# **Salient Situations**

In practicum seminar, each student will present salient situations. This is a cooperative adult learning process in which students share a pressing situation they are encountering. Then, the student and their peers engage in a process of reflecting and brainstorming solutions to assist the student in addressing the situation. The six steps of the salient situation process are:

1. **Describe the problem.** 
   1. Who: Presenter
   2. Describe the situation or challenge and what you think and feel about it.
2. **Analyze the problem.** 
   1. Who: Group asks and presenter answers
   2. Ask open-ended questions to:
      1. Gather more information about the problem or perception of the presenter.
      2. Clarify facts—who, what, where, when, and how.
   3. Avoid yes/no questions, advice-giving tags, and solutions.
3. **Brainstorm ideas for addressing or resolving the problem.**
   1. Who: Group
   2. Identify someone as recorder of all suggestions.
   3. Offer ideas and suggestions for solutions or course of action; presenter does not respond.
   4. Avoid evaluation of the solutions as they are presented.
4. **Prioritize and evaluate the suggestions in terms of what might work to resolve the problem.**
   1. Who: Group
   2. Prioritize suggestions (e.g., by long- and short-term solutions).
   3. Articulate the criteria on which solutions are being evaluated (e.g., fair, economical, doable, ethical, etc.).
   4. Discuss one or more of the alternatives that might work to resolve the problem.
5. **Make a decision and implement the suggestion.**
   1. Who: Presenter
   2. Presenter choose a strategy/solution and begins implementation as soon as possible.
6. **Report back to the group about the outcome of the solution.**
   1. Who: Presenter
   2. Presenter reports back to the group about the outcome of the solution at a later date.