

## **Definitions for Field Instructors**

### **Social Worker Roles**

- Educator – one who gives information and teaches skills to other systems. For instance, a practitioner might teach child management skills to parents.
- Broker – one who links client systems to needed resources. For example, a worker might refer a client to a substance abuse treatment center for inpatient treatment.
- Case Manager – a practitioner who, on behalf of a specific client, coordinates needed services provided by any number of agencies, organizations, or facilities. For instance, a worker might coordinate the many services needed by a quadriplegic living in a group home.
- Advocate – one who steps forward and speaks out on behalf of clients in order to promote fair and equitable treatment or gain needed resources. For example, a worker might meet with an administrator on behalf of a client to change an agency policy on that client's behalf.
- Mediator – one who resolves arguments or disagreements among micro, mezzo, or macro systems in conflict. For instance, a worker might serve as a go-between to establish an agreement between an agency wanting to start a group home for people with developmental disabilities and neighborhood residents who violently oppose having the facility in their neighborhood.
- Facilitator – one who guides a group experience. For instance, a practitioner might run a support group for young women with bulimia.