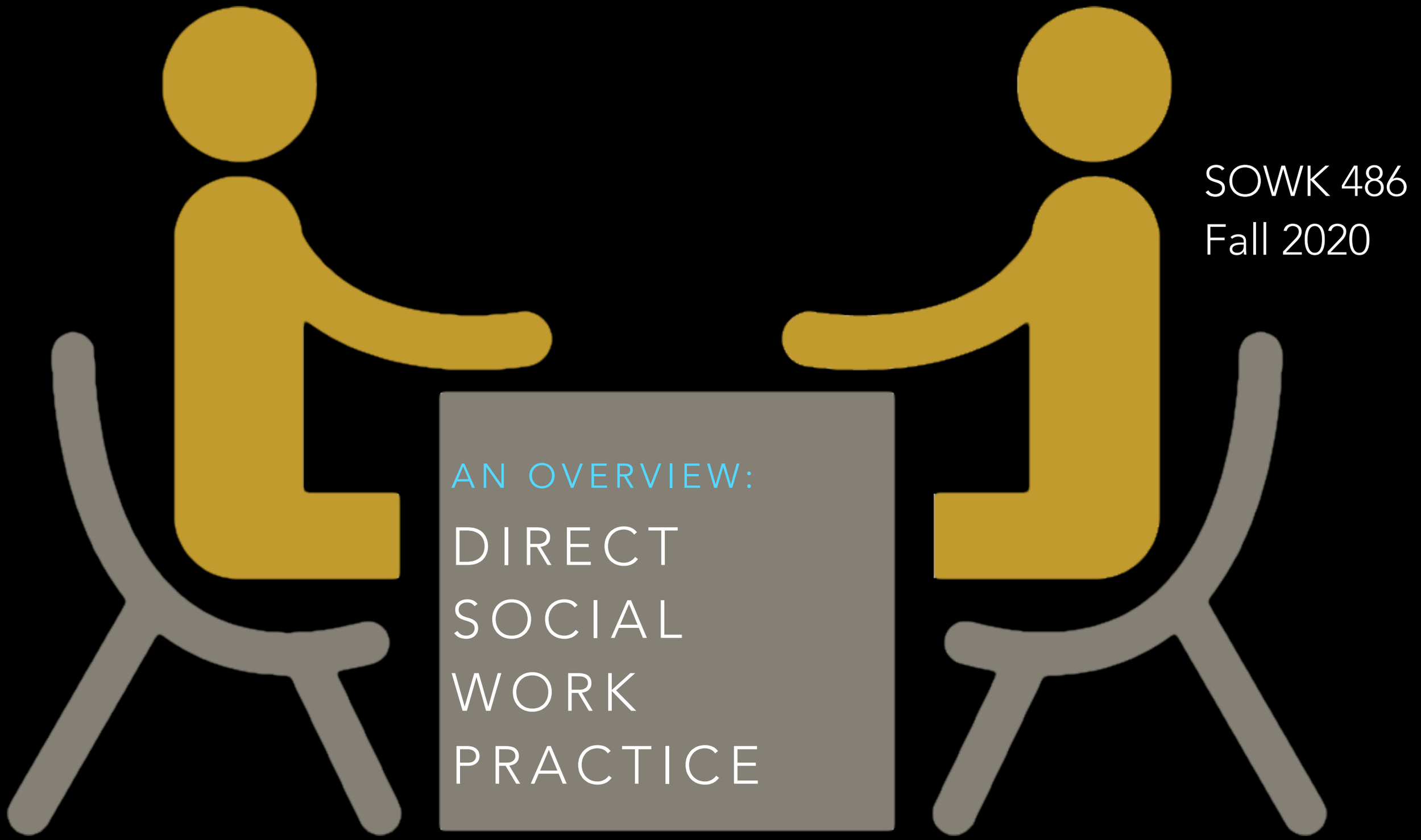


SOWK 486
Fall 2020

AN OVERVIEW:

DIRECT SOCIAL WORK PRACTICE

Jacob Campbell, LICSW at Heritage University

AGENDA

- How we help
- Evidence-based practice
- Involuntary clients
- Ecological Systems Model
- Social work jobs and roles

“You can close your eyes to the things you don't want to see, but you can't close your heart to the things you don't want to feel.”

