

*Albany State University
College of Professional Studies
Department of Social Work*

TO: Volunteer Practicum Supervisor
FROM: Jerry B. Daniel, JD, PHD, MPH, MSW, MS, LCSW
DATE: August 19, 2019

RE: STUDENT VOLUNTEER PRACTICUM

This correspondence is to introduce _____, a Student at Albany State University, enrolled in SOWK 2412: Introduction to Social Work. An important course requirement entails completion of a minimum of sixty (60) hours of volunteer service in a local community agency, specifically associated with social work practice, during the FALL, 2019 semester.

The objective of the assignment is to provide the Student with exposure to working with individuals, groups and communities as associated with the legal and other systems or cases that will subsequently be involved in the legal and/or social services systems. I am confident that this Student is capable of assisting with a broad range of social services, which will benefit your agency and clientele. The student is currently learning the following generalist-level social work practice competencies:

- The ability to use empathy, reflection, and interpersonal skills to effectively engage diverse clients and constituencies;
- The ability to collect and organize data and apply critical thinking to interpret information from clients and constituencies;
- The ability to develop mutually agreed-on intervention goals and objectives based on the critical assessment of strengths, needs, and challenges within client and constituencies;
- The ability to select appropriate intervention strategies based on the assessment, research knowledge, and values and preferences of clients and constituencies;
- The ability to critically choose and implement interventions to achieve practice goals and enhance capacities of clients and constituencies;
- The ability to use inter-professional collaboration, as appropriate, to achieve beneficial practice outcomes;
- The ability to negotiate, mediate, and advocate with, and on behalf of, diverse clients and constituencies;
- The ability to facilitate effective transitions and endings that advance mutually agreed-on goals;
- The ability to select and use appropriate methods for evaluation of outcomes;
- The ability to critically analyze, monitor, and evaluate intervention and program processes and outcomes;
- The ability to apply evaluation findings to improve practice.

If you are interested in accepting this Student as an agency volunteer, please complete the *Social Service Volunteer Practicum* form and the student will return the form to the Social Work Program. The BSW Program is most appreciative of your support of our students and their efforts to make a significant contribution to the Community. If you have further questions, please feel free to contact me at (229) 500-2378. Thank you so much for your assistance in preparing the next generation of competent social work practitioners.