Human Services Cluster

Preparing individuals for employment in career pathways that relate to families and human needs such as counseling and mental health services, family and community services, personal care, and consumer services.

Information from CTE – Learning what works for America
http://www.careertech.org/career-clusters/glance/clusters.html
Family and Community Services recommended sequence of courses.
AchieveTexas College and Career Initiative is an education initiative designed to prepare students for a lifetime of success. It allows students to achieve excellence by preparing them for secondary and postsecondary opportunities, career preparation and advancement, meaningful work, and active citizenship.

AchieveTexas is designed to help students (and their parents) make wise education choices. It is based on the belief that the curricula of the 21st century should combine rigorous academics with relevant career education. When schools integrate academic and technical education, students can see the “usefulness” of what they are learning. The system also facilitates a seamless transition from secondary to postsecondary opportunities.
The Programs of Study (POS) represent a recommended sequence of coursework based on a student’s interest and career goal.

Programs of Study contain lots of helpful information, including the core courses and career-related electives in high school that will help prepare students for their career goals.

The POS are based upon the Recommended High School Graduation Plan and can easily be adapted for the Distinguished Achievement High School Graduation Plan.

Family and Community Services is one of the Programs of Study for the Human Services Cluster and has three models for this career cluster.

All schools are different and may choose to follow other Programs of Study. Be sure to tell students what your school has to offer.

See Programs of Study Models for Dietitian, Geriatric Care Manager and Social and Community Services Manager (see All Lesson Attachments tab) to follow along with the slide presentation. The slides include information from the model in alphabetical order.

Click on hyperlink to view the YouTube™ video:

- Become a Personal and Home Care Aide
  Assist elderly or disabled adults with daily living activities at the person’s home or in a daytime non-residential facility. Duties performed at a place of residence may include keeping house (making beds, doing laundry, washing dishes) and preparing meals.
  http://youtu.be/p8HyUgDDXIE
High School

Career Related Electives

- 9th – Principles of Human Services
- 10th – Interpersonal Studies, Child Development, Family and Community Services, or Human Growth and Development
- 11th – Lifetime Nutrition and Wellness, Counseling and Mental Health, Human Growth and Development, Family and Community Services
- 12th – Food Science, Practicum in Human Services or Problems and Solutions

Note - Sequence of courses in your school may be different from the recommended sequence of coursework.

These are recommended sequence of courses but _____________ (name of your school) offers _________________.

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On the Job Training

- Dietary Aide
- Community Outreach Aide
- Community Support Aide
- Food Service Worker
- Health Aide
- Life Skill Counselor Aide
- Medical Assistant Aide
- Medication Aide
- Mental Health Aide
- Patient Care Aide
- Personal/Home Care Aide
- Social Worker Aide

Note: These experiences may be started and/or completed as part of the high school experience.

Discuss employment opportunities in your town or city.
Education never ends. Students should be aware that earning certifications will help their careers as they move up the ladder of success.
Associate Degrees are generally two year programs at a community college.
Bachelor Degrees are generally four year programs that will assist the student as they continue in their careers.
Graduate Degrees
Counseling Psychology
Developmental Psychology
Family Psychology
Foods and Nutrition
Food Science
Health Administration
Health Promotion
Health Services Management
Health Services Research

Career Options
Career Counselor
Geriatric Care Manager
Gerontology Counselor
Life Skill Counselor
Medical and Health Services Manager
Nutrition Consultant
Nutrition Educator
Nutrition Researcher
Residential Advisor
Social and Community Services Manager
State TANF Administrator

Long-Term Care Senior Housing and Aging Services
Long-Term Health Care Administration
Management – Health Services Nutrition
Nutrition Science
Public Administration
Public Health – Community Health
Public Policy

Management Careers are at the top of the ladder of success.
Obtaining Employment

When seeking employment, have available:
- Career portfolio
- résumé
- certifications
- record of skills attained
- letters of reference
- Completed job application
- Interview skills

Teacher note: The career portfolio and interview skills may be taught in another lesson but you can introduce the information at this time.
Maintaining Employment

- Once you have secured employment, be sure to:
  - arrive to work on time
  - work responsibly
  - work safely
  - respect the business
  - maintain a positive attitude
  - complete assigned tasks

Discuss with students other responsibilities they would need to keep their jobs.
There may be several reasons to leave employment.

Students may have:
- moved away to college
- found another job with better pay
- decided to return to school

Whatever the reasons may be, students should leave the job on good terms with the previous employer.
This may lead to:
- good job references
- letter of recommendation
- return employment
Stress to students the need for updating their skills to keep up with current trends.

What other ways can students update their skills?
An entrepreneur is a self-motivated person who creates and runs a business.

The changing world creates a strong need for new food products. Opening a food business has both advantages and disadvantages.

**Advantages**
Ownership – you decide what to produce and how to produce it
Job satisfaction – your secret recipe can be marketed
Earning potential – can make lots of money if product is popular

**Disadvantages**
Financial risk – investing your money to take a product from idea to market is a gamble
Competition – many people are creating new foods so thoroughly evaluating competition is essential
No guarantees – strict government regulations and a high rate of failure are things to consider

Which careers in Family and Community Services can be entrepreneurial?
Lead a discussion with students that the **FCCLA Planning Process** (see All Lesson Attachments tab) may assist them in making a decision about a career.
Questions?
References and Resources

Images:
- Microsoft Office Clip Art: Used with permission from Microsoft.

Textbooks:

Websites:
- Achieve Texas: An education initiative designed to prepare students for a lifetime of success
  http://www.achievetexas.org/
- CTE – Learning that works for America nationwide: Career Technical Education (CTE) programs are changing, evolving and innovating to better serve the country’s needs.
  http://www.careertech.org/
- My Next Move: An interactive tool for job seekers and students to learn more about their career options
  http://www.mynextmove.org/
- YouTube™: Become a Personal and Home Care Aide
  Assist elderly or disabled adults with daily living activities at the person’s home or in a daytime non-residential facility. Duties performed full or part of the day may include keeping house (making beds, doing laundry, washing dishes) and preparing meals.
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