

Counselor Advocacy

Applying the American Counseling Association model

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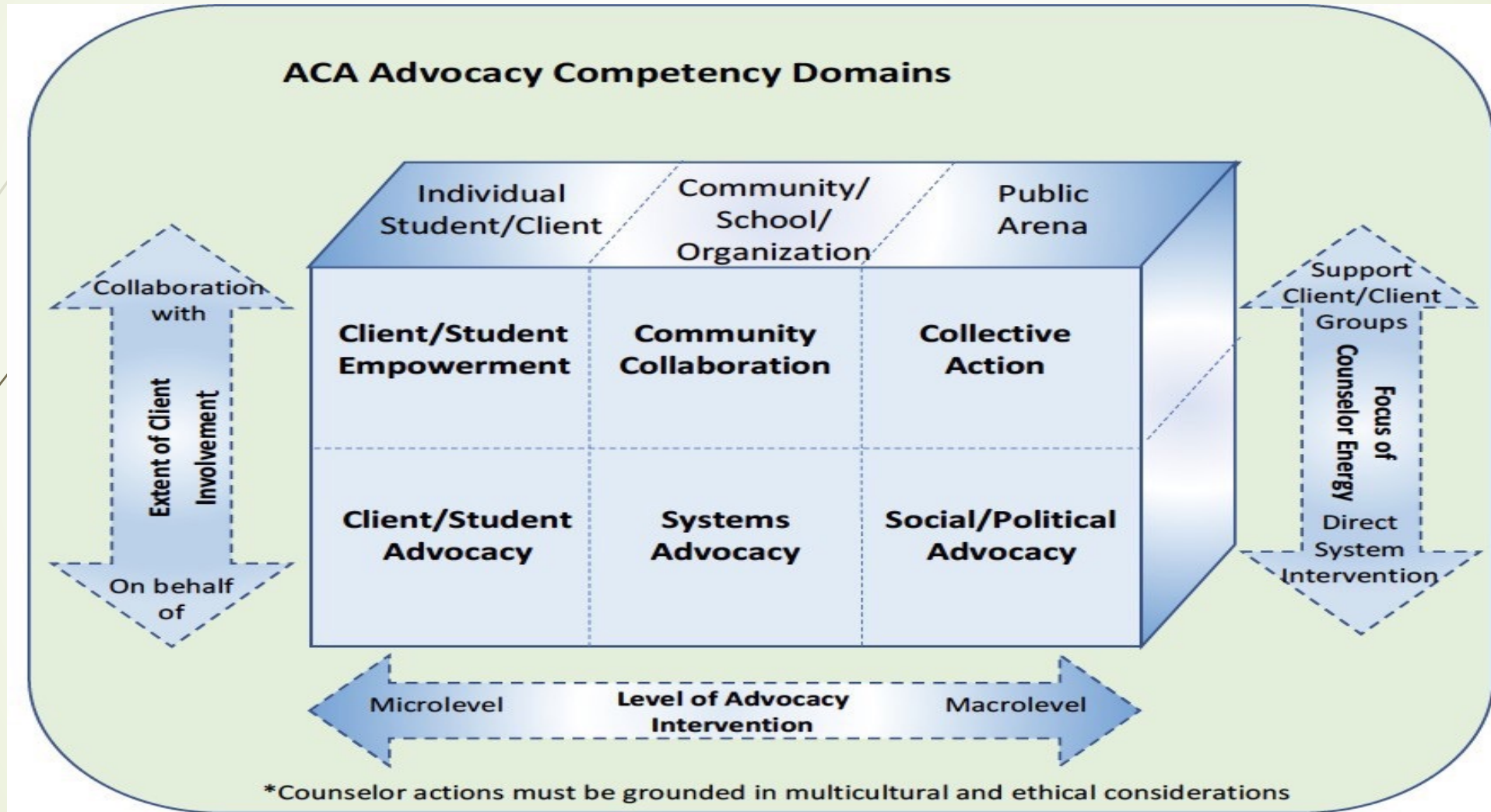
➤ HOPE IS A RADICAL ACT





Starfish, Salmon, and Whales

► Stay tuned

Three dimensional model



Original model by Lewis, Arnold, House & Toporek (2003) updated by Toporek & Daniels (2018)

