Power of Advocacy

American Society Doing Big Things

- When united, American society can solve complex issues
- Different aspects of society, including government, private sector, businesses, nonprofit sector, and media have worked together to make changes

Community Organizing

Ethical Obligation
Community organizing is an effective way to pursue social justice
“Action indeed is the sole medium of expression for ethics” – Jane Addams

Clinical Social Work

- Community assessment and building for the client
- Identify supporters and allies to navigate (i.e. place of worship, social circle)

Application to Macro Practice

- Identify an issue that elicits passion
- List agencies that serve or address population or issue of interest
- Initiate a dialogue to coordinate agencies and build a movement
- Persevere and make change despite pushback

Changing the Policy

What to Know

- Know how a bill becomes a law; knowing the system makes advocacy easier
- Know the lawmakers and elected officials; improve access to them
- Know our history as a nation; past changes inform future changes
- Know your numbers; statistics on prevalence and frequency strengthen your argument

Lobbying for Legislation

- Engage with people; build relationships
- Hear people’s stories; work within stories to change policy
- Connect with elected leaders; know them on a personal level
- Collaborate to make change; community building
- Never burn a bridge; never apologize, but do not insult people with opposing views