—JOHNNY DEPP

Recall a time that you were experiencing an intense emotional difficulty and were comforted and supported

- How did you "know" that person was being supportive
- What behaviors and words did that person use that were helpful to you
- Create a presentation or document to share with the class

(Heptworth et al., 2017)

PREVENTION

The timely provision of services to vulnerable persons, promoting social functioning before problems develop.

THE PURPOSE OF SOCIAL WORK

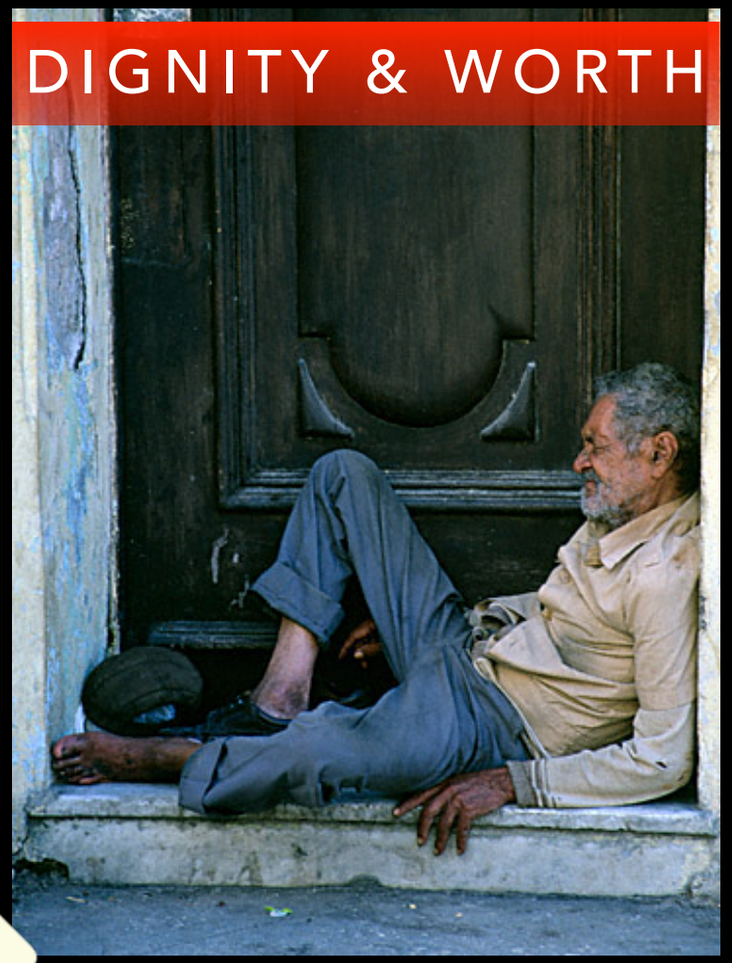
REMEDIATION

The timely provision of services to vulnerable persons, promoting social functioning before problems develop.

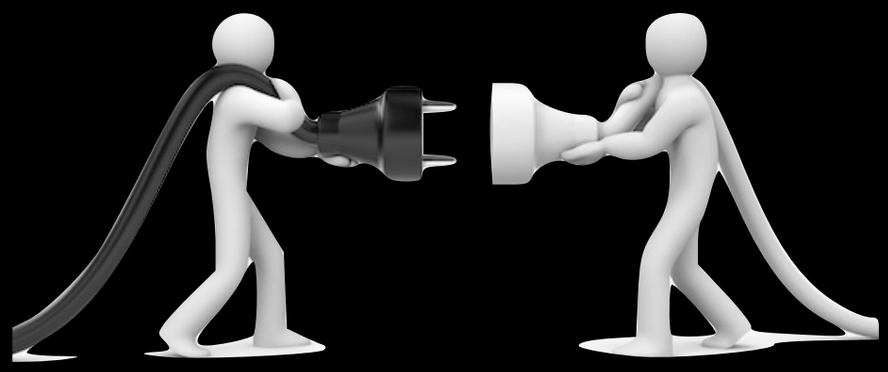
RESTORATION

Efforts to restore functioning that has been impaired by physical or mental difficulties

