Group Work Approaches and Models

1. Developmental Approach

Concepts	Clients/Goal	Strategies/Activities	Example
 Proponent: Emmanuel Tropp Roots: Grace Coyle: collective selfhelp as theme of group work Wilson and Ryland: use of group autonomy and decision making Helen Phillip: importance of here-and-now, growth comes from within member Schwartz: group function and leader role, concept of mutual aid, contractual relations between group and worker Views man as moving toward self realization moving from adequate, inadequate to good functioning Focuses on man with untapped potentials, therefore, a resource to be utilized and social role performance. 3 major themes: Humanistic-'viewing of one human being by 	 Clients: Sectors affected by social development concerns of subsistence level of living, widespread unemployment and underemployment, population growth, effects of urbanization, rural underdevelopment, needs of special groups Goal: To tap unused potential of group members in interpersonal development 	1. Beginning stage Members: a. Are oriented to the new situation b. Understand reasons for group membership and tasks to be done c. Experience doubts or enthusiasm Worker: (i) Clarifies purpose and structure of group (ii). Establishes contract (iii). Facilitates /supports task selection (iv. Facilitates climate conducive to unity/ cooperation 2. Middle Stage a. More open expression b. Increasing understanding and acceptance of values of group experiences by member c. Roles and statuses evolve	The case of Sta. Lucia Mothers' Group, pp. 135- 141, Lee- Mendoza (2015)

- another'-worker respects the group purpose and memberto-member helping phenomena as key to growth
- Phenomenological current behaviororiented
- Developmental- moving forward in fulfillment of potential in social functioning
- d. People enhance their social functioning thru group experiences
- e. People's group experiences should have a common goal
- f. People's or peers' common goal should be their common interest where they voluntarily participate
- g. Effectiveness of group goal achieving process is the main goal of members and leader
 - Four basis processes undergone by groups
 - o Release of feelings
 - Support
 - o Reality orientation
 - Self-appraisal

- d. Group demonstrates greater ability to plan and function
- e. Group shows greater stability and cohesiveness
- f. Group works toward goal achievement
- Worker:
 - a. Guides group towards goals
 - b. Clarifies tasks to be done and completed
 - c. Supports group to be self -directing
 - d. Helps group meet deadlines
 - e. Assesses gains from goal achievement
- 3. Ending stage Members:
 - a. Show varying degrees of task accomplishment
 - b. Inventory gains from group experience
 - c. Show varying levels of satisfaction from accomplishment
 - d. Show concern / anxiety from ending group membership and separation from worker and agency

h. Group becomes a medium for commonly perceived behavior by among members and by worker	e. Accept reality of ending group experience Worker:
i. Group processes are agreed by all and worked on by all members j. Group is self -directing, individually and as a whole	 a. Helps group with task accomplishment b. Evaluates gains from group experience c. Objectively appraises uncompleted tasks d. Smooths ending of group membership e. Post-termination plans

2. Remedial Model

Concepts	Clients/Goal	Treatment Sequence	Example
 Proponents: Robert D. 	Clients:	1. Intake	The case of
Vinter and colleagues in	a. Used for treatment and	2. Diagnosis and Treatment	Bukang Liwayway
early 1960s	rehabilitation of	Planning	Group, pp. 171-
 Group is seen as a 	individuals whose	3. Group composition and	178, Lee-
means, context,	behavior was	formation	Mendoza (2015)
external influence of	disapproved by society	4. Group development and	
treatment.	(e.g., physically and	treatment	
 As means, the group 	mentally handicapped,	Evaluation and termination.	
interactions and	legal offenders,		
influences are used to	emotionally disturbed,	Strategy of Intervention (SI) for a	
affect the participants	isolated or alienated	treatment group	
 As context, direct 	persons, and those		
worker-client	lacking effective	SI refers to using the ff. resources	
interactions effect	socialization)	for helping individuals	

- changes during and outside group sessions
- As external influence, the group may be helped to change outside realities adversely affecting its members
- b. For those needing acquisition of new knowledge and skills to replace ineffective ones which are sources of difficulty: persons with disabilities; medical conditions; parents from low income families
- Goal: To re-orient knowledge and skills of clients for enhanced social functioning in society

- Resources are: worker member interactions, member-member interactions, group program, and group's structure.
- SI are modes of intervention or means of influence which are: direct, indirect and extra.
 - a. Direct means of influence
 - Worker as central person- object of identification and drives. Has authority, control over resources and facilities, valued competence and personal characteristic, group knowledge of her control over group's destiny deems her a focal point for group emotions.
 - Worker as symbol and spokesman
 Worker is an influencer of legitimate norms and values as a representative of the agency and profession. Worker can personify values, spokesperson, create

these values, use sanctions, limits and controls and lays down expectations. Worker as motivator and stimulator Worker defines individual goals and tasks. Worker as executivecontroler of member's roles. Worker modifies client role or position; assists member to perform role more effectively; tries to change member's role behavior b. Indirect Means of Influence -Worker influences the group who influences the member • Group purpose through • Selection of group members • Nature of activities Size of group Group procedures • Group development c. Extra Group Means of *Influence* - Worker influences the group through outside

activities conducted on
behalf of clients
Four major areas:
1. Social roles and
relations of
clients prior to
client
status worker
may need
information to
understand
client, forces and
other's responses
2. Significant
others- change in
attitudes will
effect change in
environment
which affects
client
3. Social system-
patterns or
conditions that
need change
because they are
non-supportive
to client
4. Social
environment of
the treatment
group-demands,
available/not
available
resources,

