



North American Association of Christians in Social Work (NACSW)
PO Box 121; Botsford, CT 06404 *** Phone/Fax (tollfree): 888.426.4712
Email: info@nacsww.org *** Website: <http://www.nacsww.org>

"A Vital Christian Presence in Social Work"

COMMUNITY CHANGE THROUGH COLLABORATION

Dr. Lanny Endicott

**Presented at:
NACSW Convention 2006
October, 2006
Philadelphia, PA**

Students can be agents of social change. This poster presentation, in Power Point format, discusses how Oral Roberts University's social work program collaborates with various organizations and agencies to improve the lives of residents from a nearby low-income neighborhood (61st and Peoria area in South Tulsa, Oklahoma).

The program collaborates with the local neighborhood association (the South Peoria Neighborhood Connection Foundation, Inc.) to operate a store-front service center to distribute food, clothing, bus tokens, and provide computer access for area residents. In addition, students are involved in providing character development and after school programs for a neighborhood school. Students also provide group work services for mentally ill residents living in an area apartment complex.

Community organization activities also involve collaboration with the city's urban development department, area churches, police, schools, and several social service agencies. This presentation also addresses how the program is working to involve other university academic departments to positively impact residents. These include the departments of business, education, nursing, and recreation. Student involvement in the community over the past several years has been an important factor contributing to improved neighborhood conditions: reduced crime, improved test scores in area schools, improved infrastructure development in the neighborhood, and provision of basic needs to area residents.