

**Sinclair Community College, Division of Allied Health Technologies**

**ALH 210 – Introduction to Community Health Advocacy**

**CLASS #14    LEGAL ADVOCACY**

**Course Objectives**

Demonstrate knowledge of state and national laws when working with community members.

**Class Objectives: Student will be able to**

1. Begin to understand some of the consequences related to custody issues when supporting families.
2. Identify examples of harassment and discrimination.
3. Articulate steps to referring clients to domestic violence services, legal services, and additional supportive services.
4. Identify indicators of family violence in clients.
5. Understand their responsibility in reporting child abuse.

**Participants:**

Instructors

Students

Guest speaker – Legal Aid

**Materials/Resources Needed:**

None

**Equipment Needed:**

1. Markers
2. Large Post it Note Pads

**Plan for the Class:**

**I. Questions, comments from previous class – Health Care Financing**

**II. Advocacy, custody issues for kinship families, HB 130**

1. Faculty provides mini lecture defining advocacy, discussing custody issues for grandparents and other relatives raising children, and provisions of House Bill 130, the Grandparent Caregiver Authorization/Power of Attorney act.

2. Facilitated discussion
  - a. Faculty asks class: have you ever had to advocate for a friend or family member? In what type of setting, i.e. court, hospital, school, or finances? Asks: were you helpful in the situation? What did you learn from the experience?
  - b. Faculty explains two types of advocacy: empowerment and representative.
3. Group Exercise
  - a. Faculty will read cases and students will be asked to distinguish between responses that constitute legal advice vs. responses that constitute advocacy. **Handout attached**
4. Guest speaker – Legal Aid guest speaker will talk about the services Legal Aid provides, laws related to housing/evictions, domestic violence and types of harassment.
5. Questions and Answers
6. Wrap up discussion – legal restrictions on what an advocate can and cannot do.  
**Handout attached**

### **III Conclusion**

- A. Faculty briefly summarizes class content and discusses legal restrictions on what a community health worker can and cannot do and contrasts advocacy vs. legal advice.
- C. Preview of next class—Documentation