

Case Simulations within Virginia's Title IV-E Child Welfare Recipient Program

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Introductions and Overview:

- Who we are and who is in the room today?
- How many of you have experience using simulation activities?
- Virginia's IV-E Child Welfare Stipend Program

Objectives for our time together:

- To share our experience organizing and facilitating case simulations,
- To talk about why case simulations are important for child welfare students,
- To discuss what we have learned in the process, and
- To hear your ideas for simulation activities useful for IV-E training and education programs.

Why did we decide to use simulation activities?

- Redeveloping curriculum to involve case based and experiential learning
- Simulation Classroom
- Student Exit Interviews and Advisory Committee Feedback
- IV-E Roundtable & CSWE APM

Overview:

What we did and simulation structure:

- Radford University
 - Multiple days for case simulation
 - One day court simulation
- Virginia Commonwealth University
 - One full day in a simulation classroom
 - 13 scenarios at key interactions in child welfare along the continuum

Scenario Development:

- Utilized Regional Advisory Committees
 - Discussed key interactions & typical assessment areas
 - For example, domestic violence, substance use, child development,
 - Created scenarios in bullet format - room for improvisation
 - Actors - character development & words to be use verbatim
 - Students - brief history of the case, role and objectives

Student Preparation for Simulation Activity

VCU

- Overview of what to expect: Via verbal and email communication (Competency & Practice Profile based)
- 1 week prior specific scenarios were assigned

RU

- Scenario - brief - what you might expect to receive at the very beginning of a case (possibly intake)
- BSW vs. MSW
- Grade
- Case notes
- What do they do in the assignment and then what do they do with it
- [VDSS assessment](#)

Actors/Standardized Patients

Where did you get your actors/standardized patients?

- RU - local agency volunteers - regional committee
- VCU - Hired standardized patient actors - [Center for Human Simulation and Patient Safety](#)

Benefits and Challenges:

- Benefit - local agency workers, actually “do” the work.
- Challenge - local agency schedules - they may commit but then something comes up.
- Standardized client/actors - outside perspective and reliable schedule

Setting: Radford University - Then vs. Now



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Setting: Virginia Commonwealth University

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Timeline and Agenda:

- VCU - One day, 13 scenarios - [Agenda](#)
- RU - complete over three weeks - schedule within D2L

Structure of Feedback and Assessment:

Feedback and Assessment tools used:

- Verbal
- Written
- Video Recorded
- Graded?

Video of feedback

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What if a student did not perform well?

Then what?

- When they believe they did a great job.
- Reminder - no one is perfect - every case/situation is different
- practice, practice, practice

Follow up after simulation event:

- Student reflection
 - VCU - [Reflection exercise](#) - completed prior to leaving
 - RU - Immediate feedback - verbal
- Feedback/continued development
- [Participant evaluation](#)
- How we use recorded simulations?

Themes and Takeaways:

- Student:
 - Feeling unprepared became teaching/learning/confidence builder
 - Nervous prior, grateful for experience post simulation
- Community partners valued:
 - The opportunity to discuss best practices, policy/guidance and emerging trends in child welfare,
 - Giving their professional input and guidance (expertise valued!),
 - The opportunity to talk about the intersection of policy, implementation and best practice.

Wisdom learned in the process (Coordinators):

- Simulation format
 - Observers vs. individual simulation
 - Fall simulation built towards spring simulation
- Continued collaboration and partnerships



"You kids don't know how lucky you are. In my school days, we didn't have learning experiences. We had to settle for learning."

Future opportunities for simulation activities:

- Field processing/teaching
- Continual growth utilizing across SSWs programming
- Statewide simulation activities
- Pre-Assessment/Post-Worker Readiness

What are your ideas/hopes for simulation activities?

*The magic wand question



Questions?

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