A lot of students come in and they're hoping to pick up skills in working with different populations but there's a larger picture here and that is advocating for change for societal change on both the local and the global level. These are things that will help the welfare of individuals that perhaps that they'll never even meet but will help to improve society in some way.

Students after they graduate from the program will have taken away two important things,

one is an attitudinal change in terms of working with vulnerable populations and the second is a skills change. There's a wide continuum of services that require students who graduate from our program.

I think that coming to Guelph-Humber I've been able to learn theory, I've been able to have placement opportunities, and now I feel even more prepared to go out into the real world.

It's shaped me, it's shaped the way I'm going to be working with people,
1:02 – 1:06 (Interview with Alicia Colosimo)
it’s absolutely incredible and I don't think I could have gotten that if I went to a different program.

1:07 – 1:13 (Interview with Paul Sherman)
Students will receive three different practicum placements by the time they finish with the program and accumulating over 850

1:14 – 1:19 (FCSS B-Roll)
hours in different types of community settings. And employers

1:20 – 1:23 (Interview with Paul Sherman)
the fact that they've done a lot of work already

1:24 – 1:26 (FCSS B-Roll)
as field placement students. They're also

1:27 – 1:46 (Interview with Paul Sherman)
involved in about eight to ten courses where they're picking up very important clinical skills and learning about interpersonal communications on the verbal and nonverbal level. There's a family theory and therapy course so they're learning how to work with families, crisis intervention, family mediation, by the time they leave the program

1:47 – 1:52 (FCSS B-Roll)
they’ve got a pretty good toolkit of counselling skills that they can help

1:53 – 1:55 (Interview with Paul Sherman)
pretty well any population that is requiring support.
The vast majority of our instructors have a wealth of experience in the field. They could be an executive director in an agency or a clinical supervisor.

or a social worker who's well practiced in the type of work that the students will be doing and so just having that experience

and bringing that into the classroom makes the work that the students will get involved in once they graduate.

I would tell a prospective student just to come - come talk to some of the professors talk to the students talk to some of the staff, it's worth the experience.

for sure. I don't think I would be who I am today if it wasn't for this program.

One of the biggest things I hope students take away from the program is the sense that they have a part to play in changing society, in changing the world. Being a social worker or social service worker is not simply about sitting down and counselling.
individuals and supporting them but it's taking a broader perspective on how we need to improve society and there's a lot of different ways that we can get involved in doing that and I hope students take that away from the program as well.