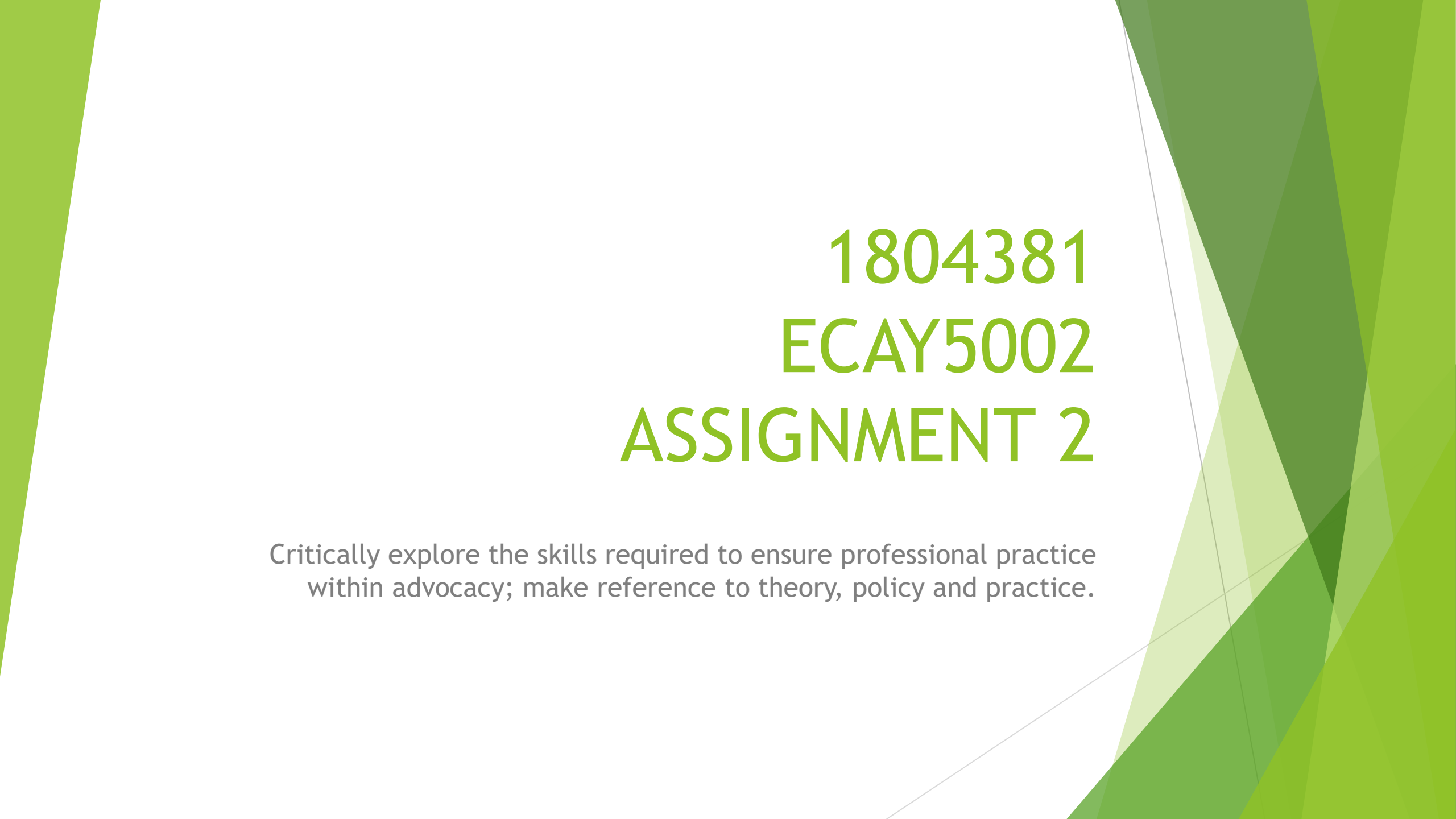


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# 1804381 ECAY5002 ASSIGNMENT 2

Critically explore the skills required to ensure professional practice within advocacy; make reference to theory, policy and practice.

# What is advocacy and what skills are required???

Advocacy is taking action to help people say what they want, secure their rights, represent their interests and obtain services they need. Advocates and advocacy providers work in partnership with the people they support and take their side. Advocacy promotes social inclusion, equality and social justice.

Skills required include:-

- ▶ listen to your views and concerns
- ▶ reading, writing and telephone skills
- ▶ confident and outgoing
- ▶ Trustworthy and a good timekeeper.

(QualityAdvocacy2020)

# Professional Standards

## Advocacy Charter.

- ▶ Published July 2002
- ▶ Action for Advocacy
- ▶ Reflects changes in legislation.

## Code of Practice.

- ▶ Guidelines for advocates
- ▶ Provides clarity and support
- ▶ What's expected and what's not expected.

## Legislations.

- ▶ Acts advocates follow
- ▶ Acts that all companies abide by

# Professional Boundaries

- ▶ Advocates are clear about boundaries of the relationship between themselves and the service user
- ▶ Striking just the right balance
- ▶ Do not cross the invisible line
- ▶ Discuss any issues during your supervision session
- ▶ Take time to reflect on the quality of relationships with your service users
- ▶ Discuss any issues with your supervisor or manager

# Family Rights Group

- ▶ Professional Advocacy Services Principles and Standards and the Code of Practice for Professional Advocates, provide a framework of good practice for organisations providing professional advocacy services for families when the local authority makes decisions about the needs, care and protection of their child.
- ▶ Working in partnership with families
- ▶ Respect for the rights, needs, wishes, experiences and culture of parents, carers and families
- ▶ Confidentiality policy and agreement which addresses issues of safeguarding

(Frg.org.uk. 2020)

# Mind Organisation.

- ▶ What they do
- ▶ We provide advice and support to empower anyone experiencing a mental health problem. We campaign to improve services, raise awareness and promote understanding.
- ▶ Will help anyone and everyone including police officers, teachers, paramedics and so on.
- ▶ 2018-2019 they helped more people than ever before.

(About Us, 2020)

# Conclusion

Professional standards are put in place so the professional stays professional at all times. Legislations are in place to protect the service user and the advocate at all times. We have established that at certain times confidentiality and data protection laws have to be broken in order to help and support a service user but that is only when it is for their own health and safety protection. Having these standards and legislations in place ensures that all advocates are on the same page and following the same set of rules and regulations.

# References.

- ▶ Frg.org.uk. 2020. (online) Available at: <<https://www.frg.org.uk/images/PDFS/advocacy-standards.pdf>> (Accessed 15 April 2020).
- ▶ Mind.org.uk. 2020. *About Us*. [online] Available at: <<https://www.mind.org.uk/about-us/>> (Accessed 8 March 2020).
- ▶ Qualityadvocacy.org.uk. 2020. [online] Available at: <<https://qualityadvocacy.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/05/Code-of-Practice-1.pdf>> (Accessed 15 May 2020).