ABSTRACT

Title: MACRO PRACTICE IN SOCIAL WORK: *From Learning to Action for Social Justice*

Author: Report of the Special Commission to Advance Macro Practice in Social Work, Work Group 2

The Value of Frameworks
A framework serves as a map, a sense-making device and analytic tool that can guide our work as educators, researchers, and practitioners. Five concise macro frameworks are useful for social work education, research, and practice.

Five Frameworks
Case to Cause addresses the historical debate in social work about the role of micro and macro approaches. This framework suggests that social workers are most effective when they are equipped to explore the relationship between people's "troubles" and larger social "issues" and to assess where and which type of interventions are required.

      Organizational Management and Leadership addresses ways to develop responsive organizations that foster professional leadership equipped to promote the well-being of clients and staff. Respect for progressive organizational policies is one focus of this work.

      Community Organizing emerged with the settlement house work of social work pioneers such as Jane Addams, among many others. Community organizing is the process of community action to understand and address inequality and unequal distribution of power.

      Policy Practice engages social workers in analyzing and creating policy change to give broader meaning to people's individual troubles. The focus is on advancing policy changes that address social ills and improve social and economic well-being.

      Human Rights is an emerging field in social work. First principles stipulate that human rights are necessary for every human being to live in freedom, and with dignity, security, and equality.

Section Contents
Quotations at the beginning of each section speak to the framework's challenges and potential. The authors of each section (1) review the framework's conceptual underpinning and historical roots; (b) outline how the framework can help to bridge micro, mezzo, and macro practice approaches; (c) present applications for teaching about social work practice, education, and research; and (d) conclude with a discussion of issues and promising developments.