



Global Organizing in Washington DC

Grace Kozak, University of Michigan School of Social Work

Where the Alliance Operates

The alliance secretariat is based in Washington DC but has members across the world, predominately in the United States and Sub-Saharan Africa, but with over 700 members in 6 continents and over 70 countries. Alliance members participate in webinars, conferences, and through interest groups to strengthen the alliance and the social service workforce

Placement Information

I helped prepare information for the annual steering committee meeting and created the notes for the annual social service workforce symposium. In addition, I travelled to South Africa for the National Association of Child Care Workers conference to help promote the alliance. I wrote pieces for the website and helped develop an evidence matrix for the alliance's Building Evidence Interest Group

Skills Utilized and Developed

- Social work research – developing evidence matrix
- Organizational Strategic Planning – learning about theories of change
- Writing skills – writing pieces for the alliance website
- Networking skills – NACCW conference

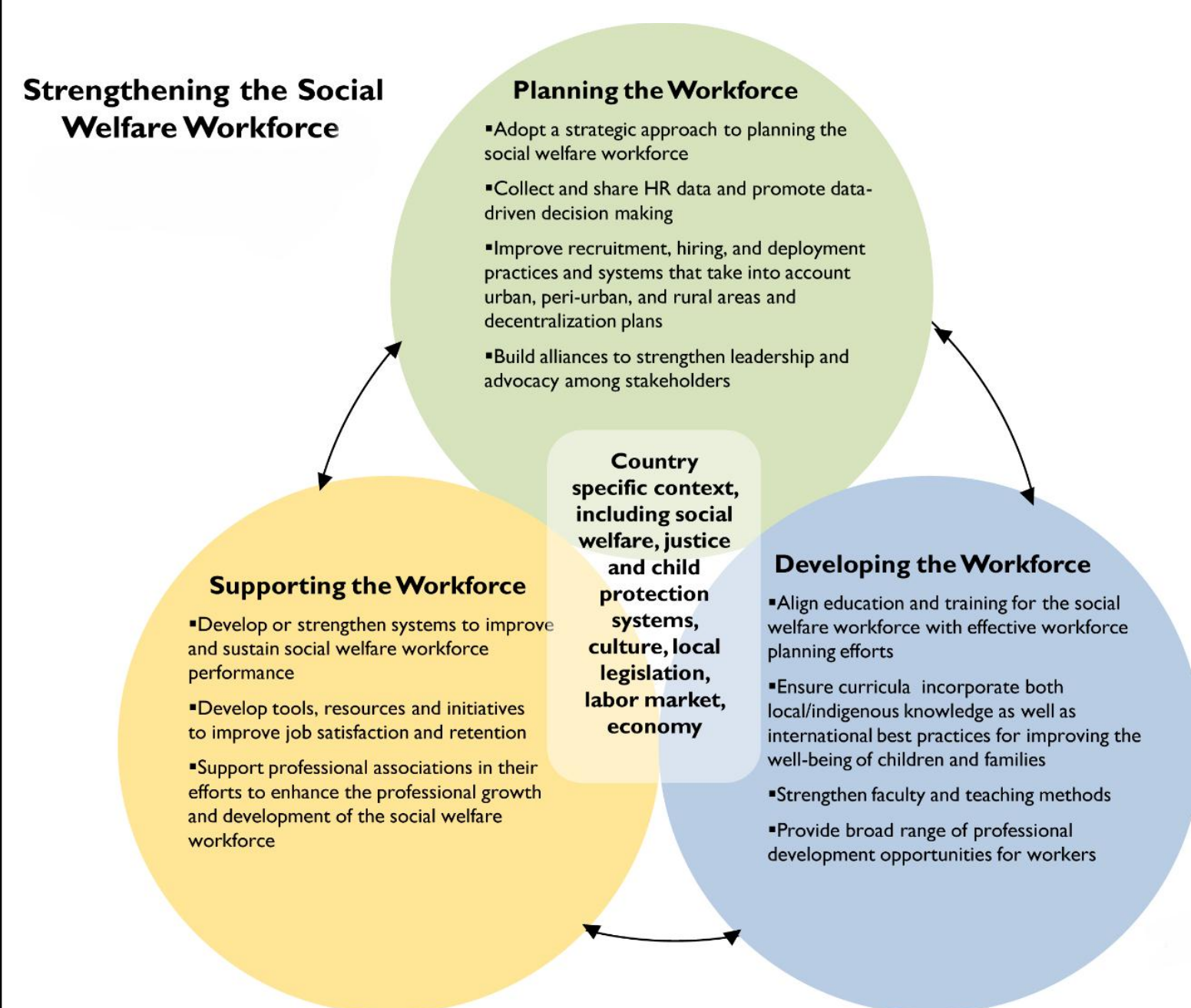


Career Connections

As hope to work as a political organizer during my social work career, and working at the alliance prepared me to so. I will take the lessons I've learned about collaboration into the future in order to build effective coalitions to make social change through policy change.

Strengthening the Social Service Workforce

The alliance has a three-pronged approach to strengthen the social service workforce: Planning, Supporting, and Developing



The GSSWA

The Global Social Service Workforce Alliance is a member based organization of social service providers around the world. At the alliance, they are working to provide the knowledge and evidence to address social service workforce challenges worldwide

Outcomes

- Completed the building evidence matrix
- Developed a graphic map as a visual representation of alliance membership
- Helped recruit over 60 members at the NACCW conference

Classroom Connections

Women and Community Organizing – This course taught me principles of feminist organizing which I used to ensure all groups we were working with were equal participants

Social Policy and Evaluation – While working on an evidence matrix at the alliance, this class helped me sort through all of the research I had and organize it effectively.

Lessons Learned

Working at the alliance taught me the importance of working in collaboration with other people and organizations. It also taught me not to be afraid to ask for help. Maintaining communication is key in organizing to make sure everyone is up-to-date on all projects. Finally, I learned to make the most of travel opportunities

Advice

- Do as much in your host country/city as possible
- Try to live with someone from your host country

Acknowledgements

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