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January 31, 2018

My Role in Advocacy

There are many ways in which one may consider themselves as an advocate. Being an advocate involves many different aspects and challenges that will enhance lives. Advocacy can also be one speaking up or standing up for themselves when taking an action for a desired outcome. There are a lot of professional expectations and practices that may help individuals with the role of advocacy including having confidence, being outspoken, passionate, outstanding, inspirational, sincere, and bold. These different professional qualities play in getting public's support to a cause or urge to get a particular action.

With social workers being advocates, they treat each client in a compassionate and respectful way as well as promote clients based on individual values he or she may have. Their professional role is to strive and increase their client's ability to change and address his or her needs. Social workers work to improve relationships within individuals to promote functionalities between clients.

Personal values play a huge and important role in our lives. We will be able to recognize and understand one's value to make decisions in our own lives. For example, when being a part of any organization that one may enjoy being a part of or having a job, your values and beliefs are brought with you. In other words, your personal values are made up of everything that has happened to you in your everyday lives and includes your education, family and friends, and your peers. Personal values that I have that influences the role as an advocate are being influential to others, have confidence, and good communication skills. These different values influence me being in a role as an advocate by learning through experiences while identifying

and developing a clear meaning of what makes me who I am. Being that an advocate stands up for what he or she is taking action on, having personal values includes what it is important to a person. For example, once a person accepts a statement or belief that they are willing to stand up against or defend, this is a part of their advocacy. Advocates are all about making commitments on what they stand against, so having personal values also becomes standards in which people make their choices and have orders in their lives. When defining one's personal values, you discover what may truly be important you. They also highlight what we stand for when influencing roles as an advocate. But as you move through life, your personal values may change as you make decisions about priorities daily.

In conclusion, your personal values that influences the roles that are taken on as an advocate can make a difference in how you live your life. I began to reflect on things that I really want to be in life as I provide goals that influences personal decisions. This will help me think about the criteria I will use to make selections such as being consistent with my beliefs, being inspirational, and unique.