Agency Selection (SaVida Health): Task One

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The agency that I have decided to evaluate is SaVida Health. SaVida Health is a private organization that specializes in addiction medicine, takes pride in delivering evidence-based medication-assisted treatment, and provides patient support through counseling. This facility offers mostly intensive out-patient counseling, but they also offer family and group therapy if needed. This facility's staff consists of medical doctors, counselors, and medical assistants. I contacted an employee at the facility who said that there would be no problem with the agency participating in an evaluation and they understand that the evaluation may include observations and interviews.

Agency Mission and Purpose

SaVida's mission is, "to improve the lives of people with opioid or alcohol addiction through respectful, compassionate, and effective treatment." (SaVida Health, 2022). SaVida is designed to operate with individualized treatment plans that provide comprehensive medication management, behavioral healthcare, counseling, and patient support to help people in the early stages of recovery. This treatment includes medications such as buprenorphine-naloxone (Suboxone) or naltrexone (Vivitrol) for people who suffer from addiction or alcoholism. They allow the patient to play a leading role in their recovery and depending on their successes, they progress from weekly to monthly office visits. There are also case managers that are there to help with additional resources such as housing, childcare, or transportation.

Population the Agency Services

Considering that this facility's purpose is to help people in the early stages of their sobriety, there is a wide range of people that they service. They see people from many different walks of life and addiction does not discriminate when it comes to age, gender, race, culture, etc. To be

qualified to be serviced by this agency, you are either addicted to opioids or alcohol, or both.

Most clients that they see are at their lowest point in their addiction, have lost everything, and are finally hopeless enough in their addiction to finally reach out for help. With that being said, there are also clients that have been with the facility since the start of their sobriety and now have a few months or years of sobriety because of the services.

Geographic Location

The particular facility that I am going to evaluate is located in Culpeper, Virginia, which is a small town located in Northern Virginia or Central Virginia, depending on who you ask.

They have facilities in five different states including Delaware, Maine, Massachusetts, Vermont, and Virginia. SaVida Health consists of thirty-five locations total, with fifteen of those being in Virginia.

Rationale for Choosing this Agency

I think that this particular agency will be an interesting experience for me because I have gone through an addiction myself, so I understand most of the "ins-and outs" of what a basic early recovery or MAT program should look like. I have a big interest in having a career somewhere within the substance abuse field. I believe that this experience will be able to give me a different perspective of how these types of facilities are being run. I hope to be able to use this experience as a way to explore my career possibilities and see if substance abuse is a field that I still want to pursue.

References

 $SaVida\ Health.\ (2022,\ June\ 11).\ \textit{Opioid\ and\ Alcohol\ Addiction\ Treatment}\ |\ \textit{SaVida\ Health}.$

Savida Health. https://savidahealth.com/

Footnotes

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Table 1
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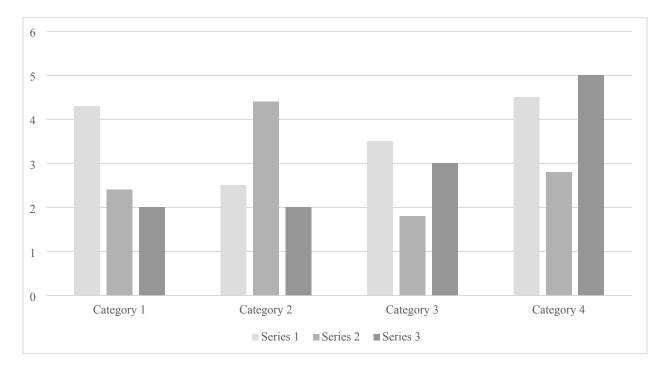


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