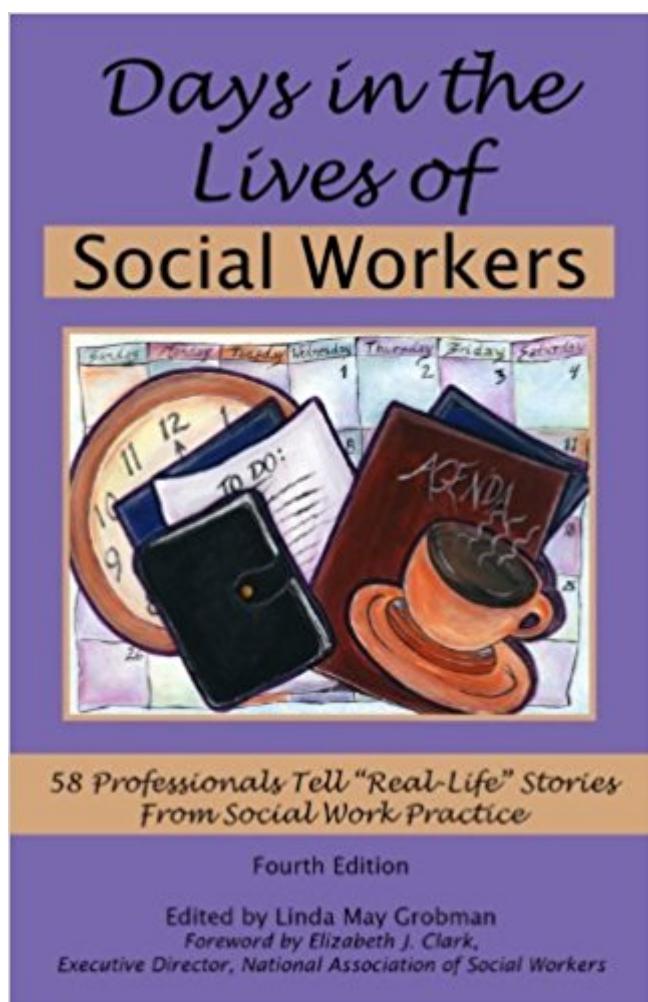


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# Days In The Lives Of Social Workers: 58 Professionals Tell Real-Life Stories From Social Work Practice (4th Edition)



## Synopsis

Spend a day with social workers in 58 different settings, and learn about the many career paths available to you. Did you ever wish you could tag along with a professional in your chosen field, just for a day, observing his or her every move? **DAYS IN THE LIVES OF SOCIAL WORKERS** allows you to take a firsthand, close-up look at the real-life days of 58 professional social workers as they share their stories. Join them on their journeys, and learn about the rewards and challenges they face. This book is an essential guide for anyone who wants an inside look at the social work profession. Whether you are a social work graduate student or undergraduate student, an experienced professional wishing to make a change in career direction, or just thinking about going into the field, you will learn valuable lessons from the experiences described in **DAYS IN THE LIVES OF SOCIAL WORKERS**. The 4th edition includes four new chapters, a new appendix on social media and mobile apps, and features a foreword by Elizabeth J. Clark, executive director of the National Association of Social Workers.

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## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

Social work is a much broader profession than is commonly realized, and the 58 submissions here fall into 15 categories, from health care to working with communities. They are largely autobiographical and can help an incoming student find their direction as each chapter ends with two or three questions for the reader to think about. Book News, Inc. Everyone who reads this book, whether you've spent a lifetime as a proud social worker, you have received social work services, or you are just curious about the profession, will gain a new perspective and appreciation for the work

of these tireless individuals. --Elizabeth J. Clark, PhD, ACSW, MPH, Executive Director, National Association of Social Workers LOVE these books--especially for social work students who want to get a feel for all the different areas of practice available in our profession! --Susan Mankita, LCSW, Florida International University

