Task Five

Claude Stanley Hamlin, Jr.

Old Dominion University

Research Plan

The agency chosen for the program evaluation is ForKids. ForKids is a non-profit organization on a mission and committed “to break the cycle of homelessness and poverty for children and families” (ForKids, 2019). ForKids serves the population of communities within the Hampton Roads area of Virginia reaching fourteen cities. ForKids services consists housing assistances, crisis hotline, educational opportunities for children and adults, workplace readiness skills and employment help along mental health services are offered at ForKids. The stakeholders evolving within and around the ForKids agency include, but not limited to, volunteers, past clients, ForKids’ volunteer coordinator, donors/sponsors, and the ForKids’ staff (including desk receptionist and other positions held within). Stakeholders are individuals who are investing time, donating money, provide services, and anyone receiving services from ForKids.

The program evaluation type being conducted on ForKids is summative. A summative evaluation looks to gain insight and highlight the effectiveness of a program to see if the program is following through with their goals and what steps can be taken to improve the program if need be. Summative evaluations consist of the evaluation gathering information to determine if the program is a need within the community due to its level of effectiveness. Therefore, if the housing program at ForKids doesn’t have an impact on the Hampton Roads homeless and poverty levels, then the program evaluation will provide the agency with the knowledge of that through evaluation feedback which potential improvements of the program.

The program evaluation will be centered around the effectiveness of ForKids’ housing programs and which of their housing services is most effective with their mission to break the cycle of homelessness and poverty for children and families” (ForKids, 2019). This program evaluation will be exploring what the housing programs have to offer to those in need of shelter. As the evaluator, I will be taking account previous data records and studies of the housing programs at ForKids when providing feedback at the conclusion of the evaluation. In regard to ForKids, this evaluation type poses the question of ‘Is the program doing all it can to break the cycle of homelessness?’ throughout the program evaluation.

To collect data and information from ForKids, interviews and surveys will be utilized to conduct a thorough evaluation the housing programs’ effectiveness. Interviews along with surveys will be administered to all stakeholders to gain an overall insight of everyone’s point of view towards all aspects and offerings through ForKids. The best research method to use for the ForKids agency based on evaluation type and question would be qualitative. Qualitive differs from quantitative, because quantitative is information that numerical while quantitative is information that can be measured. To gain qualitative information, it is gathered from stakeholders through conversations and/or interviews based on their own knowledge of the program and knowledge of what is being asked or questioned within the interviews along with surveys. The qualitative method is from the stakeholders’ own point of views.

References

ForKids. (2019, March). About Us. Retrieved from [www.forkids.org/about-us](http://www.forkids.org/about-us)