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Spring 2022 Training for Licensure Supervision

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Title III Professional Development Blog Post

With the support of the Title III Professional Development funds from Lincoln University of Missouri, I was able to attend 2022 Licensure Supervision Provider Course hosted by the University of Missouri School of Social Work. This course was hosted virtually, once a week for four hours for four weeks. Currently, this sixteen-hour course is required for social work supervisors in the state of Missouri along with being licensed in the state for a minimum of five years. Participants in the course were from around the state and working in various aspects of the social work field.

Day one of training consisted of defining clinical supervision, identifying what makes a competent social worker, identifying personal leadership styles, feedback, and models of supervision. We broke into groups to discuss personal leadership styles and feedback; the smaller group was one of my favorite parts of the training as it allowed me to see what others are doing in the field that is working and identify challenges. Additionally, we were tasked with completing a leadership style completing a leadership self-assessment tool and then creating a personal development plan.

Day two starting off in small groups where we discussed our personal development plans and areas that we needed to improve upon. Topics covered in this section included informed consent, creating contracts, review of Missouri licensure requirements, state licensure rules, supervision requirements, supervisee/supervisors' responsibilities, continuing education, documentation, and boundary issues in supervision. I found this session to be the most informative regarding how to practically provide supervision. It was also the most mentally exhausting session due to the amount of information received.

Day three covered topics included supervision liability, methods and techniques for clinical supervision, case consultation, National Association of Social Work (NASW) Code of Ethics, and discipline. This session proved to be the most lively as many participants had questions about liability and ethics. There were two small group breakouts during this session that allowed for further

exploration of those topics. The day ended with homework to complete some form of self-care prior to the next session.

Day four session focused on self-care, cultural competence, impaired professionals, technology, and evaluation. Again, we broke into small groups to discuss what we had done the previous week to incorporate self-care and a check-in regarding burnout. Self-care is a topic I really enjoy learning and talking about, so I found this session of particular interest. It was fascinating to hear from other social workers how difficult they were finding it to practice even simple forms of self-care and especially to see how organizations/agencies were or were not incorporating self-care for their employees.

The training was very thorough and provided participants with a folder for future use to access needed information, forms, etc. My attendance and participation in this training is beneficial to my position at Lincoln University as I provide supervision to our undergraduate social work students in their field practicum every spring. Additionally, it allowed me to connect with other professionals around the state in various agency settings as future potential field placement sites for our students. The training also highlighted the need for a platform for licensure supervisors to connect on a regular basis, therefore I am currently looking into what type of format might be best to create a space for this.