Task 5: Research Plan

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**Stakeholders**

The agency I will be working with and evaluating is Life Works BHS substance use disorder program. Life Works goal and mission is to support, educate, and help with recovery and relapses of those with Substance USE Disorder’s and to provide Support Services is to help peers who have current or a history of Mental Health or Substance Use Disorders, find ways to stop the devastating impact of addiction and addictive behaviors, also to reduce harm associated with mental health disorders through Peer Support by offering an authentic approach to help the individual find their own personal pathway of recovery (Life Works BHS, 2018). The stakeholders I will be interviewing from this agency is the CEO, the operation’s manager and two clients who are in after care and attend NA meetings the agency connected them with.

# Evaluation Types

The evaluation types I will be using are outcomes because it is the best way to speak to everyone and to see the programs impact on people and the community as well as making sure the clients are I the right state of mind for an interview. With the evaluation type most suitable for my evaluation being the "observe only after the program” mainly because of the nature and state of mind of the clients within this program I will also be using the Capacity-Building approach also known as the empowerment model. The Capacity-Building approach is process of improving an organization's or agency’s ability to use evaluations to learn from its work and improve results (Linfiled & Posavac, 2019). I want to use this type of evaluation because the agency is fairly new and I feel this is also the best way for them to grow and improve as they go along by looking at their evaluations to see what they are doing right and wrong. This will also allow them to see how an evaluation works and is done. With the Empowerment evaluation stressing the importance of the process of evaluations, especially the interactions among evaluators and various stakeholders, it will also I feel allow them to better work together and communicate as a team (Linfiled & Posavac, 2019). With this evaluation I will get the purpose of evaluating their Substance abuse disorder program as well as help the agency, educate them on evaluations, and better relations among all of us.

**The Evaluation Itself**

With my evaluation I plan to address the question “Is LifeWorks BHS effective in supporting, educating, and helping recovery and relapses of those with Substance Use Disorder’s?”. With this question in mind I plan to evaluate the outcome of the program and impact and the type of evaluation allows me to see and focus of that part. For a lot of substance abuse program all that matters to people is the outcome. If the program has positive outcomes and a positive impact, then that program is a success regarding substance use disorders thus aligning with my question as all the main point of my question and their mission statement is geared towards the outcome of the program.

### **Data Collection Methods.**

For my data collection method, I have decided interviews will work best. I feel it will allow me to dig deep and pay attention to the individual as well as their body language and for us to truly connect on a one on one basis. I mainly choice this one as the best way for the client stakeholders. I want their honest and upfront answers and opinion. This way I can feel the impact the Life Works BHS program had of them. Also, interview everyone after the treatment/program allows everyone to be in a better mind state both the staff and client this way nobody is scared or paranoid; just the raw truth. I will also seal the deal with anonymous surveys. I don’t want to pressure anyone of if someone is keeping an eye on them, I want them to be able to get their thoughts and opinions of without being watched and judged.

#### Research Method***.***

The research method that suits my evaluation is qualitative. I chose qualitive because I want to focus on the people. I want to speak and get to know the staff and the clients and ask them how they think the program has helped them change and in what ways. I want to know who they are now. Qualitative evaluation method is collecting data through direct or participant observation, interviews, focus groups, and case studies and from written documents (Linfiled & Posavac, 2019). With my agency being new I won’t have much numbers or statistics to work with also, so quantitative method doesn’t put out enough information on the program’s outcome. It also addresses my evaluation question because by talking to clients and getting to know them from the staff and their aftercare state I can truly see the impact of the program on everyone.

# References

Lifeworks BHS: Certified Peer Recovery Supporters for Mental Health and Substance Use Disorders. (2018). Lifeworks BHS: Certified Peer Recovery Supporters for Mental Health and Substance Use Disorders. Cleveland , OH.

Linfield, K. J., & Posavac, E. J. (2019). Program evaluation: methods and case studies. New York, NY: Routledge.document.