SOCIAL WORK PRACTICE WITH SENIORS

Social work is a regulated health profession in Newfoundland and Labrador. There are over 1700 social workers registered to practice social work throughout the province. Social workers adhere to a Code of Ethics and Standards of Practice in providing essential, competent, and high-quality services.

Registered Social Workers work with seniors in the community, in acute care settings and within long-term care facilities to help them maintain optimal health, well-being and independence by:

- Assisting individuals, families, and caregivers to navigate the health care system and continuum of care.
- Supporting individuals in coping with change, grief, and transitions.
- Promoting autonomy, decision-making, and self-determination.
- Assisting clients to access community supports and financial services including home care services, prescription drug coverage, respite care, and medical equipment.
- Providing support and education to help individuals, families, and caregivers cope with a medical diagnosis and prepare for future services.
- Supporting individuals, families, and caregivers to prepare for advanced care and end of life planning.
- Creating connections within the community to enhance support for individuals, families, and caregivers.
- Advocating for services, policies, and programs to meet the needs of seniors and their families.
- Informing social policy change and development.
- Identifying and preventing violence against seniors.

Further information about the social work profession can be found at **www.nlcsw.ca** or by contacting:

Newfoundland & Labrador

College of Social Workers

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