



# WHAT IS RELEVANT SOCIAL WORK AND HUMAN SERVICE EXPERIENCE?

The Faculty of Social Work defines social services experience, either paid employment or volunteer work, as organized activities, interventions, or other actions that reflect policies and programs responding to recognized social problems/needs or to improve the well-being of those at risk (Adapted from the Encyclopedia of Social Work).

## **Examples include paid and/or volunteer experience in a recognized government, non-profit, or social service agency such as:**

- Group home/residential worker
- Crisis line volunteer
- Camp counsellor with children and youth
- Teacher's assistant
- Hospital volunteer
- Research assistant in human services research
- Overseas social development experience
- Child welfare worker (protection, guardianship, policy analyst)
- Counsellor in a non-profit agency
- Case manager in hospital and/or health and/or mental health setting
- Social planning in a municipal setting
- Teacher
- Volunteer mentor
- Shelter services
- Foster parenting
- Settlement work
- Community advocacy

## **Scope of Practice**

Social work is the application of social work knowledge, values, focus and practice methods in a person-in-environment context to accomplish the core functions of social work, which include

- Helping people obtain basic human needs services
- Counselling and psychotherapy with individuals, families and groups
- Helping communities/groups provide or improve social and health services
- Participate in relevant legislative and social policy processes (CASW, 2008)

CASW (2008). [casw-acts.ca/en/what-social-work/casw-social-work-scope-practice](https://casw-acts.ca/en/what-social-work/casw-social-work-scope-practice)

