Social Work is the professional activity of helping individuals, groups, or communities to enhance or restore their capacity for social functioning and to create societal conditions favorable to that goal. This involves helping individuals overcome problems with mental health, addictions, relationships, disabilities, lack of resources and skills, etc. Social workers help families during their times of stress with issues such as death, unemployment, prison, divorce, etc. At a much larger level, social workers serve as community change agents, coordinating the efforts of many health and welfare agencies to solve community problems. Social workers also work to bring change to social policies that are not just or humane.

**Associated Job Titles:**
- Clinical (Mental Health) Social Worker
- Medical Social Worker
- Gerontology Social Worker
- Community Organization Worker
- Parole Officer
- Corrections Officer
- Drug Rehabilitation Counselor
- Family Services Caseworker
- Marriage and Family Therapist
- Group Home Director
- Minister
- Police Officer
- Psychologist
- College Professor
- Missionary
- School Social Worker

**Associated Skills:**
- Ability to comprehend social work theories
- Ability to link people with necessary resources
- Ability to work with a diverse population
- Ability to analyze complex problems
- Ability to integrate faith and learning
- Ability to conduct research of social issues
- Comprehend social work theories and practice diverse population groups

**Associated Personal Qualities:**
- Demonstration of empathy with others
- Commitment to work with the poor and disenfranchised
- Demonstration of ethical behavior
- Self-awareness and commitment to work on personal issues
- A growing relationship with Christ
- Enjoyment of scholarly pursuits

**Career Library Resources:**
- Opportunities in Social Work Careers
- Peterson’s Job Opportunities in Health and Science
- Careers for Good Samaritans and Other Humanitarian Types
- What Color Is Your Parachute?
- Career Planning Today
- Majoring in the Rest of Your Life
- Do What You Are
- Encyclopedia of Careers and Vocational Guidance
- The Kuder Book of People Who Like Their Work
- The Enhanced Guide for Occupational Exploration
- The Dictionary of Occupational Titles
- The Occupational Outlook Handbook
- FOCUS Computer Guidance System

**Places To Contact For More Information:**
- National Association of Social Workers
  750 First Street NE Suite 700
  Washington, DC 20002
- American Association of State Social Work Boards
  400 South Ridge
  PKWY Suite B
  Culpeper, VA 22701
- Association of Oncology Social Work
  1910 East Jefferson Street
  Baltimore, MD 21205
- North American Association of Christians in Social Work
  P.O. Box 121
  Botsford, CT 06404
- Council on Social Work Education
  1600 Duke Street Suite 300
  Alexandria, VA 22314

**Websites To Visit:**
- www.naswdc.org
- www.aamft.org
- www.aosw.org
- www.cswe.org
- www.ifsw.org
- www.nofsw.org
- www.socialwork.com
- www.nacsw.org

**Professors To Contact For More Information:**
- Dr. Art Nonneman, Chair
  Professor Steve Dawson, Social Work Program Director
  Dr. Ike Adams

**Nearby Employers:**
- All God’s Children Nicholasville KY 881-5010
- YWCA Spouse Abuse Shelter 544-2022
- Cabinet for Families and Children 275 E Main St. Frankfort 502-564-4986
- Center for Women, Children and Families 530 N. Limestone 259-1974
- Comprehensive Care Center 177 North Upper St. 253-2737
- Salvation Army 722 W. Main 252-7706
- Methodist Children’s Home PO Box 749. Versailles 859-873-4481

*Addresses listed are located in the Lexington, Kentucky area unless otherwise noted.

**Alumni Contacts:**
Schedule an appointment with Career Services to conduct a tailored search for alumni working in the fields associated with this major.