

# Module 1: Assessing Client Capacity

Embody a community social worker on a home visit for an at-risk adult. Using foundational knowledge of the Five Domains of Well-Being, identify environmental red-flags, make choices to conduct an effective interview, and evaluate the client's decision-making capacity.

## Learning Objectives

- Recognize environmental red flags which may indicate a level of need beyond what the client reports.
- Gain confidence in establishing rapport during a home visit.
- Recognize areas of concern and offer solutions based on an understanding of community resources.

## Discussion Questions

1. What did you learn from assessing the outside of Rosie's home?
2. How did you feel when you first met Rosie?
  - a. Why did you feel that way?
3. Did any of Rosie's answers surprise you?
  - a. Which ones?
  - b. Did these answers influence your assessment of her decision making capacity?
4. Did Rosie exhibit signs of depression, delirium, or a cognitive disorder?
  - a. Explain why or why not.



## External Resources

Non-Embodied Labs informative links and activities

## Who is Natalie?



**Natalie Ramos** is a recent college graduate who is just beginning her career as a Social Worker. She values friendship and family and is passionate about improving circumstances for her clients. She is both nervous and excited to begin doing field visits on her own.

## People You'll Meet



Rose Marie Perez "**Rosie**" is a 73 year old hispanic woman who lives independently in the community. She is currently in a wheelchair as she recovers from a toe amputation related to her diabetes. Rosie enjoys cooking, playing piano and visiting with her neighbor, Juan. Her daughter, Maria, manages most of her care needs but lives an hour away. Maria called the hotline with concerns over Rosie's safety since she cannot be there with her full-time.

## Module 2: Risk Assessment

Embodiment Natalie, a social worker visiting the home of a former client in response to a hotline call from a concerned neighbor regarding suspicious activity at the home. Learners must critically evaluate the situation and make decisions which prioritize safety for all parties. After completing the visit, learners must report the level of perceived risk.

### Learning Objectives

- Gain confidence in evaluating and navigating potentially unsafe situations to prioritize safety for all parties.
- Recognize how communication and approach can escalate or diffuse a situation.
- Use active listening skills to identify signs of a cognitive deficit disorder and understand how this impacts safety.
- Develop strategies for establishing a safe space and building trust.

### Who is Natalie?



**Natalie Ramos** is a Social Worker working for Adult Protective Services. She values friendship and family and is passionate about improving circumstances for her clients. She has been in the field for about 8 months and is keenly aware of the potential dangers associated with her position.

### Discussion Questions

1. What did you observe about the exterior and interior environments?
  - a. How does this differ from the exterior/interior in Assessing Client Capacity?
2. How did you feel when you first met Jesus?
  - a. Why did you feel that way?
  - b. What are some reasons you would choose not to enter a home?
3. Who did you choose to speak with and why?
  - a. Did any of their answers surprise you? Why?
  - b. Did these answers influence your assessment of the situation?
4. Did Rosie exhibit signs of depression, delirium, or a cognitive disorder? Why?
5. What do you feel should be prioritized to ensure safety and minimize risk for Rosie?

### People You'll Meet



**Rosie** is a 74 year old hispanic woman who has been aging in place with the support of her extended family and community meal delivery. She is a diabetic and has a history of high blood pressure. 6 months ago, Rosie suffered a stroke which resulted in a sharp decline in cognition. The doctor has diagnosed her with Vascular Dementia and probable mixed dementia.



**Jesus Perez "Chuy"** is Rosie's son. He was recently released from prison after being incarcerated for gang-related activity. Chuy has taken over care for his mom following the death of his sister, Maria. He loves his mom, but struggles to successfully provide care now that Rosie's cognition has declined.



### External Resources

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