and adolescent mental health. The MSW program is also responsive to students who work full- time.

Next Steps

- **All should** send agenda items to Elizabeth or Jen by Monday, September 21.
- **Dawn** will send an email inviting those interested in the transaction subcommittee to attend and give input. Please respond immediately if interested because this issue must be resolved by October 7.
- **Staff from the line agencies** will respond to Renee by September 22, 2005, whether they would like to see eligibles established once or twice a month.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be **Thursday, September 29, 2005, at the Department of Human Services' Conference Room 1 and 2, 2nd floor Liliuokalani Building, 1390 Miller Street (on Punchbowl Street across from Queen's Hospital) from 2:00-4:30 p.m. Please bring identification to get into the building.**

Meetings are scheduled 2:00 - 4:30 p.m. on:

October 12, 2005, in the Supreme Court Conference Room

October 27, 2005, in the HRD Conference Room on the 14th floor

November 17, 2005, in the Supreme Court Conference Room