

## **Collaborative MSW Program Mission**

As a result of extensive faculty planning, market research studies, and feedback from consultant outside reviewers, the Program's mission was developed. This mission statement embodies six major program themes, which permeate content in the advanced concentrations in (1) advanced direct practice and (2) administration and management. This mission reflects the unique needs of social work practitioners and clients in the region, the broad mission of the social work profession, and the academic standards for graduate education established by CSWE. Development of the program's mission was also strongly influenced by the UW System Cluster Core Mission with respect to inter-institutional collaboration as an effective means for sharing of resources and educational outreach. It was further influenced by CSWE support for collaborative education.<sup>1</sup>

The University of Wisconsin-Green Bay and the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh have established a Collaborative MSW Program that prepares social workers for advanced practice as facilitators, partners and leaders in planned change activities with service users and community service providers. The program's goal is to educate professionals ready to assume administrative and direct practice leadership roles within this region's increasingly diverse and transforming rural and metropolitan environments. The mission statement of the Collaborative MSW Program is stated as follows:

The advanced professional Master of Social Work degree is a joint effort by the University of Wisconsin-Green Bay and Oshkosh to prepare social workers for advanced practice as facilitators, partners and leaders in planned change activities with service users and community service providers in the region. The program's goal is to educate professionals ready to assume administrative and direct practice leadership roles within this region's increasingly diverse and transforming rural environments. It aims to prepare practitioners who can work to strengthen families through programs, services, and policies supportive of family and community well being, with special emphasis on family needs in rural and tribal settings. Concomitantly, the program aims to promote interdisciplinary learning and coordinated inter-professional practice to actively address social issues. Additional emphasis is placed on professional acceptance of responsibility to participate in civic life and to provide leadership in the community and to encourage the inclusion and representation of Native Americans and members of other cultures and diverse groups in the region. Finally, the advanced program strives to address adult learner expectations for ease of access and user-friendly content delivery.

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<sup>1</sup> CSWE (1999) "Myths and Opportunities, The Impact of Discipline-Specific Accreditation on Inter-professional Education (46-52).