

NBASW Featured Social Worker Series

JOEY GODIN, RSW



Where are you from?

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I'm from Bathurst, New Brunswick. I now live in Miramichi and work as a Social Worker on the Child and Youth Mental Health and Addictions Team.

How long have you been a social worker?

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As of September, I will be a social worker for ten years.

**Where do you work?
What do you do there?**

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I work as a Child and Youth Mental Health and Addictions Social Worker. In a nutshell, I provide counselling and support services to children and adolescents struggling with addictions and mental health issues in both community & school settings.

Why did you choose to become a social worker?

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I chose social work due to the broadness of our scope of practice. Our scope entails individual and group counselling, advocacy, fighting for social change, working with community advisory boards, and pursuing social justice. Our role certainly goes beyond a simple job description!

Thank you Joey for agreeing to be featured by the NBASW and helping us celebrate the diversity of roles held by NB social workers!

What do you wish others knew about social work?



That it's a very complex discipline. People often see social workers in a negative manner, but what they fail to see is the tireless working through various bureaucracies in order to help clients. We are often also employed by the very bureaucracies we are trying to navigate so this tends to make our work rather tricky.

If you could give one piece of advice to the next generation of social workers what would it be?



Always maintain what I call critical hope. Critical Hope means that you remain critical of systems and structures while simultaneously maintain hope for clients and communities. If I could repeat a memorable line stated by my social work professor "always remember that the project of macro change can only begin through good anti-oppressive work with individuals."

Why are you proud to be a social worker?

