Economic Well-Being in Social Work: New Curricular Resources for Faculty

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Atlanta, GA
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Project Overview

• Goal - Raise capacity to prepare students by providing resources to faculty to integrate and highlight

• Building on previous related work, CSWE and Center for Social Development (CSD) partnered for current project

• Connects to two Grand Challenges
  – Financial Capability and Asset Building for All
  – Reversing Extreme Inequality
Economic Well-Being Definition

Economic well-being is defined as **having present and future financial security.**

*Present financial security* includes the ability of individuals, families, and communities to **consistently meet their basic needs** (including food, housing, utilities, health care, transportation, education, child care, clothing, and paid taxes), and have **control over their day-to-day finances.** It also includes the ability to **make economic choices,** and feel a **sense of security, satisfaction, and personal fulfillment** with one’s personal finances and employment pursuits.

*Future financial security* includes the ability to **absorb financial shocks,** meet financial goals, build financial assets, and maintain **adequate income** throughout the life-span.
Economic Well-Being Definition cont.

Economic well-being may be achieved by individuals, families, and communities through public policies that ensure the ability to build financial knowledge and skills, access to safe and affordable financial products and economic resources, and opportunities for generating income and asset-building. It occurs within a context of economic justice within which labor markets provide opportunities for secure full-employment with adequate compensation and benefits for all.
EWB and Social Work

• Addressing poverty, income and wealth inequality, and strengthening the economic well-being of individuals, families, and communities, is of primary concern to social work.

• Economic Justice is included in 2015 EPAS, and as an element of social justice in NASW Code of Ethics
EWB in Social Work Practice

• Direct practice
  – Financial education, counseling, coaching, and therapy

• Organizational, community practice
  – Design, implement, and evaluate related programs

• Policy practice
  – Critique current policies and analyze, create, and promote new related policies
Project Overview

• Develop new curricular resources and highlight current resources
• Funded by New York Community Trust
• Timeline: March 2016 – February 2017
EWB Framework

• Grounded in historical roots of EWB in social work
• Uses an economic justice framework (Simmons, 2016)
  – Dimensions
    • Income and wealth distribution
    • Employment rights
    • Wages
    • Immigrant status
    • Community engagement in economic issues
    • Social programs that support economic advancement
Products Overview

• EWB EPAS Curriculum Resource Guide – in process; slated for release early 2017
• Clearinghouse for Economic Well-Being in Social Work (online) – in process
• Webinar (future); slated for release February 2017
Economic Well-Being Components

Financial Capability & Asset Building

Workforce & Career Development

Income, Benefits, & Resources

Economic Justice Practice

Financial security, stability, sense of financial well-being

Economic Justice Framework
EWB Process

- Solicited EWB Clearinghouse materials
- Created work group, which then shaped EWB working definition, EPAS crosswalk, and narrative
- Using 2016 Gero Guide structure as a model
- Definition and EPAS crosswalk peer-reviewed by experts (14)
- Call for curricular materials (late Oct – early Dec 2016)
- (Future) Work Group will help to select materials that best illustrate EWB EPAS competencies and dimensions
- (Future) approved through Project Advisory Board and CSWE’s VP of Education
2015 EPAS Crosswalk

• Defines components of economic well-being
• Links the concepts to the 9 EPAS competencies
• Describes economic well-being as it relates to EPAS competency dimensions
  – Knowledge
  – Values
  – Skills
  – Cognitive and Affective Processes
## EPAS Competency 5: Engage in Policy Practice

1) Understand how past and present domestic and global policy affect economic well-being.

   Example: Describe the rights that are available under the National Labor Relations Act and the Fair Labor Standards Act and how these affect economic inequality.

2) Appreciate how the policy process can be utilized to create policy that promotes economic well-being.

3) Understand the unequal distribution of power and resources that effect economic well-being of domestic and global populations.
2015 EPAS Crosswalk – Values Example

**EPAS Competency 5: Engage in Policy Practice**

1) Embrace the need to engage in policy practice at local, state, and federal levels to advance client economic well-being.

