



Fighting an Anti-Social Work Agenda

ORGANIZE

OPPOSE

RESIST

EDUCATE

Join the conversation on Twitter, Thursdays at 9pm ET

Feb 2 • March 2 • April 13 • May 4



@OfficialMacroSW #MacroSW

Online to Action:

#MacroSW Series on Community Organizing

Goal:

Elevate social work as a profession for social justice and system change through direct action by developing a #MacroSW chat series that teaches the basics of and provides tools for community organizing, helps participants identify opportunities to initiate or join in community action projects, and promotes ongoing mentor relationships between macro practitioners and students and emerging activists.

Objectives:

1. Provide a framework for understanding systemic oppression and its relationship to social work
2. Provide an overview of community organizing and complementary/transferable social work skills
3. Engage in discussion of real world projects individuals can engage in to apply skills
4. Recruit a network of macro practitioners to serve as ongoing points of contact/mentors for 2-3 students or emerging activists participating in community projects by helping them develop strategy, implement plans for community action, and checking-in regularly to promote follow-through.

Discussion Topics:

1. Power - Defining it, who has it, should we want it, and how to harness it for macro social work. Assignment: Identify local issue of interest and who has power relevant to that issue, how to recruit people to your cause and get them involved.
2. The Story of Self - selflessness to self-interest (self among others), social control to system change. Assignment: Identify your own self-interest & how it relates to the change you want to make.
3. Organizing mechanics/getting started - organizing within & outside of organizations, base building, transferable skills. Assignment: Identify stakeholders & first steps
4. Open discussion of projects.
5. Additional topic ideas: organizing tactics, developing leaders, technology in organizing, creating a campaign, storytelling in organizing, fundraising

Facilitator:

Justin Vest ([@justin_vest](#)) is a macro social worker who earned his MSW from the University of Alabama. He works for [Progressive Maryland](#) – a state affiliate of the [People's Action](#) network. Justin is the lead organizer for Montgomery County, MD – a jurisdiction of 1 million people and the largest in the state – where he manages a network of 40-50 volunteer leaders to advance an Anti-Oppression Agenda through neighborhood capacity-building, legislative advocacy, and leadership development.