The Club is very proud of its community support. Students are encouraged to join and make a difference.

Join today for:
• Fun activities
• Resume Help
• Community Service

For questions, please contact Stacie Curtis at 740.588.1286.

□ Completion of Zane State College application and acceptance for admission.

□ Completion of any required developmental courses (expected before beginning technical courses).

□ College Transcript (when applicable) – transfer credit will be determined by the Dean of Education, Health, and Behavioral Services.

□ Completion of a written interview

□ Understanding of Ohio law (ORC 3701-60-06) which prohibits individuals found guilty of certain crimes from working with dependent or vulnerable populations. This information will be discussed in the introductory class or, if requested, before the student enrolls in the program. A criminal background check is required in SWKA 1090 before the student enters the practicum courses. Although a felony background does not prohibit acceptance into the program, there will be limitations in finding a practicum placement and in finding employment with many social service agencies. Some agencies may also require a drug screen and a valid driver’s license prior to beginning the practicum. Zane State College cannot guarantee that a practicum site will be found, but faculty will work with the student to make every effort to do so.

Hillary, Social Work Assistant '16
Why You Should Apply
This packet will enable you to understand the Social Work Assistant Program and decide if it is for you.

Working as a Social Worker can be a very fulfilling career. This profession will help you to make a difference and by doing so will change your life!

Please contact Stacie Curtis at 740.588.1286 for additional information.

EMPLOYMENT OF SOCIAL AND HUMAN SERVICE ASSISTANTS IS EXPECTED TO GROW BY 11% (FROM 2014 TO 2024)

Personal Qualities Needed to become a Social Work Assistant
Social Work Assistants (SWA) have a strong desire to help others, the ability to communicate with people from all socioeconomic levels, integrity, empathy, problem-solving skills, and organizational and time-management skills. Social and human service assistants talk with clients about the challenges in their lives and assist them in getting help. These workers must be able to listen to their clients and to communicate their needs to organizations that can help.

Many SWA jobs involve direct contact with people who are vulnerable to exploitation or mistreatment and require patience and understanding including a non-judgmental attitude. The interactions also necessitate the ability to motivate people to make behavioral changes and to empower them to be able to make better life choices.

Other important qualities include the ability to interact with supervisors, co-workers, and the general community in positive and constructive ways in order to achieve specific client outcomes and fulfill the agency mission.

The Social Work Assistant Program prepares individuals for employment as entry-level professionals in agencies and organizations which provide social and human services. Social Work Assistants help clients obtain benefits and services. In addition, Social Work Assistants may follow up to ensure client needs are met.

The program also provides basic coursework which may transfer to four-year bachelor degree programs in Social Work. Graduates, under supervision, will be able to provide intake/social assessments, referrals, crisis intervention, case management, outreach, facilitation of groups, and education and prevention services according to the ORC 4757.26 and ORC 4757.29.

Coursework follows the Council for Social Work Education (CSWE) guidelines. Classes include the areas of human behavior, social welfare policy, ethics, cultural diversity, interviewing, and assessment of human needs. Students will gain hands-on experience by completing fieldwork in an agency setting during their second year in the program.

Upon completion of the associate degree, individuals will be eligible to apply for registration with the Ohio Counselor, Social Worker, Marriage and Family Therapy Board (cswmbft.ohio.gov) as a Social Work Assistant (SWA). Graduates also will be eligible to apply for the credential CDCA: Chemical Dependency Counselor Assistant through the Ohio Chemical Dependency Professionals Board (ocdp.ohio.gov).

Job Outlook*
Employment of social and human service assistants is expected to grow by 11 percent (faster than average) from 2014 to 2024. This is due in large part to the aging population and increased demand for healthcare and social services.

Median annual wages of social and human service assistants were $30,830 ($14.82 per hour) in May 2015.


Work Environment
Working conditions for Social Work Assistants vary. Some work in offices, clinics, and hospitals, while others work in group homes, shelters, and day programs. Traveling to see clients in their own homes is required for some jobs. Sometimes working with clients can be dangerous, though most agencies do everything they can to ensure their workers’ safety. Some work is in the evening and on weekends. The work, while satisfying, can be emotional.