2) Recognize economic justice as the foundation of economic policy development and implementation.
### 2015 EPAS Crosswalk – Skills Example

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EPAS Competency 5: Engage in Policy Practice</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1) Analyze and address unjust policy and/or aspects of policy that are detrimental to client economic well-being.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2) Formulate policies that would promote client economic well-being.</td>
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<tr>
<td>3) Engage in the policy process to promote economic well-being.</td>
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<td>Example: Work in coalition with a local housing authority and tenant’s rights group on policy to preserve existing affordable housing.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
2015 EPAS Crosswalk – Cognitive and Affective Processes Example

<table>
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<tr>
<td>1) Analyze power relationships in the economic system and financial empowerment strategies to address power imbalances.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2) Reflect on personal biases supportive of and opposed to power imbalances that impact domestic and international policy related to economic well-being.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Online clearinghouse on CSWE’s website featuring approximately 60 resources for educators related to economic well-being

National platform to highlight innovative teaching materials

Offers bibliographies, syllabi, data, films and media, lectures, reports and publications, teaching curricula and modules, and websites

http://www.cswe.org/econwellbeing.aspx
EWB Clearinghouse

- Developing a search structure to make it easier for faculty to find resources
  - Resource type (e.g., assignments, syllabi, etc.)
  - Topic area (e.g., diverse populations, financial capability, policy practice, etc.)
  - Course type (i.e., continuing education/professional development, generalist practice, specialization)
  - Social work competency (i.e., EPAS 1 – 9)
Navigating the EWB Clearinghouse: Teaching Curricula and Modules
Navigating the EWB Clearinghouse: Syllabi
Navigating the EWB Clearinghouse: Films & Media

Films and Media

POV: Waging a Living

Underemployment, Poverty

Public Broadcasting System. Documentary film by Roger Weisberg chronicles the day-to-day struggles of four low-wage earners, shot over a three-year period in the northeast and California.

Resource Added: 02/01/2016

TED Video: Richard Wilkinson on How Economic Inequality Harms Societies

Poverty, Health Inequality, Public Health, Economic Policy

TED video featuring public health researcher Richard Wilkinson and his views on poverty and health inequalities in industrialized nations.
Navigating the EWB Clearinghouse: Bibliographies
Interested in Submitting Resources for EWB Clearinghouse?

- Clearinghouse submissions accepted on a rolling basis
- Resource will be reviewed for fit with economic well-being
- Permission form to post your resource
- Contact CSWE for information
Call for EWB Curricular Resources
Call for EWB Curricular Resources

• CSWE, in partnership with CSD, is soliciting materials from faculty for a curricular guide
• Guide will be available on CSWE’s clearinghouse
• Selected materials will be included in the curricular guide and/or posted on the clearinghouse, and all materials chosen will be credited to the author(s).
Call for EWB Curricular Resources

• Seeking course syllabi, teaching modules, readings/bibliographies, in-class exercises, media tools, class assignments, etc.

• Fill out the cover sheet/permission form (download form from http://www.cswe.org/econwellbeing.aspx)

• E-mail cover sheet along with the curricular material in Word format including your name, affiliation, and contact information to ebascug@cswe.org

• Deadline is December 5, 2016!
CSWE Learning Academy is hosting a free webinar on economic well-being for faculty.
Registration required, but webinar is available to CSWE members and non-members.
Anticipated release in February 2017.
Live and on-demand.
All CSWE members will be notified when registration opens, or visit https://learningacademy.cswe.org/
maybe combine this slide with the next.

finish with a slide of discussion questions. (Could start with Q and A, then discussion questions)

Julie Birkenmaier, 10/21/2016
EWB Webinar Learning Objectives

• Introduce the concept of economic well-being
• Highlight the EPAS curriculum guide and other resources
• Demonstrate effective teaching skills using examples from the EPAS guide
• Share integration strategies for economic informed content
Many thanks to the Work Group

- Chris Callahan, Univ. of Maryland, Baltimore
- Louise Simmons, University of Connecticut
- Lisa E. McGuire, James Madison University
Thank you to EWB Definition and EPAS Crosswalk Reviewers

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- Kristin Richards, Mississippi Valley State University
- Jen Scott, Louisiana State University
- Margaret S. Sherraden, University of Missouri - St. Louis
- Patricia Stoddard-Dare, Cleveland State University
- Stacia West, University of Tennessee
- Nurul Widyaningrum, University at Albany, SUNY
Contact Information

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  – Jessica Holmes, Director, Educational Initiatives and Research (jholmes@cswe.org)
  – Erin Bascug, CSWE Consultant (ebascug@cswe.org)
  – Or visit our website
    http://www.cswe.org/EconWellBeing.aspx
Questions?