**Alaina Baker:**

**A Social Work Portfolio**

**Summary**

The process of completing and submitting the social work portfolio took much time and consideration. Thankfully I had saved all of the required documents throughout the program so ultimately compiling them into one document or webpage was not difficult. I am overall pleased with my social work portfolio. I believe it is put together in a professional manner that makes it easy for the reader to maneuver through and locate what they are seeking to find.

It amazed me as I went through all of my papers and projects the amount of growth and proficiency that I gained and that is reflected through my work. This program was tough, especially being in the online program, there were many moments where we had to teach ourselves or count on classmates for guidance. But after reviewing my completed portfolio I see the competent social worker that this program has shaped me into. With my hard work and the guidance of my peers and professors I can say that I got a top notch education and surprised myself with the extent of my professional skills and confidence.

Comparing my first papers and projects to my last papers written during field where we actually utilized the skills we learned throughout the program I can say that I am proud of how far I have come. I definitely went through moments of doubt, happiness, tears and triumph and each one of those situations and emotions has made me the social worker I am today.

Looking back at the beginning of the program I definitely did not fully understand all that was going to be required and expected of me. I have definitely proven to myself that I can complete tasks that seem impossible if I put my mind to it, make sacrifices and strive to do my best. I do wish that we would have been informed of the portfolio requirements at the start of the program so that I would have had more time to compile and revise my personal statement and modify it throughout the program. I believe that the stress associated with constructing this portfolio could have been lessened if the requirements were disclosed earlier in our undergraduate studies.

I plan to reflect upon this portfolio as I enter the professional field and add to it throughout my career. It will allow me to track my progress and refer back to relevant documents and cases for future reference.