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- ▶ See [Counseling.org](https://www.counseling.org) for a more detailed explanation (Under knowledge center and competencies)
 - ▶ The main idea is to look at advocating with and advocating for
 - ▶ At the individual, organizational, and community levels

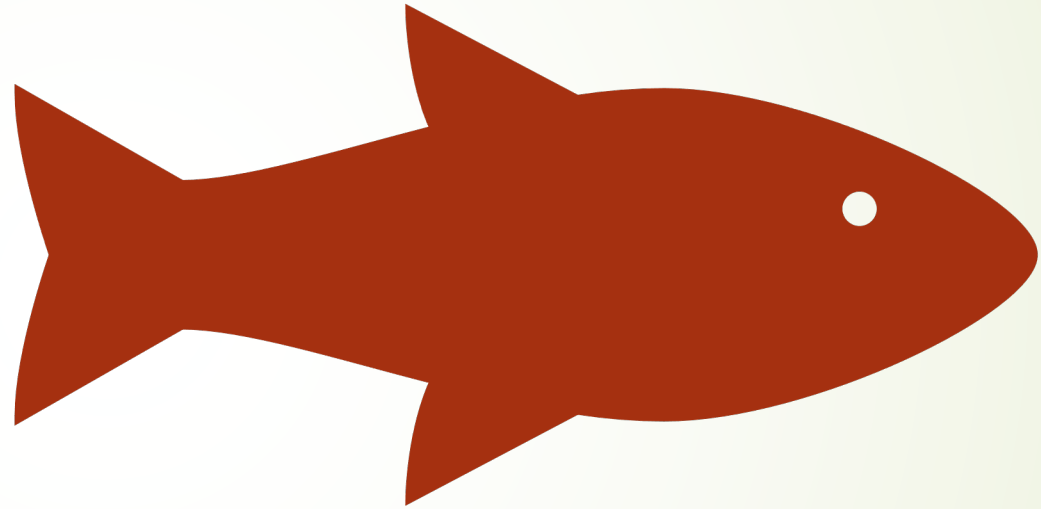
Starfish



- ▶ Person is walking on a beach

salmon

➤ Dams and logging

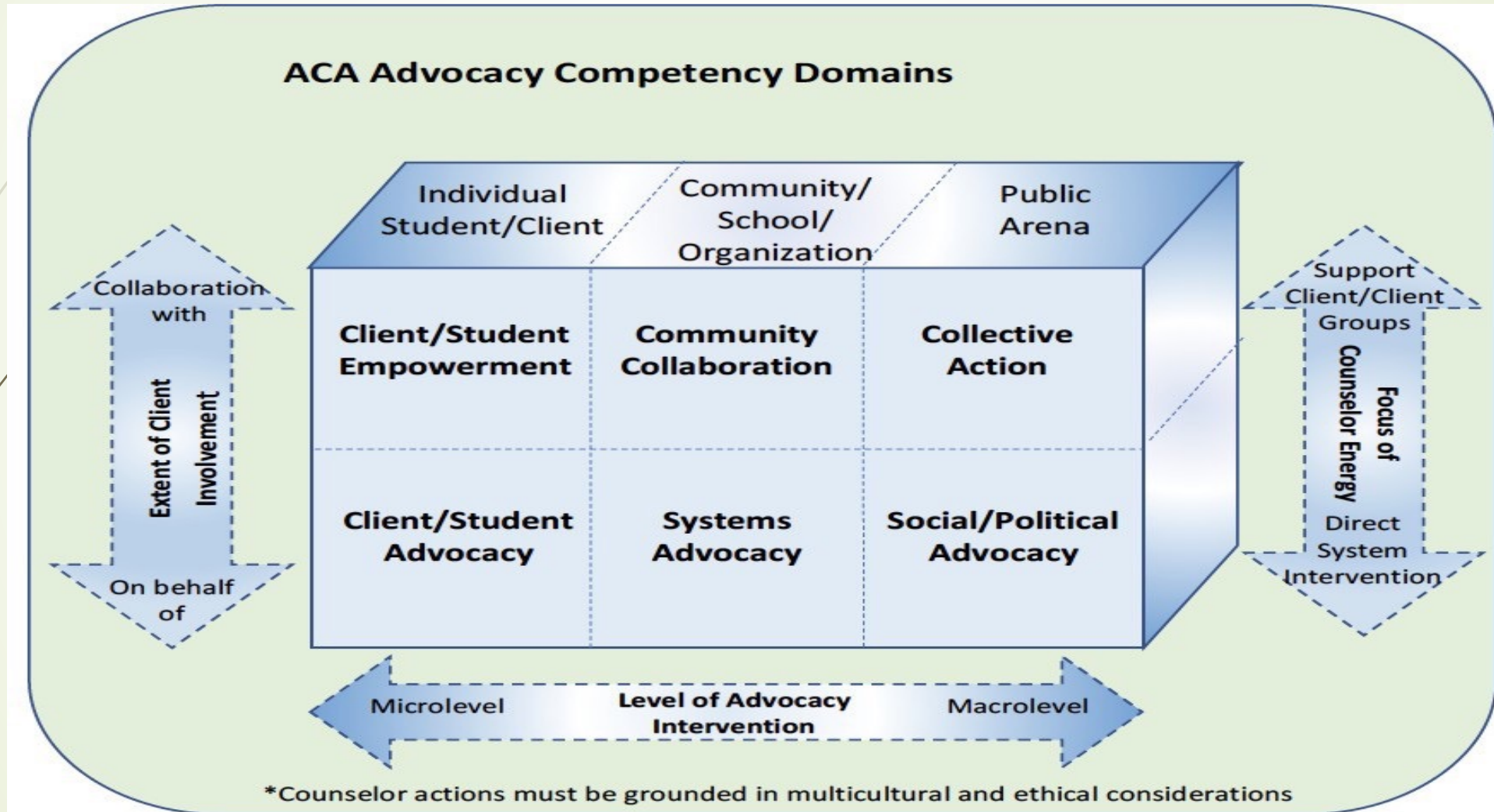


whales

➤ Climate change



Three dimensional model



Original model by Lewis, Arnold, House & Toporek (2003) updated by Toporek & Daniels (2018)




A real example a success and a failure

- ▶ Student in 8th grade – about age 14
 - ▶ Put in special education because he was effeminate
