Careers in human services vary greatly. They include careers in the health care field, retail and consumer services, personal care, government service and many specific areas. Under Human Services in the blue state government pages of your telephone book, you can locate contact information for companies and departments in your community. Many services include special populations, such as aging services, child abuse, mental health, youth corrections, neglect services, crisis centers, service-oriented clubs like the Lions, Rotary and Kiwanis, along with national service organizations such as the Volunteers of America, American Red Cross and many more.

Teacher note: You might want to have this website open on your computer prior to starting the slide presentation. You will be referring to it on slide 8. You will be discussing pages 10 and 11.

AchieveTexas in Action A college and career planning guide.  
The 16 clusters identified by the U.S. Department of Education classify workforce preparation programs that are obtained through career and technical education.

What cluster do you think Practicum in Human Services falls under? Have students read the descriptors for each cluster.

Practicum in Human Services is in the Human Services cluster.
As a student in Practicum of Human Services, do you feel you are providing for families and serving human needs? How? It takes a unique individual to work in Human Services. There are many occupations in the cluster that pay well, but most people don’t do it for the money. They have a deep desire to help other people.
Each cluster has various Programs of Study. We have already established that Practicum in Human Services is in the Human Services career cluster. What Program of Study do you think it follows?
Yes, Practicum in Human Services is in the Human Services cluster and is categorized under these three Programs of Study: Consumer Services, Counseling and Mental Health Services and Early Childhood Development & Services. Have students brainstorm how Practicum in Human Services is categorized in these three areas. Even though these three Programs of Study are categorized under Practicum in Human Services, we are going to research careers in all five Programs of Study.
What are other examples of occupations that would fall under the five programs of study?

Have you ever worked or volunteered at one or more of these programs of study?

AchieveTexas in Action
A college and career planning guide.
Note to teacher: Click on the guide to the right to view the electronic magazine or download PDF format. Refer to pages 10 and 11 to discuss the 25 careers students might be interested in the Human Services cluster.

Provide explanations for:

- Standards for Student Occupational Code (SOC)
- Growth
- Openings
- Wages
- Education
- Education levels
- Job description

These are not all the career options in the career cluster. Can you think of additional careers options in Human Services? Are you interested in pursuing one or more of the 25 careers mentioned?

AchieveTexas in Action
A college and career planning guide.
http://www.achievetexas.org/Human_Services.htm
Professionals in this area help people with decisions and problems relating to finance, real estate, insurance and consumer goods. Additional occupations could include:

- Consumer Research Department Representatives
- Consumer Goods or Services Retailing Representatives
- Market Researchers
- Account Executives
- Sales Consultants
- Event Specialists
Professionals in these occupations assist people with personal, family, educational, mental health and career decisions and problems. Additional occupations could include:

- Vocational Rehabilitation Counselors
- Career Counselors
- Career Facilitators
- Employment Counselors
- Residential Advisors
- Marriage, Child and Family Counselors
Professionals in these careers nurture and teach preschool-age children. Additional occupations could include:

- Nannies
- Teachers’ Assistants
- Childcare Assistants/Workers
Some professionals in this area help families and individuals meet their nutritional needs. Others help vulnerable populations cope with the problems of daily living, counsel troubled individuals, train or retrain the unemployed, care for the elderly and solicit contributions for various social agencies. Additional occupations could include:

- Employment Counselors
- Career Counselors
- Vocational Rehabilitation Service Workers
- Leisure Activities Coordinators
- Geriatric Service Workers
- Adult Day Care Workers
- Residential Advisors
- Emergency and Relief Workers
Personal care professionals help people with their personal appearance including styling hair, giving manicures, providing facial treatments and giving makeup advice. They also provide health and fitness training. Additional occupations could include:

- Embalmers
- Funeral Attendants
- Personal and Home Care Aides
- Companions
This is a projection of 10 fast-growing careers in Human Services in Texas from the year 2006 to 2016 and the number of new jobs created in each occupation. Note that while the percentage of growth in jobs may be high, the actual number of jobs created may be low.

Source: Texas Workforce Commission.

AchieveTexas in Action
A college and career planning guide.
This is a chart of hourly wages for 10 of the top-paying careers in the Human Services cluster in Texas. Note how entry-level wages are often much lower than pay for the average worker and experienced workers in each profession.

Source: Texas Workforce Commission.

AchieveTexas in Action
A college and career planning guide.
Do these careers sound interesting? For which celebrity would you like to style hair?

AchieveTexas in Action
A college and career planning guide.
As Practicum of Human Services students, you will be practicing communication, critical thinking, problem solving, information technology, leadership and teamwork skills by organizing a career fair expo at school. You will also be responsible for presenting information on one career related to Human Services.

