

## RESOURCES FOR SOCIAL WORK IN THE LIBRARY

### What is Social Work in a public library setting?

“Library social work” is both “micro and macro—a broad scope” including serving patrons’ needs, building networks of resources and services with community providers, crisis management and de-escalating situations, and technical assistance with library staff.

NASW Webinar

<https://naswnys.org/what-is-library-social-work/>

<https://www.npr.org/sections/health-shots/2022/01/03/1063985757/why-your-local-library-might-be-hiring-a-social-worker>

<https://www.socialworktoday.com/archive/MA20p20.shtml#:~:text=The%20trend%20of%20librar y%20social,service%20needs%20where%20patrons%20are.>

<https://connect.ala.org/HigherLogic/System/DownloadDocumentFile.ashx?DocumentFileKey=d3270d45-5f4c-4cd1-a501-cd09882b285f>

### Articles + Information on Social Work Interns in Public Libraries

Social Work Students and Public Libraries blog (includes resources for micro and macro)

<https://swlibraryinterns.com>

<https://swlibraryinterns.com/assignments/assignments-micro/>

<https://swlibraryinterns.com/assignments/assignments-macro/>

A guide for libraries planning to be a social work practicum site

[https://academicworks.cuny.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1741&context=hc\\_pubs](https://academicworks.cuny.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1741&context=hc_pubs)

Whole Person Librarianship

Book, Online Resources + Forum

<https://wholepersonlibrarianship.com/>

Public Library Association Social Work Task Force

<https://connect.ala.org/pla/communities/community-home?communitykey=5c2df085-e960-4608-87e7-fc132b3a43d9&tab=groupdetails>

### Tasks a Social Work intern may do:

- Conducting a Community Needs Assessment (if necessary)
- Creating/accessing a list of local resources to serve patrons’ needs

- Creating and maintaining relationships with community agencies for information and speakers.
- Assessing the need for, and developing, coordinating, and implementing, relevant programs and services, for example: community forums, information sharing and other sessions, information sessions related to education, health, safety and other vital issues.
- Liaising with community partners.
- Ensuring that programs and services reflect the diversity of the community and a multicultural orientation framework
- Engaging, encouraging, and assisting diverse customers in all areas of the Library in a welcoming, professional, and respectful manner.
- Greeting customers & successfully ascertaining individualized needs and/or requirements for each patron.
- Preparing periodic reports of activities and accomplishments, as needed.

#### Training, Lectures, etc.

Trauma Informed Services in the Library (more aimed at Librarians and staff but helpful)

<https://infopeople.org/civicism/event/info?reset=1&id=645>

Mental Health First Aid Training

<https://www.mentalhealthfirstaid.org/take-a-course/find-a-course/>

ACES

[Dr. Vincent Felitti: Reflections on the Adverse Childhood Experiences \(ACE\) Study](#)