	responses of	
	people around	

3. Crisis Intervention Approach

Concepts	Clients/Goal	Treatment Sequence	Example
 Crisis - Crisis is an "upset in a steady state"; an emotional reaction to a life-threatening event; temporary disturbance of equilibrium featured by paralysis of problemsolving capacities. Involves crisis oriented work 2-6 weeks duration Useful for any target population (emergency rooms of hospitals, telephone "hot lines", women's desks in police stations, crisis centers for children and women, quick response teams, disaster programs Should be available within 24-72 hours after referral or application for assistance Client participation needs commitment and is voluntary 		Four step approach in Group Crisis Intervention: 1. Search for Precipitating event and its meaning to client 2. Search for coping means used by client 3. Search for alternative means of coping that might better fit the current situation 4. Review and support of client effort using new ways Advantages of Group Crisis Intervention: 1. Allows emotional release before others in the same situation 2. Ease pain and offers hope 3. Mobilize individual strengths and resources 4. Mutual assistance for alternative coping 5. Helps identify community resources	The Case of the Mapayapa Group pp. 212-219. Lee-Mendoza (2015)

f. Initiation of new models of thinking, perceiving and feeling and development of new adaptive responses.	
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4. Interactionist Approach

Concepts	Clients/Goal	Treatment Sequence	Example
 Proponent: William Schwartz Mediating function of social work focuses on transactions between client and various systems around him (family, school, peers, neighborhood, job and others) Relationship is symbiotic Useful for any group Mutual aid group with four features: Collective Need each other for a specific purpose Work on common tasks Work is embedded in a relevant agency function 	Clients: a. Any group with the ff. features: Group is seen as a collective where people interact with each other People need each other for specific ends People join a group for common tasks The common task is within the sphere of agency function Goal: To assist the group negotiate the system to meet their needs and help the system reach out to incorporate the client group and deliver its service	1. "Tuning In" Requires worker to understand members' feelings, self-doubts, about each other about the worker. 2. The Beginnings:	The Case of the H-Mole Women' Group pp. 188- 198. Lee- Mendoza (2015)

 Worker's sharing vision
of the work, feelings on
the process and faith in
clients' strengths
 Worker's defining limits
and requirements of
situation of work
4. Ending and separation
 Members take ending
seriously, learning
lessons
 Ending with substance
and feelings

5. Family Intervention Approach

Concepts	Clients/Goal	Treatment Sequence	Example
 Primary learning takes place first in a family Family plays an important role in an individual's development The "social "aspect of a person refers to social relationships developed through socialization, the family's main task. 1950s- when the model started Two types: Family therapy and Family-focused work a. Family Therapy Use of systems approach, 	 Clients: Families which are coping poorly with communication, problem solving, behavioral issues. Goal: To modify or change elements in the family system which interferes with management of life tasks of family and its members 	 Assessment Worker uses tools of ecomap and genogram Treatment Planning Worker can use Family life cycle matrix - Life Cycle Matrix determines at what stage and tasks are the family members in. Matrix helps worker to understand the physical, psychological, social and spiritual needs associated with each life cycle stage. Evaluation Termination 	The Case of Drunken Papa pp. 237-257, Dehn and Cordero (2009)

psychoanalytic	
theories	
Can use	
different	
models:	
Communication,	
Bowenian,	
Strategic model	
by Haley and	
Madanes or	
Milan systemic	
school,	
Structural	
model by	
Salvador	
Minuchin;	
Solution-	
focused Model	
by Erickson, De	
Shazer. Butler	
and Powers and	
Simon.	
Can use in	
combination	
with other	
models	
depending on	
the case.	
b. Family-focused work	
Family-focused	
work with	
individuals or	
family focused	
treatment or	
<u> </u>	

(family		
casework)		
works with an		
individual		
member with		
members		
involved in the		
helping process,		
in pairs (couple)		
or as a group		
(whole family		
with significant		
others). This is		
seen in the		
cases of		
Maricel, Oscar		
and Nilo in Lee-		
Mendoza		
(2008).		

6. Task-Centered Model with Groups

•	Proponents: Laura				
	Epstein and William				
	Reid				

- "Task" what a client is to do
- Characteristics:
 - a. Brief and timelimited
 - b. Interventions focus on specific problems agreed by worker

- Clients: Persons in these problem areas
 - a. Family and interpersonal relations
 - b. Social role performance
 - c. Effecting social transitions
 - d. Securing resources
 - e. Emotional distress reactive to situation factors
- a. Preliminary Interview -During individual interviews, problems are defined, clarified and agreed on. Worker assesses client if he can be helped through group processes. Seeks client's consent for group membership.
- b. Group Composition Worker decides membership and size
- c. Group Formation Members share problems they seek to reduce by

The case of Oscar, pp. 304-311. Mendoza, 2008)

	and client to work	•	Goal: Alleviate specific		formulating and accomplishing	
	on		target problems perceived		agreed-on tasks	
C.	Work is organized		by clients (individuals and	d.	Group processes for task	
	around tasks agreed		groups		accomplishment Worker works	
	on				with group once tasks have been	
• F	eatures:				agreed upon.	
a	. Assessment-					
	exploring the					
	problem,					
	environment					
	conditions, problem					
	context, client traits,					
	talents, abilities and					
	problem behaviors					
b	. Case Planning-plan					
	of action to include					
	formal information,					
	actions, resources					
	and agency policies					
C.	Implementation-					
	Contract is made-					
	identifying tasks of					
	client and worker,					
	with firm but					
	flexible goals,					
	problems and tasks.					
	Worker provides					
	resources and					
	instructs client in					
	skills and favorable					
	attitudes, monitors,					
	evaluates progress					
	and arranges					

termination as		
needed.		
Tasks- state what a		
client is to do. Tasks are		
specific, can change in		
form and contents.		
Target problems can		
change sometimes.		
Worker uses group		
process in helping		
members formulate and		
attain tasks.		