

SOCIAL WORK

Definition

- The art of helping people out of trouble.
- Professional service to people for the purpose of assisting them as individuals or in groups to attain satisfying relationships and standard of life in accordance with their particular wishes and capacities and in harmony with those of the community.
- Totally selfless, non-remunerative, character building activity
- Actuated by feeling of compassion and empathy as its basis

Meaning

- Enhances social functioning of individuals singly and in groups
- By activities focused on restoration of social relationships among the individual and his environment
- And prevents social dysfunctioning

Nature

- Helping and enabling process
- Both public and private sectors will assist
- Use scientific method of investigation
- Inspiration from humanitarianism
- Uses problem solving approach
- Help people to help themselves

Principles

- Relationship is the key
- Meet the total needs of individual
- Total individual, group and community needs are taken into consideration
- Suggests ways and means of providing preventive social services
- Act as an agent to enlist peoples support for programs

Methods of social work

- Case work
 - individualised
- Group work
- Community organisation

Role of Medical Social Worker

- Patient is admitted in hospital
 - Needs to make adjustments
- MSW
 - Professionally trained
 - Maintain relationship, Acts as liaison officer
 - Familiar with patient background, helps in adjusting
 - Identify resources and funding agencies, communicate with them
 - Makes the client to accept healthier lifestyle
 - Helps to get back to work, with or without modifications or a suitable job
 - Patient free from conflicts, economically independent

- Implementation of national health programs
- Guidance and counselling services
- Assists in rehabilitation activities, providing financial assistance for aids
- Informs about specialised schools and special needs of patients
- In social stigma cases, place the patient in suitable environment
- In chronically ill patients, help in curative, rehabilitative and restorative measures
- Maintain relationship between health team members, families and patients
- Conduct health awareness camps, promote health related activities as grass root level