

Standard 7.0

Family and HUMAN Services

Integrate knowledge, skills, and practices required for careers in family and community services.

Members might...

Build the transferable career skills of knowing how to learn new things and being able to teach others. Read some articles or books about different ways that people learn. Then, create a lesson to teach a family and community services-related skill in a FACS class. Include learning activities that will “work” for different types of learners. Discuss the results with the FCCLA adviser. Write a paragraph that tells an employer about what was learned and what skills were demonstrated through this project. (Career Connection)

Investigate how much money local low income families have available to spend on food each week. Create menus for a week of nutritious meals that stay within that budget. Distribute the menus, along with related recipes, throughout the community. Invite all families to follow the menus for a week and to donate any money they save on food costs to a charity of their choice. (Community Service)

Work on a project that involves both youth and adults. Observe how people of different ages get along. What builds relationships between age groups? Make a chart that shows the interpersonal skills that are used and how often they are used by youth and adults. Explain how the skills and relationships illustrated on the chart relate to family and community services careers.

Investigate which local agencies and organizations help families deal with challenges and crises. Publish a family services directory. Sponsor a youth tour of several of the related facilities. (Families First)

Work with people with different abilities. Create a program for customers with physical or mental disabilities. Research the needs and interests of special needs customers. Find ways to make the employer’s services more enjoyable and accessible. Propose the new program or service to the supervisor. Suggest ways it could be put into action. (Career Connection)

Explore options for further education and preparation for careers in family and community services. (Power of One, “Working on Working”)

Study the market and develop a business plan for a company that provides respite care for families with ill or handicapped members. (STAR Events Entrepreneurship*)

Volunteer to help with after-school programs at school and in the community. Such programs are important resources during times when youth violence is most likely to occur.

* Project ideas may not completely fulfill national STAR Events guidelines. They are provided as “thought provokers” to start members thinking about their own projects.