

Name _____

Exploring the World of Social Work

Open-Ended Response Answer Key

1. To assess the teenager's situation, the social worker would start by conducting an initial interview to understand the extent of the substance abuse, any contributing factors, and the teenager's goals. They would involve the teenager's family if appropriate and collaborate with addiction specialists. Providing support might involve developing a treatment plan, connecting the teenager with support groups, and offering counseling or therapy.
2. Self-care is essential for social workers to prevent burnout. It includes practices such as setting boundaries, seeking supervision, engaging in stress-reducing activities (e.g., exercise, mindfulness), and taking regular breaks to recharge. Social workers should prioritize self-care to maintain their well-being and effectiveness in their role.
3. A social worker plays a critical role in advocating for children's rights and safety in cases of suspected child abuse. They should report their concerns to the appropriate child protective services agency, cooperate with investigations, and ensure the child receives medical and psychological support. The social worker should also provide emotional support to the child and facilitate access to legal representation if needed.
4. In cases where maintaining client confidentiality conflicts with the need to protect the client or others from harm, the social worker must prioritize safety. They should assess the level of risk and consider disclosing information to relevant authorities or individuals involved in the client's safety. This should be done while adhering to legal and ethical guidelines, and the client should be informed of the necessary actions taken to ensure their safety.

