

HIV, AIDS, and a Christian Social Work Response Introduction and Session Outline

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Introduction to Training:

This home study text-based training, focused on “HIV, AIDS, and a Christian Social Work Response,” is based on a series of articles which were published as a part of the Summer, 2013 special edition of *Social Work and Christianity*. This special issue of *SWC* was by guest edited Allison Tan, Ph.D.

Abstract: Social workers find that clients who have HIV/ AID are often discriminated against and marginalized by society as well as the church. Clients diagnosed with AIDS/HIV are often traumatized and suffer alone. Clients diagnosed with AIDS/HIV experience systematic losses physically, socially, financially, relationally, emotionally, physically, spiritually and religiously. Historically the AIDS epidemic is less than thirty years old, but much research, direct services and advocacy is still needed in order understand the implications of AIDS/ HIV on clients. The NASW *Code of Ethics* requires that social workers be competent. More training options are needed in order to teach Christian social workers how to overcome their own bias so that they may become confident practitioners who are able to compassionately assist clients with HIV/AIDS.

As a result of reading the materials that are part of this training, you will be able to:

1. Outline a broad history of what led to the AIDS epidemic in the United States today.
2. Articulate a range of stigmas present in society as well as churches in the US which have negatively impacted the lives of clients living with and affected by HIV and AIDS.
3. Describe 2-3 strategies which will equip Christians in social work become more competent, confident and compassionate practitioners when providing services for client’s living with or affected by HIV and AIDS.

Training Outline

This training contains 6 separate articles from the Summer, 2013 issue of *Social Work and Christianity* addressing this topic including:

- Social Workers Take a Closer Look at HIV & AIDS by *Allison Tan* – 30 minutes
- Increasing Christian Social Workers' Basic Knowledge of HIV and AIDS: The Beginning of Competent Practice by *Allison Tan* – 30 minutes
- HIV/AIDS and Grief: Implications for Practice by *Nancy Peters* - 30 minutes
- A Systematic Review of the Roles of Congregations and Faith-Based Organizations in the Care and Support of African by Americans Living with HIV/AIDS in the United States by *Christson Adedoyin* - 30 minutes
- Preaching and the Trauma of HIV and AIDS: A Social Work Perspective by *Frederick J. Streets* - 30 minutes
- Teaching Social Welfare Policy through a Practice Informed Assignment in Baccalaureate Social Work Education: Utilizing the Topic of HIV/AIDS Towards CSWE Competency Based Education by *Carla MacDonald* - 30 minutes