Excerpt--Copyright Linda May Grobman. Reprinted with permission. All rights reserved.\*Note: This excerpt is from the Introduction to the 4th Edition. If variety is the "spice" of life, then social work is one of the "hottest" careers around. Variety is one of the things that make social work practice exciting for so many members of the profession. It's also one of the reasons so many people don't fully understand exactly what social workers do....Indeed, it is sometimes difficult to articulate exactly what one does as a social worker, and the profession is sometimes misunderstood. So, when I set out to publish a book about social work, I wanted to convey a sense of not only what professional social workers do, but what their lives are like on a day-to-day basis. This book is about real life social workers. It says, "I'm a social worker. Spend a day with me and see what it's like." It takes a firsthand, close-up look at the roles social workers play every day in places from hospitals to prisons to universities. It celebrates the joys and rewards of social work, and it presents a realistic view of the challenges of being a social worker. In it, real life social workers describe their days--not necessarily "typical" days, since most say there is no such thing, but days that are representative of the essence of their work....Since [the] third edition, the need for social workers has continued to grow into even more diverse areas. We have continued to see social workers involved in the aftermath of such disasters--as Hurricane Katrina, mass shootings at Virginia Tech, the attempted assassination of Congressperson Gabrielle Giffords, and others. Bullying and bullying-related suicide are issues that have been in the forefront, and social workers need to be and ARE in the forefront helping to alleviate and prevent an epidemic from occurring. Cyberbullying and the effects of social media, both positive and negative, are emerging concerns. Military social work is a growing field, as is gerontological social work. Newspapers have reported the use of social work services in department stores and in public libraries. Indeed, social workers can be found just about anywhere. Technology continues to grow as an integral part of our society. No longer simply an "add-on," knowledge of the latest technology has become an issue of cultural competence for social workers. In response to the enormous and ongoing development of new technologies and their implications for the social work profession, I have added an appendix to this edition to introduce readers to social work-related uses of social media, blogs, and mobile apps....As you read DAYS IN THE LIVES OF SOCIAL WORKERS, you will discover that the career possibilities in social work are

virtually endless. You will read about social workers who are employed by state and federal governments, social workers in private practice, social workers in other countries, social workers working for communities, and on and on. In each chapter, you will find something different, while you will also notice that many of the same core social work skills are used across settings. My hope is that you will use this book as a starting point--an introduction to the variety of roles social workers play every day. Use it as you would the opportunity to literally follow and observe 58 different social workers for a day. Soak up as much as you can from each experience, decide what you would like to explore further, and then take it from there! Linda May Grobman, ACSW, LSW, Editor July 2011

This book is such an amazing peek into different social work careers. I am applying to MSW programs now and I have gleaned so much insight from this book. If you have any interest in social work for any reason I seriously can't recommend this book enough. Buy it!

I am currently in a stage of my life where it's time to decide what I want to do next. I had toyed around with the idea of getting a Masters in Social Work, but wasn't sure what that would mean exactly in a day to day sense. So, I bought this book hoping it would answer some questions I had concerning what exactly it is that social workers do every day. I found the book incredibly helpful. The way it is arranged is great in that each baby chapter is a day in the life of a social worker in a different field. I got to experience what each kind of social worker does and it really helped narrow the scope of what I wanted to do. I have now decided to get my Masters in Social Work with an emphasis in criminology. This book was paramount to helping make my decision! A definite must buy for anyone thinking about going into this field.

I have seen where this book was a class requirement. I bought it as I am going into the field, and have loved every page of it. The intro, the individual stories, the various examples of career options and review questions to consider- wonderful! Highly recommend for those people deciding whether this is a career they would like to enter and to learn more about the various career paths a social worker can take.

Very helpful book when exploring different paths in the Social Work arena. Some of the 58 areas include summer camps, hospice, private practice, hospitals, etc. Each contributor has a short chapter where they outline the pros and cons of their particular direction and experience. This book is very well organized and user friendly.

The book was really helpful to me, because i'm going to be graduating with my BSW in a year and going on to grad school so i have to pick a concentration. The only problem i found with this book was that it had a lot of information on some specializations, such as working with older adults or criminal justice, and other areas were neglected. There wasn't anything about working for an adoption agency -- mainly i wanted to learn more about other areas in social work that aren't normally mentioned. Besides this, the book was good at giving you an in-depth look at what your life would be like as a social worker in these areas.

Am mentor to numerous college students. Have bought this for maybe 4-5 of them and it was a big help.

I enjoy reading this book because it helps me to feel more connected to my profession. It reminds me why we (social workers) do what we do. It's also an excellent book for undergraduate and graduate social work students because it will provide insight into the many areas within our line of work. Also, if you're undecided about what area of practice you wish to enter, this book may provide you with answers.

When I decided to buy this book it was because I was already thinking of a career in social work. And, I must say that the book is very inspiring and insightful. The stories come from different types of social workers, in different fields, under different circumstances, and really gives the reader a sense of what each worker goes through on a typical day. It's also very true to the field. Since buying the book I have had the opportunity to work in social service, and the day-to-day events and issues the workers deal with in the book are very realistic and honest. It's definitely a must-read for anyone thinking about the social work field, no matter what service or population you are thinking about working with.

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