what is a policy?

In general, policy is defined as "a course of action adopted and pursued by a government, ruler, political party, etc." (Dictionary.com)

In regards to social welfare, policies are laws that are proposed or passed that will impact the delivery of services or care to our clients. Policies could mandate the delivery of social services to certain populations, provide funding for various types of programs, or expand the rights for particular client groups.

Websites with Information Related to Policy

Drug Policy Alliance
http://www.drugpolicy.org/

Social Work Policy Institute
http://www.socialworkpolicy.org/research

Substance Abuse & Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA): Programs & Campaigns
http://www.samhsa.gov/programs-campaigns

Urban Institute Policy Centers
http://www.urban.org/

Examples of Policy Journals Available through Benner Library

Analyses of Social Issues & Public Policy
Global Issues in Context
Journal of Poverty and Social Justice: Research, Policy, Practice
Journal of Social Research & Policy
Search Terms for Policies

Try combining terms describing your topic with policy terms when searching the any library database.

Examples of policy terms:
"legislation"
"social welfare"
"social policy"
"public policy"

Examples of search term combinations:
"Public policy" AND "substance abuse"
"Legislation" AND "Gang activity"

Try these searches in Advanced Search in Summon