

Case-based & Problem-based Learning to Prepare the Child Welfare Workforce



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Project WAKE UP Leadership Team

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An Activity

Case Based Learning/ Problem Based Learning

Essential Teaching Elements



A CHALLENGING
PROBLEM OR QUESTION



SUSTAINED INQUIRY



AUTHENTICITY



STUDENT VOICE & CHOICE



REFLECTION



CRITIQUE & REVISION

Learning Objectives

At the end of the session, participants will be able to:

- 🌀 describe the importance of problem-based learning and case-based learning (PBL/CBL)
- 🌀 identify strategies to integrate PBL/CBL into training child welfare professionals
- 🌀 articulate how PBL/CBL can prepare people to handle the complex situations



The Florida State University College of Social Work was selected to lead the “design and implementation of a curriculum that includes interactive and interdisciplinary approaches and opportunities for students to gain an understanding of real world [client] cases (with a focus on children and families in the State of Florida) and will share the curriculum and implementation strategies with other social work programs throughout the State of Florida (FL S.B. 1326, 2021).

Project WAKE-UP

ORIGIN STORY: PROBLEM



1. High turnover rates among child welfare and mental health workers (Fukui et al., 2019; HHS, 2013; SAMSHA 2011; Radey & Schelbe, 2017)
2. Lack of classroom exposure to “exceptionally challenging cases” (Wilke, 2018)
3. High need for trauma-trained and ready-to-work mental health and child welfare workers (Bartlett & Rushovic, 2018; Child Welfare Information Gateway, 2015; Frazier et al., 2014; Kenny & Abreu, 2015)

Project WAKE-UP

ORIGIN STORY: PROPOSED SOLUTION



1. Provide students with pre-service real to life case exposure to optimize the development of needed social work skills
 - a. Enhance knowledge transfer and skill retention
2. Provide students with pre-service opportunities to build confidence and competence to address complex case issues
 - a. Improves cognitive reasoning skills and facilitate complex decision-making skills
 - b. Improves intrinsic motivation to engage in the work

Academic Innovation Priorities Alignment with Project WAKE UP

INSTRUCTIONAL INNOVATION



Utilizing Problem Based Learning and Case Based Learning to help students understand complex issues and solve problems collaboratively

INTERDISCIPLINARY



Prioritizing the intersectionality of people and professions to better understand complex issues.

EVIDENCE BASED



Supporting change through researched evaluated techniques

FREELY AVAILABLE



Allowing open access across the state to these innovative and evaluated practices

Instructional Innovation Activities



- 🌀 **Developing realistic contemporary culturally relevant cases**
 - 🌀 Written
 - 🌀 Video
- 🌀 **Designing course activities to align with cases**
 - 🌀 Discussion prompts
 - 🌀 Assignments
 - 🌀 Rubrics
- 🌀 **Collaborating with faculty to facilitate implementation**
- 🌀 **Training faculty in Problem Based Learning/Case Based Learning**
- 🌀 **Disseminating materials statewide**

A Brief Activity

 Stella Pham's Story



Interprofessional Collaboration Activities

- 🌀 Child Advocacy Studies (CAST)
- 🌀 Interprofessional immersion event
- 🌀 Interprofessional course



Evaluation Activities

- Evaluation of all components of Project WAKE UP

- Formative Evaluation

 - Faculty interviews

 - Student focus groups

- Student outcomes

 - Pre/post test data



Statewide Dissemination Activities

- 🌀 Ongoing learning communities
- 🌀 Adopting cases and materials into courses
- 🌀 Learning about implementation
- 🌀 Collecting data



Next Steps: Third and Final Year of Project



- Transitioning to the GROW Center at FICW
- Developing more content
- Creating a case manual
- Engaging more faculty across the state
- Developing content that will inform tool kits

Opportunities for Collaboration



 **Feedback**

 **Case writing**

Staying in Touch



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