Gap Analysis Group Activity

Purpose

This two-part activity is to assist students in thinking about human services at the system (or macro) level. By analyzing a specific issue, students gain insight into the different processes involved in making system level change.

Instructions

Part One

1. Identify a gap in services that you would like to address. It can be a large change (such as worldwide hunger) or a more local one (like lack of affordable housing in Clackamas County).
2. After identifying your gap, get into a group of 3-4 and share the problems you have chosen to fix. Pick ONE of these issues to focus on for the rest of the assignment. List ideas of what is needed, and brainstorm possible solutions. After brainstorming, as a group pick ONE of these solutions.

Part Two

1. In your same groups, identify which systems are involved in maintaining the gap you identified (such as limitations on humanitarian aid to some countries; or current zoning laws in Clackamas County).
2. Go through each of the strategies of creating change (educate, persuade, pressure) and list ideas for creating change in this system.

Criteria For Success:

A successful outcome for this activity is for each student to have a deeper understanding of creating macro level change, and the various methods to achieve system change

Part 1:

What Is The Gap You've Identified?

 Which Group 'gap' Did You Choose?

 What Is Needed?

Brainstorm Ideas To Close The Gap

Rank The Ideas And Choose A Path

Part 2: Changing The System

What Systems Are Part Of The Problem?

How Could You Educate?

How Could You Persuade?

How Could You Pressure?