

## **Case Study: Advanced Standing Applicants 2021**

Please choose one of the practice examples below and summarize an assessment and hypothetical intervention plan for the primary client. Your summary should include the following elements:

**Introduction**- A brief summary of the agency and setting.

**Assessment** – A summary of the essential case data, including age, ethnicity, race, presenting problem, history of the problem, coping abilities. (If the assessment is based on a group or organization, describe the type of group/organization, membership makeup, and purpose.) Be sure to highlight any information that is missing that you may want to know more about.

**Case Plan** – Describe a hypothetical case plan and how it relates to the assessment evaluation.

**Interventions** – Describe and analyze some hypothetical practice interventions and how they are related to the case plan or assessment formulation. This section should include a summary of potential micro-level interventions as well as any agency, institutional, or governmental level policies that may need to be addressed.

**Evaluation** – Critically analyze the strength and limitations of your proposed interventions. Are there potential barriers or obstacles that you might face if you were to engage with this client system in real life? Are there any ethical issues that you may need to address?

**\*Your case study should be typed, double-spaced, in 12-point font and between 500-750 words. Be sure to cite any outside sources in APA format.**

### **Case Situations:**

- 1) You are a social worker for the Adult Protective Service unit and respond to emergency cases. Sometimes, as an agent of the state, you serve as a Health Care Surrogate where you make medical decisions for incapacitated adults. This is only as a last resort when family, friends, and acquaintances are not available, willing, or able.

This morning you have a referral from the hospital on a 70-year-old white male in ICU. The patient, Gerald Morgan, is in critical condition. He is alert but can only respond yes or no to questions and according to the referral the medical staff believe that death is likely. Mr. Morgan does not have anyone that is able to make his medical decisions for him and he does not have any advance directives.

When you arrive at the hospital you find that Mr. Morgan has a wife, Janet, that is with him at the hospital. Upon further assessment you realize that Janet Morgan, 40, has severe cognitive impairment and the doctors have determined she is unable to make informed medical decisions for her husband. Mr. Morgan had been his wife's caretaker for many years. The Morgans do not have any children but own their own home. Their

income is Mr. Morgan's Social Security, \$1,100 a month and Mrs. Morgan's Social Security Disability income, \$786.

When you talk to Mr. Morgan you explain who you are and that the doctor has requested that the state be appointed to make his medical decisions. He nods in agreement. You continue to ask several questions, getting only nods and the shake of the head from Mr. Morgan. He seems to understand that he may die and that he does not want any life sustaining measures taken to extend his life.

The doctor and hospital social worker come into the hospital room. The doctor asks if you will accept the appointment of Health Care Surrogate to make medical decisions for Mr. Morgan and if you will fill out and sign the POST form for the patient. {POST stands for Physician Orders for Scope of Treatment and lists several medical interventions, including: IV fluids, Feeding tubes, comfort measures, resuscitation}. As you look over the form trying to decide what end of life decisions to make for this person you just met, the doctor ask you who is going to care for Mrs. Morgan.

The hospital social worker steps in to explain. Mr. Morgan is his wife's caregiver, they do not have any other family in the area. The hospital has been bringing food trays to Mrs. Morgan in the hospital room because she is unable to manage on her own. They are concerned that she will not be able to care for herself if Mr. Morgan remains in the hospital or if he passes away. As an APS worker what would your case plan be for both of the Morgans?

- 2) You are the case-management social worker for a domestic violence shelter in a rural community. Your job is to assist families in obtaining housing, medical, and socially necessary services. You meet the new family in the shelter for morning management and are introduced to Heather, a 30-year-old mother to 3 children; Ashely, 14, Gage 10, and Emily 4. Heather has a history of domestic violence with the children's father and came into the shelter late yesterday afternoon. You learn that after a forensic exam and interview earlier in the week, it had been determined that the father sexually abused the four-year-old child, Emily.

In your meeting, Heather explains that she has an open CPS case and entered with her children to the shelter because CPS instructed Heather that it was her job to protect the children. Heather attempted to file a protective order, but the magistrate denied the protective order because it was for a minor, not an uncommon occurrence in the district. Since she was not able to get a protective order, she is unable to make her husband leave the house. His mother owns the house and does not believe her son is abusive. Heather reports that she has no family of her own in the area for support.

As you give her the housing applications, Heather looks at the forms and asks if her 14-year-old daughter can help her fill them out. Heather tells you quietly she cannot read. As you let Heather and her oldest daughter fill out applications, the shelter director asks to see you. She reports that the 14-year-old, Ashely wet the bed last night, and Heather's son, Gage, who is 10, has had two fights with other kids in the shelter already this morning. She also told you that Heather was reminded about bed-time for the kids last night three times, and the shelter advocate realized Heather could not tell time on a clock. As you talked to Heather about her plans, she begins crying and asking how long she can stay in the shelter. You inform her there is a 30-day stay allowed in the shelter, but she may be able to obtain an extension if she is working toward her goals in her service plan and waiting for housing.

As a case-management social worker, write a service plan for Heather and her children.