

## Case Study: Advanced Standing Applicants

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 working for the local hospital and called in to consult on the following case. Yolanda is a 34-year-old Latina female, who was admitted to the hospital overnight after sustaining injuries related to a severe car accident. She is medically stable, but has several broken ribs, a sprained shoulder, and a broken leg. The medical team feels she can be discharged soon but is recommending intensive physical therapy and states that she is going to need weeks of rehab. When Yolanda was informed of their recommendations, she became extremely agitated and tearful. She only speaks some broken English, so her 10-year-old son ended up translating her concerns to the medical staff. According to her son she was saying: "I can't stay! I can't! I need to go back to work!"

When you meet with Yolanda, she is in the room with her two sons, who are 6 and 10. With the help of a hospital translator, you gather the following information. She is the primary caregiver

for her children and they both depend on her financially. Yolanda is a single parent and does not receive any financial support from the children's father. Yolanda works two jobs in order to support her children and herself; she is very proud of her ability to be self-sufficient and is adamant that she does not want to take any "government money."

Yolanda immigrated to the U.S. from Mexico 15 years ago and is a naturalized citizen. She has almost no family here; her parents and younger siblings still live in Mexico. When she can, she will send her parents and siblings small amounts of money to help out. The only relative she has in the U.S. is her aunt Orietta, who is physically disabled herself and often relies on Yolanda to come and care for her.

While Yolanda loves her children dearly, she does note that her younger son has some significant behavioral problems that have been escalating over the past year. He has become oppositional and defiant at home and at school, and teachers have been recommending that she take him to a therapist. Yolanda notes, however, that she simply doesn't have time to take him to these appointments because of her work schedule. She also can't afford the co-pays.

Yolanda states that she does sometimes feel overwhelmed by her responsibilities and at times she gets "down." However, she cares deeply for her children and states that they "give her something to live for." Yolanda is extremely worried about what will happen to her children and Aunt Orietta if she cannot work, and about how she will pay for her medical bills from this recent hospitalization. Also, she states that her car was totaled in the accident and she now is very worried about transportation as she does not live in an area where public transportation is easily accessible. She becomes very tearful and anxious in her meeting with you, and repeatedly insists that she "just needs to go home."

2.) You are a Child Protective Services caseworker assigned to the following case.

Joe is a 27-year old Caucasian male that was recently released from Marion County corrections following a 9-month period of incarceration due to drug possession and theft charges. Joe is living with his parents in Morgantown, WV. He has a high school diploma and finished two semesters of community college before getting in a car accident and sustaining a severe leg injury. He was prescribed OxyContin after the accident and became addicted, which began his substance abuse issues. He then turned to street drugs, heroin, and illegal behavior to support his addiction. He has not participated in any formal treatment program but "kicked drugs" while in jail. Joe wants to work, has a vehicle his parents are letting him use, and wants to move out and get a place on his own with his daughter.

Shiloh is Joe's 7-year old daughter. Shiloh's mother died of a drug overdose about a year ago during the same incident in which Joe was arrested and subsequently incarcerated. The incident occurred in their apartment, where the family of three had always lived. Shiloh was

placed in kinship care and for the past year has been living with Joe's parents and attending school regularly. Shiloh has not seen a professional since all of this has happened, as her grandparents thought it was best to "move on". Instead of professional intervention, the grandparents involved her in bible study at their church to help "ward off the demons".

Joe's parents are in their 60's and have always been caring people, but since his return from jail, Shiloh has become very withdrawn and they are having a hard time getting her to go to school. She complains of stomach problems and headaches almost daily and has also shown aggressive behavior with Joe; throwing tantrums and hitting/slapping him as he tries to get her ready for school. Joe's parents want to be supportive of their son but are worried about what might happen if he relapses and Shiloh is living with him.