#### TRIDENT TECHNICAL COLLEGE

# **HUMAN SERVICES**

Introduction to Human Services

The Essential Characteristics of a Human Services Professional

# What Is Human Services?

"The career field (aka the helping professions) that services others"

Human Services is defined as an interdisciplinary field whose primary commitment and aim is to meet the basic psychological, social, interpersonal and wellness needs of populations through prevention, remediation, and treatment. --The National Organization for Human Services (NOHS)

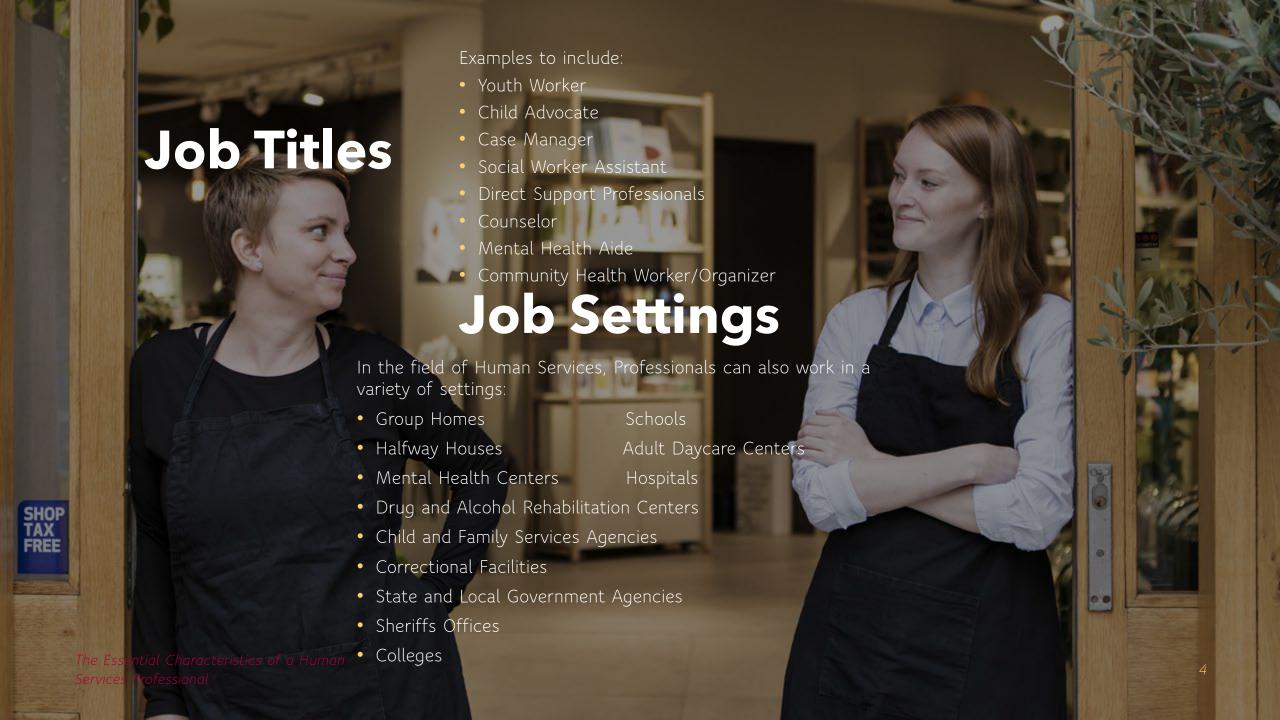
\*Interdisciplinary—In the field of Human Services, it relies on people with different skillsets and areas of expertise to work together to help those in need.





# **Human Services Professionals**

In the field of Human Services, job titles, roles, and settings can be wide-ranging.



# Can you name other Job Titles and Settings of Human Services Professionals????



Behavioral Interventionist Adoption Specialist Community Outreach Specialist Probation Officer Child Welfare Specialist
Substance Abuse Counselor
Crisis Intervention Specialist
Policy Analyst

Occupational Therapist Residential Counselor Eligibility Counselor Skills Instructor Intake Interviewer

Life Adult Daycare Worker

Gerontology Aide

College Admissions Representative

# Why is the Field of Human Services so Important?

Human Services is the infrastructure of our communities. Professionals who work in this field often provide resources and care for the most vulnerable and marginalized members of our communities.

### Vulnerable and marginalized members of our communities consist of:

- Children and the elderly
- Those with disabilities or mental illness/impairments
- People who have been abused or who are overcoming additions
  - Victims of natural disasters

Without Human Services Professionals, agencies, and organizations providing needed services to our vulnerable and marginalized members, many individual's quality of life may decrease.

#### Negative outcomes could consist of:

\*Homelessness \*Chronic Pain \*Death

\*Illnesses \*Addictions

Question: What if our communities didn't have Human Services? What would that look like?

- Non-flourishing Communities
- Lack of Quality of Life
- Unhealthy Lifestyles







In short, a community without Human
Services isn't one most of us would want
to live in.

Who would be Suited for a Career in Human Services as a Human Services Professional?

Could it be you???



#### **Essential Characteristics of a Human Services Professional**





There are essential characteristics that an individual must have to be an efficient and successful Human Services Professional.

Here is our checklist:



#### People's skills

- Ability to direct people
- Ability to relate to people
- Ability to advocate for someone who may be struggling
- Ability to create empathic relationships with people from a diversity of backgrounds

#### Checklist:

- Open-Minded
- Good Listener
- Problem-Solving Abilities
  - Strategic
  - Self-Awareness
    - Empathic



## Great Time Management and Organizational Skills

- Ability to budget one's time and that of employees
- Ability to multi-task
- Ability to prioritize and delegate
- Team-player



#### Checklist:

- Strong communication skills
- Has a strong desire to give back to the community



- Being able to make sound decisions
- Unbiased
- Fair
- Knowledge of process/business/resources

The Essential Characteristics of a Human Services Professional

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Do you think this is the field for you?