SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK
UNIVERSITY of WASHINGTON

WHAT IS RELEVANT SOCIAL WORK AND HUMAN SERVICE EXPERIENCE?

We are looking for social work and human service related experience — this might include a variety of paid and/or unpaid jobs, service corps, internships, or volunteer work. As a guide for students, we have provided some descriptions of what would count towards their social work experience. Social and human service work may provide benefits for a community, such as education, medical care, and housing — "An activity aimed to promote the welfare of others; services that improve the well-being of individuals, families, and communities," (HHS, 2017)[1].

SOCIAL WORK MICRO PRACTICE EXPERIENCE:

- Social service experience with individuals, families, small groups and service delivery systems to promote maximum self-determination, functioning, and quality of life
- May include direct practice work with individuals, counseling, crisis lines, outreach and education work, etc.

SOCIAL WORK MEZZO PRACTICE EXPERIENCE:

- Working with small to medium-sized groups or organizations such as schools, community service organizations, or businesses to promote cultural or institutional change
- May include community organizing work, facilitating support groups, organizational management, program evaluation, etc.

SOCIAL WORK MACRO PRACTICE EXPERIENCE:

- Working in organizations, communities, and the policy environment to advance social and economic justice, protect human rights, and/or enhance health, well-being and empowerment of disadvantaged communities.
- May include conducting research, advocacy work, leadership roles in nonprofit or government agencies, building community capacity, etc.

We value experience (paid or unpaid) related to serving marginalized, or underserved/ underrepresented groups.

EXAMPLES OF SERVICE POPULATIONS
(does not include a list of ALL communities that may fall into this category):

- Women
- Children and Adolescents
- Homeless
- LGBTQ
- Immigrants/refugees/non-citizens
- Low-income communities
- Communities of Color
- Individuals living with mental or physical disabilities
- Populations impacted by education inequity, health disparities, environmental injustice, or poverty

1 US Department of Health and Human Services. (2017). Social Services. *hhs.gov.programs/social-services*