NASW CORE VALUES

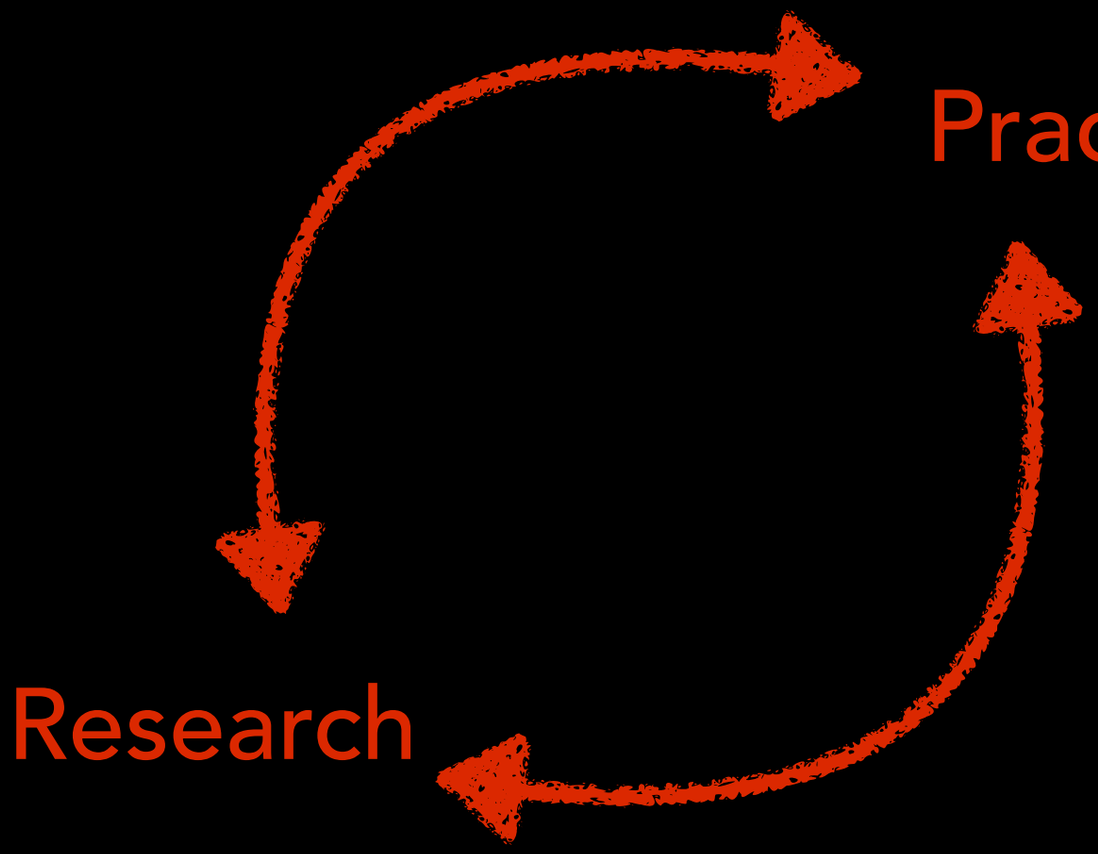


SOCIAL JUSTICE



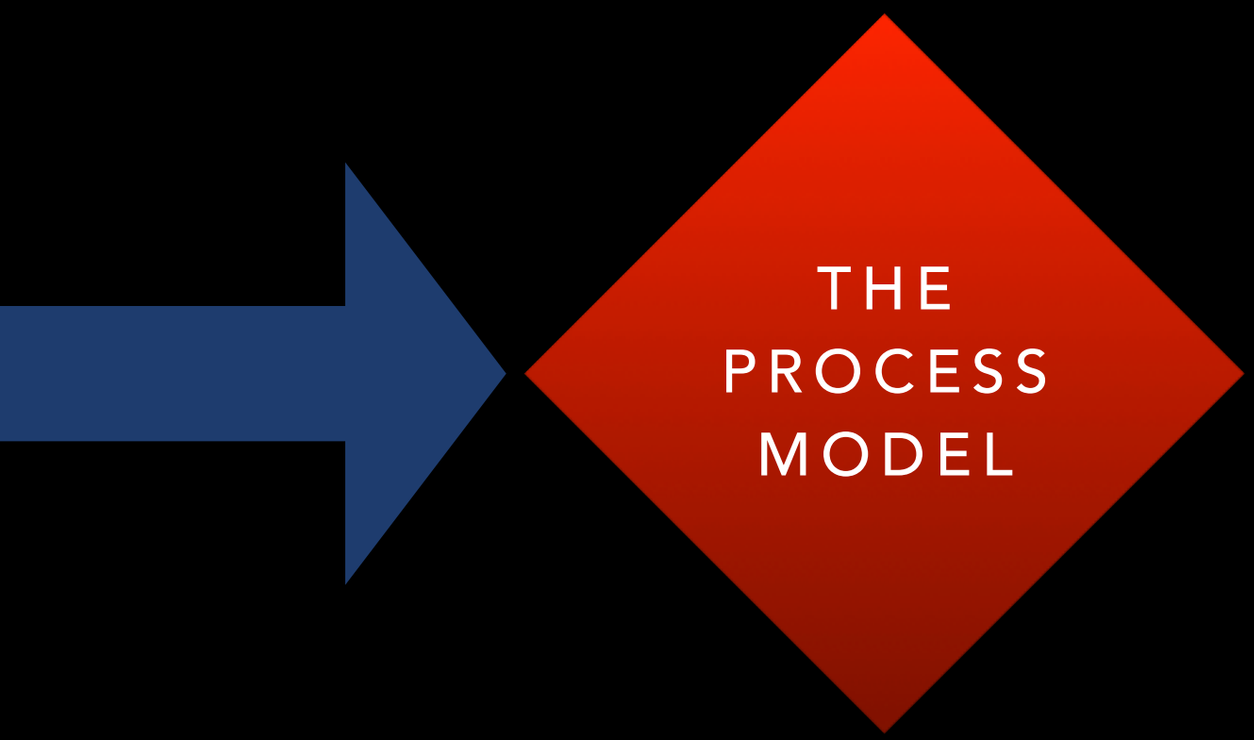
RELATIONSHIPS

RESEARCH-INFORMED PRACTICE AND PRACTICE-INFORMED RESEARCH



- Choosing effective interventions
- More effective individual practice
- Development of profession

EVIDENCE-BASED PRACTICE



A form of evidence-based practice in which the individual practitioner formulates a question about his or her work with a client that is answerable with data, consults the appropriate empirical literature, assesses the evidence, shares it with the client, makes an informed collaborative decision, implements the intervention, and assesses its effectiveness.

(Rubin, 2017)

EVIDENCE-BASED PRACTICE

Focuses not just on knowing about the intervention but on acquiring the skills necessary to carry it out effectively

(Rubin, 2017)

EVIDENCE-BASED PRACTICE

Common Elements Approach

In evidence-based practice, examining commonalities across effective interventions.

(Chorpita, Daleiden, & Weisz, 2005)

Common Factors Approach

In evidence-based practice, emphasizing broad factors shared by different intervention approaches, such as strength of relationship or alliance.

