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Findings

The results from my evaluation were informative and interesting. To learn ample amount of information from a professional standpoint was great. I met with one of the stakeholders, Darius Jackson, and it was pleasure to meet someone that’s doing something that I plan on doing with my future career. After introducing myself, I went on with the interview questions which was 9 questions to ask about the program. The first question was asking him what his role is within this agency. His job is to maintain the homes and study the flow of everyday living for individuals that are occupied at the home. This includes assist with everyday activities such as hygiene, medication, administrations, and community engagement. The second question was asking the who determines who is qualified for their trauma focused therapy’s program which was answered by it being a process. First, individuals are evaluated by psychologists to determine the levels of care that is needed. Then, the human services do an evaluation of possible placements, and they select the best fir for the individual. The third question was who’s responsible for taking care of the clients which is Darius himself as well as other employees of the company.

The fourth question was who’s responsible for taking care of the client in psychiatric services which clients are examined by an outpatient psychiatric off campus are responsible. The fifth questions were what if the client’s treatment is almost up, but they haven’t improved much, what would be the next step? The next step would be a re-evaluation and extensions of treatment. He then told me a story that related to this question. He explained how they had a 20-year-old client who was in the last month of their treatment. Within the last month, the client had multiple aggressive and physical behaviors. Behaviors got to the point where doctors had to step in, and the client needed to be medically restrained. The next day, the client was re-evaluated by the psychologist. The psychologist determined that it was best for the client to undergo 6 more months of treatment to keep behaviors to a minimum. The sixth question were what the goals of this company are, and Darius explained how to the goal is to assist their clients and help them live a regular everyday life. To help assist their higher functional with independent living and maintain a level, behavioral status.

The seventh question was are there any barriers clients may face upon treatment and it depends on the individual. In this field, many clients’ strongest barriers are communication because most of the clients are nonverbal which makes it hard for the clients to communicate feelings or express how they are feeling. The eighth question was do the agency have any international clients that are enrolled in the program and even though they have clients from various states, all the clients are within the country. The last and final question was how they do the agency handle patients with extreme behaviors issues and the first step to solve this problem is to try to verbally deescalate the situation. Trying to find out what’s wrong, showing empathy, and trying to verbally re-direct the client from the behavior. If verbally de-escalation doesn’t work, physically restraints may have to be implemented.

After gaining information from the stakeholders, I proceed to go around handing out my survey questions to the individuals involved with this agency. My survey questions sheet had a total of 5 questions which consisted of do you think this program treats everyone fairly and equally? Has this program change your life for the better? Is the environment neat and kept clean? Do you have any issues regarding the agency? And lastly would you recommend this agency to other people? Overall, the individuals that currently stay here absolutely loves this program and what it has to offer to them. They feel respected, loved by the staff, and the program showed them a sense of independence. The environment is always kept clean, and all of the individuals has no issues with the program at the moment. All of clients would recommend this agency to other individuals because the staff is caring, loving, take them out, and make sure they are safe. The conclusion drawn from my evaluation is that this program is doing their job and the clients are safe, cared for, and being shown ways to be independent. The staff takes the time to properly assist the client and their needs.

The implication of my findings impacts the program because it shows the program are achieving their goals and objectives that are already set to help improve clients’ lives. My findings impact the services minimally because it seems like the agency is running the way it should be. The influence is positive because it helps people with disability gain a new look on life and gaining a sense of independence. There are little to no recommendations to be made but the only recommendations that I would have been for the staff to come and work together in order to help the program run more smoothly. This could be certain staff being more punctual with residents as well as with their tasks and responsibilities. The broad goal would be to fill the house with more residents within a 6-month period. The objectives (action steps) to obtain this goal would be using resources, community outreach, networking with other placement agencies, and having classes for the staff on working with individual with disabilities. Using resources can help the agency can bring the most significant usefulness that a program evaluation can use to make improvements. Community outreach can help with improvements such as impacting various segments of population which would be individuals with disability. According to Touro, it states “Depending on the focus of their message and the demographic they want to reach, social workers use various strategies to fashion an outreach campaign that works well. In all cases, it starts by identifying a specific goal and doing the work to achieve it.” It’s important to empowering people with disabilities. Disability inclusion is including individual with disabilities in day-to-day activities. The CDC states, “Disability inclusion allows for people with disabilities to take advantage of the benefits for the same health promotion and prevention activities experienced by people who do not have a disability. Examples of these activities include education and counselling programs that promotes physical improve nutrition or reduce the use of tobacco, alcohol, or drugs; and blood pressure and cholesterol assessment during annual health exams, and screening for illnesses such as cancer, diabetes, and heart disease.” By using new methods, it can possibility change the success rate of this program to go higher. This can attract others to see how great this program is going, and they handle people with disability, can make more people want to put their loved ones or friends here at this program.

Resources

TUW (Ed.). (2021, September 14). *The importance of community outreach: Work to improve people's lives*. Touro University WorldWide. Retrieved April 7, 2023, from https://www.tuw.edu/school-news/importance-of-community-outreach/

CDC (Ed.). (2020, September 16). *Disability inclusion*. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Retrieved April 7, 2023, from https://www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/disabilityandhealth/disability-inclusion.html