 - ▶ Advocating with -- Student was unable to resolve this himself
- ▶ Success
- ▶ Advocating for:
 - ▶ With school counselor to change his designation
 - ▶ With school counselor as ally -- agreement of principal to put him back in regular classes



Real example continued

- ▶ Failure

- ▶ Providing training to school staff, that is, teachers, to understand issues of GLBT students
 - ▶ Offer of Friends and parents of gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender students (PFLAG) to provide training
 - ▶ Principal said no. His reasoning was that it would alienate staff
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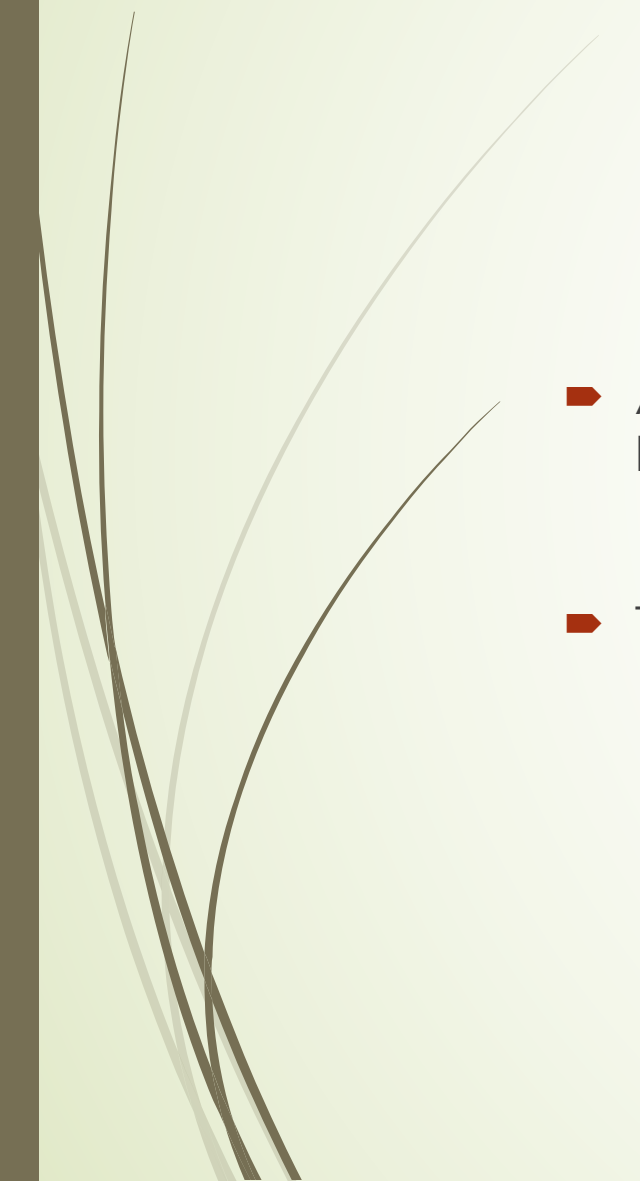
Real example continued