(Duncan, Miller, Wampold, & Hubble, 2010)

DECIDING WHEN AND HOW TO INTERVENE WITH CLIENTS IN SOCIAL WORK PRACTICE

- Increase decision making
- Assess environment
- Sensitive to diversity
- Evidence based practices
- Critical thinking

DEFINE CRITICAL THINKING SKILLS AND APPLY THEM TO PRACTICE

To think critically, think RED

Keys to Critical Thinking

- **R** ecognize assumptions
- **E** valuate arguments
- **D** raw conclusions

(Watson-Glaser, 1925)

TYPES OF CLIENTS

LEGALLY MANDATED

VOLUNTARY

NON VOLUNTARY

INVOLUNTARY CLIENTS

- Acknowledge to yourself that the client is indeed voluntary.
- Try to put yourself in the clients shoes.
- Label and help the clients express their negative feelings.
- Clarify your role for the client.
- Know the limits of your authority, and in effect power over the client.

(Kirst-Ashman & Hull, 2015)

10 TIPS FOR WORKING WITH MANDATED CLIENTS

INVOLUNTARY CLIENTS

- Give them as many choices as possible including minor options.
- Figure out what you can do for the client that he or she wants.
- Use pro-social modeling and reinforcement in order to encourage and promote client pro–social values and behaviors.
- Allow the client to gain trust in you and in the intervention process.
- Accept the fact that, ultimately the client has the right to choose whether or not to cooperate with you.

10 TIPS FOR WORKING WITH MANDATED CLIENTS

(Kirst-Ashman & Hull, 2015)

(Heptworth, et al., 2017)

ECOLOGICAL SYSTEMS MODEL

A model of interacting elements that enables social workers to examine strengths and weaknesses in transactions between persons, families, cultures, and communities as systems.

(Heptworth, et al., 2017)

ECOLOGICAL SYSTEMS MODEL

Habitat

The physical and social setting and cultural context within which a person lives.

Niche

The status or role occupied by a member of the community.

(Heptworth, et al., 2017)

ECOLOGICAL SYSTEMS MODEL

Habitat

The physical and social setting and cultural context within which a person lives.

Niche

The status or role occupied by a member of the community.

The Diverse Systems

- Subsystems of individual
- Interpersonal systems
- Organizations, institutions, communities
- The physical environment

(Heptworth, et al., 2017)

ECOLOGICAL SYSTEMS MODEL

Habitat

The physical and social setting and cultural context within which a person lives.

Niche

The status or role occupied by a member of the community.

The Diverse Systems

Target System

The system that has the intervention happening to it

Action System

(agency system)

The system that is doing the intervention

Closed Systems

Open Systems

(Heptworth, et al., 2017)

ECOLOGICAL SYSTEMS MODEL

Habitat

The physical and social setting and cultural context within which a person lives.

The Diverse Systems

Niche

The status or role occupied by a member of the community.

The Development of Needed Resources

(Heptworth, et al., 2017)

ECOLOGICAL SYSTEMS MODEL

Habitat

The physical and social setting and cultural context within which a person lives.

The Diverse Systems

Niche

The status or role occupied by a member of the community.

Mutual Influence of People and Environments

Equifinality & Multifinality

The Development of Needed Resources

DIRECT SOCIAL WORK PRACTICE AND COMPONENTS

Work with Immigrants

Housing or Financial Services

Hospital and Health Services

Working with Aging Clients

DIRECT SOCIAL WORK PRACTICE

Mental Health Services

School Social Work

Child Welfare

Child, Youth, and Family Services

Disability Services

Chemical and Substance Abuse Services

(Heptworth, et al., 2017)

LEVELS OF CASE MANAGEMENT

Less Clients — **More Clients**

Intensive — Blended — Resource coordination — Administrative

(Summers, 2015)

ROLES SOCIAL WORKERS PLAY

DIRECT SERVICE PROVIDER

- Individual casework or counseling
- Couples or family therapy
- Group work services
- Educator, disseminator of information

SYSTEM LINKAGE ROLES

- Broker
- Case manager, coordinator
- Mediator, arbitrator, advocate

SYSTEM DEVELOPER

- Program developer
- Planner
- Policy and procedure developer
- Advocate

RESEARCHER & RESEARCH CONSUMER

SYSTEM MAINTENANCE ROLES

- Organizational analyst
- Facilitator, expediter
- Team member
- Consultant / consultee
- Supervisor

(Heptworth, et al., 2017)