Social work a broad, often invisible profession

Aldemaro Romero Jr.
CUNY Bernard M Baruch College
A profession that impacts millions of people every day. It is a profession for which there is not really a public understanding of what it is all about, and what is it that social workers do?

"Their image has probably been skewed," said Kathleen Tunner, assistant professor of social work at Southern Illinois University Edwardsville (SIUE). "It's a profession that people might think is nothing more than a little slice of what social workers do."

Molly Math, Tunner obtained her bachelor's degree in social work at St. Louis Community College and later began working at SIUE in 1997. Math has worked at the university for 17 years as a program assistant at the School of Social Work.

"One of the main goals of the program is to make sure that students are not afraid to use their voice and to let their belief in me drive some of the academic work that they do," Math said. "So, we're trying to do what we can to keep them from being afraid of what social workers do."

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