



FOCUSED ON A
**BRIGHTER
WORLD**

Graduate Diploma in **COMMUNITY ENGAGED RESEARCH & EVALUATION**

DO YOU HAVE A BA OR BSW AND
EXPERIENCE WORKING IN SOCIAL
SERVICES OR COMMUNITIES?

This Graduate Diploma offers the opportunity to develop your knowledge and skills in community-engaged research and evaluation, and to contribute to community and agency learning, effectiveness, and change.

McMaster School of Social Work graduate programs are designed in part to respond to contemporary trends in social services and community work. Research and evaluation are taking on increased importance in these sectors. Emphasis is placed on 'evidence-based' practice, clear definition of intended outcomes, and formal evaluation of program and policy initiatives (usually tied to funding).

Yet in many cases evidence is too narrowly defined to capture and document individual, group and community needs, aspirations and changes. Many agencies and groups also have their own questions about their communities, about the services they provide, and about ways of achieving their visions for a better world. They sometimes have mountains of unanalyzed data, and certainly have lots of untapped insight. Many appreciate, as well, the transformative potential of participatory research for communities, staff and service users.

In this program students will craft locally relevant research questions and/ or frame evaluation processes useful for both agency/ community and funder purposes, and build their capacities for conducting participatory, justice-focused research and evaluation.

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