



SOCIAL WORKERS AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

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Abstract

Every members of the community desire to stay safe, healthy and wealthy in all manners to enjoy all amenities of the society one who need to have a vibrant economic status as well as excellent public services. Activities like social services & social work play a significant role in helping people to make better their quality of life by raising awareness and strengthening the community by providing opportunities for jobs on their own. Present paper is an indispensable contribution in understanding about the social worker's role in community development. Efficient social work programs encourage independence and resilience, empowering some of our community's most vulnerable areas. The present purpose is to recognize the social worker's role in the growth of the community.

Keywords: Social work, Community development.

Introduction

Every individual in a society aspires to live a balanced, compassionate, peaceful, inclusive and egalitarian life. Social work services have an important part to play in achieving that goal. There are so many challenges before social work education, but through the effort of educators, field practitioners, and trainees of social work it is aimed at addressing local needs and incorporating local strategies to address adult, group and neighborhood problems by implementing Community development skills. Community development is a central component of social work and focuses on raising the literacy rate, developing and stimulating employment opportunities, eradicating poverty and acute hunger, gender equality and the welfare of disadvantaged parts of society through social work methods. Social workers have a crucial role to play in internalizing our social work history, as well as recognizing and inculcating the technical skills of the professional social work. Western practice. Social workers with both literature and practical knowledge can make an immense contribution to the development of the community.

Objectives of the Study:

- a. To build an understanding of community development as a central component of practice in social work.
- b. To study the roles of social workers in community Development.

Conceptual Framework

Social work is a professional skill which is an art as well as science that works to extend the helping hands to the individual, group and community for the betterment of the community as well as disadvantaged sections of the society so as to sustain them to help themselves by adopting varies professional strategies. Psychological Counseling, assistance and guidance to the people or groups can be provided by a social worker. A social worker is an individual with professional skills who works with the people so that they can help themselves and manage their routine lives with self-respect and dignity. Community Development is the process

intended to create conditions for socio-economic progress for the community as a whole participating actively with full reliance of its own community.

Methodology

Exploratory research design has been used to examine a social worker's role in community development while transforming community members' behaviors. Secondary sources, scholarly journals, online media, expert phrases and self-observations have been used to explain and evaluate the current wave of social / public service buffeting the lives of the poor, downtrodden, orphaned sections.

Social Work as a Profession and a way to Community Development

The social work career is broader than other professions in terms of the variety and types of problems discussed in the workplace environments, the levels of practice, the approaches used and the populations served. The working areas or scope of social workers ranges from medical services like hospitals, police departments, schools and colleges, public agencies, court systems to private practices or businesses. Social work practice requires knowledge related to human development as well as socio-economic & cultural institutions, with interaction among these. The primary roles of skilled social workers may include a range of services such as case management (connecting clients with resources and programs that meet their psychosocial needs), counseling (psychotherapy), and human services management, analysis of social welfare policies, implementation of these policies and practices, community association, international, social and economic implementation, advocacy, social research and education. Social development is a holistic development approach, whereas community development is confined to geographical areas such as tribal, rural and urban communities. It focuses on various aspects of society and target groups such as Disadvantaged Communities, Ethnic Groups and Issue-based events. Community development adopts various social work techniques to work with individual groups and with the community. Community organization is one of the essential social work approaches as it assists effectively in recognizing the needs of the community and seeking the tools to meet the needs of the community. The primary aim of social work towards community is to empower different sections of society in every possible way.

Role of a Social Worker in the Community Development

Social work is a dynamic profession with a broad scope of working area. Social worker direct roles continue with the application of the primary social work approaches. The primary methods are participatory in nature including individual, groups and communities. Secondary methods are both participatory as well as non-participatory which is to be used for the benefit of society as a whole. Therefore role of social worker is broadened for the development of individual, groups and communities. Across different ways and at various periods across their careers, social workers will play all these roles which are as follows:

As a Caseworker: A person who is professionally trained and who work out on the problems of individual in a holistic way. Case work deals with addressing personal problems of the individual, who is dependent on case worker for the solution of his/her problem.

As Group Worker: He works for the treatment for the community groups who are in problem so that their psychosocial needs are met. He creates teams, committees and invites delegates to carry out the duties of community members' psychosocial needs. He attempts to build leadership qualities as well as increasing awareness levels of group members on different issues, and make them educated regarding sustainable development.

As a Community Organizer: The social worker's main role in community building starts with the organising group on various social issues. At first it's all about (Murry G. Ross 1955) figuring out the match between social needs or priorities and resources available to meet those needs. In doing so, the Society extends and establishes cooperative as well as collaborative attitudes and practices within community. More community organizers need to concentrate on developing skills on the members' interesting profession and creating political knowledge among them, thereby strengthening community members and contributing to individual and community growth.

As a Need Analyzer: A well scientific need analysis must be undertaken in order to accomplish the society needs and priorities. Therefore social workers evaluate the needs of the group with the support and interests of community members. Specific client groups, community NGOs Govt officials take an active part in need analysis process and member suggestions to be combined with community needs proposals.

As a Project manager: Many Project or Program designed for community benefit is mostly headed by professional social workers. Social workers play a vital role in analyzing, implementing and managing the project, as they have trained in the preparation and management of projects and know the individual, group and community pulses. Active participation with the various groups of the communities they can contribute extremely well for community development.

As a Facilitator: Social workers promote poor, economically excluded, vulnerable individuals, groups & communities, and oppressed parts of society, with the various benefits offered by the Govt, NGOs, international organizations such as the WHO, UNICEF, WTO, UNO, etc.

As a Connecting Link: They are the middle man who assists the community members in getting benefits of services from government schemes and policies. Besides these, general insurances & health insurances are provided to various beneficiaries of the society. He also plays a role of mediator between employers and employee in collective bargaining in the view of labor welfare.

As a Counselor: Every individual in society with a unique nature is the greatest challenge before social workers to individualize people and meet their needs. In counseling, a well systematic and scientific interaction takes place between a social worker and individual in society is expected, which is the only solution for addressing the issues of community members as well as individuals whose behavior is problematic. Such an effort helps improve tolerance among all and leads to development of the community.

As a Researcher: social worker takes the scientific investigation of the social and individual issues. Each and every community (Tribal, Rural, Urban) have its own problems which acts as the big obstacles for the development. Here social worker's scientific and emotional investigation may be a great help to every individual, groups and communities.

Conclusion

Social work education, practices and profession have greater impact as well as responsibility in the community development. Collective support of education & field practice can be more contributory for the upliftment of the various sections of society. Therefore, well-qualified, competent and dedicated social workers are required, they will work to improve the socio-economic status and quality of life for the community members.

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