What is a career fair?
A career fair is a venue in which students and employers can exchange ideas and information about employment opportunities.

Have you ever been to a career fair?

Were you a participant or presenter?
WHY HOST A CAREER FAIR AT OUR SCHOOL?

- Showcase careers in Human Services
- Introduce students to careers related to their coursework
- Provide opportunities to develop skills and network with potential employers
- Bring campus-wide visibility to Family and Consumer Sciences
- Develop a comradery with other groups on campus

Why host a career fair at our school?
- Showcase careers in Human Services
- Introduce students to careers related to their coursework and help them identify the key skills needed in order to become successful professionals
- Provide opportunities to develop skills in communication, self-presentation and networking, which will prepare students for job interviews and other professional interactions
- Develop relationships with area employers, which could lead to student internships, class visits, service-learning projects and other work-based learning partnerships
- Bring campus-wide visibility to Family and Consumer Sciences and the Human Services cluster
- Develop a comradery with other students and groups by enlisting them to assist you with planning and initiating the career fair expo
TIPS FOR A SUCCESS CAREER FAIR

- Identify the goals and objectives of the career fair
- Obtain prior approval from school administrators
- Develop a checklist of jobs and assignments
- A large job fair could run from 9:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. or 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m.
- Provide an evaluation form
- Develop a budget for career fair

Make a list of companies and agencies that you want to participate in the career fair expo.

- You may wish to submit a proposal or agenda of events to the school administrators.
- Make a checklist of jobs, and assign those jobs to prospective individuals.
- Assign an event coordinator who is responsible for overseeing all the operations of the career fair expo.
- Assign an advertising committee to advertise the event.
- Assign a communication committee to make phone calls, follow up with confirmation letters and verification phone calls, provide directions to the event and a map of the school and send thank-you notes.
- Assign a hospitality committee to prepare and serve food and refreshments.
- Meet and greet the company and agency representatives; provide a check-in area.
- Assign rooms and schedule a timeline of the event.
- Assist with setting up and tearing down the event.
- Allow time at the career fair for orientation, closing the event and evaluations. During the last 30 minutes of the career fair, company and agency representatives should be reminded to fill out the career fair evaluation forms and to hand them to the event coordinator.
- Obtain financial assistance from various CTSOs if possible. Contact local businesses such as supermarkets and bakeries to donate food and paper goods.
TIPS FOR A SUCCESS CAREER FAIR

- Develop a theme for the event
- Encourage participation from other groups at school such as:
  - Culinary Arts
  - Art Department
  - Science Department
  - Math Department
  - English Department
  - Other Practicum courses

- Host a contest for developing a theme for the career fair expo. “Exploring Careers for the 21st Century” is a theme example. This sets a positive tone for participants and stimulates creativity in developing flyers and banners to advertise the career fair expo.
- Culinary Arts students can provide refreshments (continental breakfast) for the community participants of the career fair expo.
- The Art Department can host a contest for designing a logo for the career fair expo. The logo can be used on t-shirts, letterhead, brochures, banners and so forth. They can also provide posters depicting different careers in Human Services.
- Science Club students can showcase Human Services careers which are aligned with Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM).
- Math students can show salaries earned and projected earnings of careers in Human Services.
- If offered at your school, encourage the students enrolled in Practicum in Education and Training, Practicum in Hospitality Services and Practicum in Culinary Arts to participate in the career fair expo. They can highlight careers in their fields of interest.
- Have English teachers hold an essay contest called "My Career Path: Mapping My Future." The winning essay can be displayed at the career fair expo.

Do you have any ideas for ways in which we can incorporate more student involvement?
QUESTIONS?
REFERENCES AND RESOURCES

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

- Textbooks:

- Websites:
  AchieveTexas in Action
  A college and career planning guide.
  AchieveTexas
  College and career initiative providing teacher and student resources for career planning.
  http://www.achievetexas.org
REFERENCES AND RESOURCES

America's Career Research Network
America's Career Resource Network (ACRN) consists of state and federal organizations that provide information, resources, and training on career and education exploration. The network is funded by a grant from the U.S. Department of Education and operates in every state and territory.
http://www.acrnetwork.org

Occupational Outlook Handbook
Teacher's Guide
http://www.bls.gov/ooh/About/Teachers-Guide.htm

Occupational Outlook Handbook
The nation's premier source for career information.
http://www.bls.gov/oh/home.htm

Mapping Your Future
Here you can explore careers, prepare for college (help with selecting a school and applying for admission), pay for college (financial aid) and manage your money (student loans and more).
http://mappingyourfuture.org/

• Youtube™
Childhood Interests Can Help You Find the Right Career
Learn how listening to your inner child can help you find the right career.
http://youtu.be/6-R0lW_Swio