- ▶ Learnings

- ▶ Individual situation successfully resolved
- ▶ Even with allies sometimes you lose

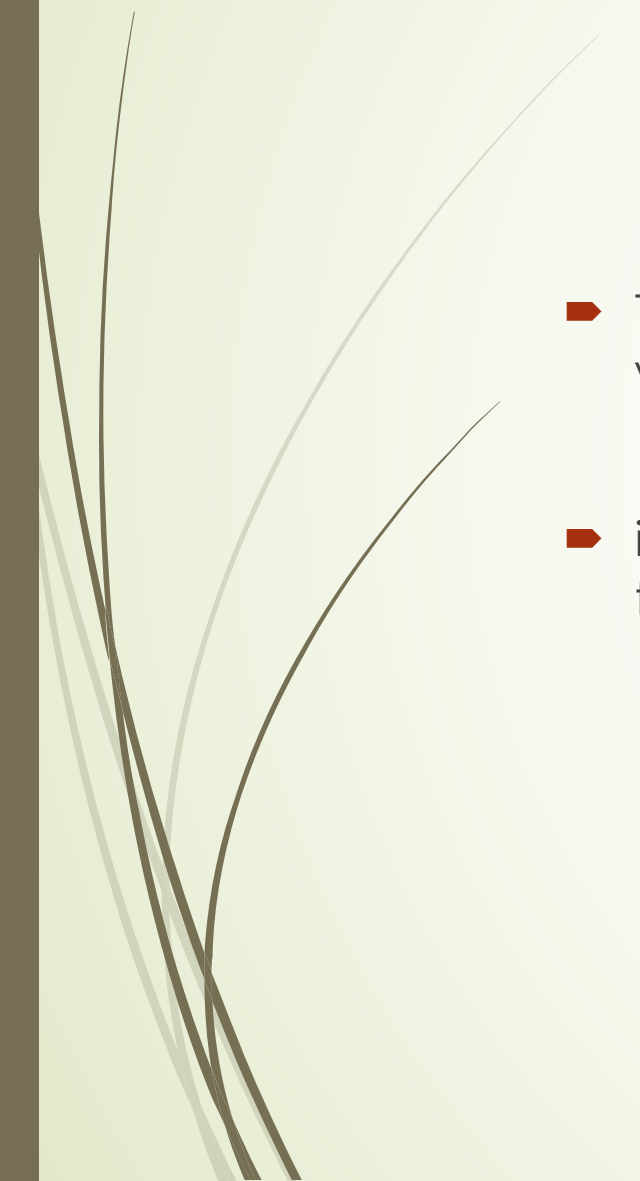


Real example 2

- ▶ Older adult residences
 - ▶ Administration became aware that staff lacked knowledge of issues faced by older adults
 - ▶ They wanted communication training for mid level staff
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At the organizational level

- ▶ They were persuaded that the intervention (training) needed to be system wide:
 - ▶ including everyone who had direct contact with older adults, for example, food service workers, van drivers, cleaning personnel
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conclusion

- ▶ Use the model to decide at which level(s) to advocate
- ▶ Develop an action plan
 - ▶ Include involved individuals
 - ▶ Include allies

- ▶ Protect the starfish, salmon, and whales in your settings



Questions and comments

➤ Thank you

