

**Factors that Encourage the Support of Social Workers
for Active Involvement
in Business-Community Relations**

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In recent years businesses have become increasingly involved in community activity (business-community relations). The purpose of the research presented in the article was to identify factors that explain the attitudes of social workers towards two aspects of taking an active part in such involvement: first, the involvement of social workers in functions related to business–community relations and second, the social workers’ expectations regarding the effect of such activity. The research was based on administration of a structured questionnaire to 206 social workers in social service departments. The findings reveal that the department manager’s support and the social worker’s self-efficacy explain both variables. Additional findings of the research indicate other factors that explain only one of the involvement variables. Examples of these include limited organizational resources, involvement of the social worker in managerial jobs, and belonging to the Arab or Jewish ethnic group. In contrast, the commitment of the social worker did not contribute significantly to either of the variables studied. Conclusions regarding professional, research, training and organizational aspects are discussed.

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