

Social Work Jobs

- **Child, family, and school social workers**- provide social services and assistance to improve the social and psychological functioning of children and their families. Workers will assess a need and will coordinate services to improve the situation; arrange adoption or foster homes; many will specialize in an area focused on a particular population or issue such as child protection, adoption or foster care, homelessness, or domestic violence; and may be referred to as *child welfare workers*, *family service social workers*, or *child protective service social workers*. School social workers assist students deal with stress or emotional issues, address misbehavior, teenage pregnancy, drug and alcohol, and truancy; teach classes on topics such as conflict resolution. These social workers work for individual or family service agencies, schools, state or local governments.
- **Medical and public health social workers**- *provide support to individuals, families, and vulnerable populations who must deal with chronic, acute, or terminal illness; advise how to care for a patient after the hospital release and may arrange for at home services; evaluate patients for particular services, such as a organ transplant. Some specialize in senior services and their families; work in hospitals, nursing homes, and personal care facilities; individual and family service agencies, or local governments.*
- **Mental health and substance abuse social workers**- *assess and treat individuals with mental illness or substance abuse through group therapy, crisis intervention, outreach, social rehabilitation, and skills education; supportive services for individuals and their families; may be privately employed. Also known as clinical social workers or occupational social workers.*
- **Social work administrators, researchers, planners and policymakers**- *develop and implement programs; research and analyze policies, programs, and regulations; identify social problems and suggest legislation and other solutions; help write grants and raise funds.*

Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, *Occupational Outlook Handbook, 2010-11 Edition*, Social Workers, retrieved on March 1, 2010
from <http://www.bls.gov/oco/ocos060.htm>