

CURRENT SOCIAL SERVICES FOR CHILDREN IN BULGARIA

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ABSTRACT: THE SOCIAL SERVICE IS RELATIVELY STABLE IN TERMS OF CONTENT AND DURATION SPECIFIC SET OF ACTIVITIES AIMED AT POSITIVE CHANGE IN THE SITUATION OF THE USER ASSOCIATED WITH ITS SUCCESSFUL INTEGRATION AND / OR IMPLEMENTATION. WHEN APPLYING APPROPRIATE SOCIAL SERVICES ARE AVAILABLE SEVERAL HPODHODA EXPLAINED IN THIS ARTICLE. DEPENDING ON THE DEGREE OF INTERVENTION SERVICES FOR CHILDREN CAN BE OBOSOBONE IN THE FOLLOWING GROUPS: 1. PREVENTION SERVICES; 2. SOCIAL INTEGRATION AND REINTEGRATION; 3. CARE. INDICATED THEIR SPECIES TARGETED GRUPIU TEAMS THAT IMPLEMENT THEM AND THE PLACES WHERE THEY COULD HAVE MADE SUCH A RUSH IN BULGARIA.

KEY WORDS: SOCIAL SERVICE, SOCIALIZATION, INTEGRATION, REINTEGRATION TEAM, STANDARD OF LIVING, PREVENTION, REHABILITATION, LIVING RESOURCE, LIFE SKILLS, SOCIAL RESOURCES, COUNSELING, RESIDENTIAL CARE

BY "social service" can be understood as a relatively stable content and duration of a specific set of activities, united by a common purpose, describing the positive change in the situation of the user associated with its successful integration and / or implementation in the social community. The set of activities function as an integral whole, suggests clear conditions (place team rules) to implement and has predictable results. The results of the activities and resources generating these results can be valued, which allows to determine the value of the overall service. Modern social service is flexible and individualized, suggesting in the process of its implementation assessment and individual intervention.

IN determining the appropriateness of social service were possible following approaches:

1. **In human rights** - the Convention on the Rights of the Child. This approach was rejected because not all rights are available through social services and most services relate to a variety of rights;
2. **By target group.** This approach has the advantage clearly to target vulnerable groups in society, but was rejected because a service can serve multiple target groups, and contain the risk of further segregation;
3. **By type of risk.** This approach also has the advantage to target problem areas of society, but was rejected for similar reasons - a risk can be countered with various services, individuals can be in different risk situations, the same service can refer to various risks;
4. **With regard to parents / family** - supporting and substitute parents. This approach separates services to a fundamental right of children - to live in a family environment,

but ignores the fact that parents and family are a major factor in the life and development of children only in their early years, then become significant and education, friends, the media, etc.;

5. **By degree of problem / risk.** In this case, the services are divided into primary, secondary and tertiary prevention by each of the levels of prevention correspond to different levels of activity and effect of risk situations. This approach has the advantage of a clear separation of the levels of creation and funding of services. It is the most adequate to say when discussing the levels of development and management services, but does not give clarity to the typology of services.

IN determining the range of social services, in addition, aim their provision allows for risk prevention and support in dealing with situations of risk in terms of fundamental rights of the child as:

- ⇒ the right to family life;
- ⇒ the right to education;
- ⇒ the right to health;
- ⇒ Protection from abuse, neglect and all forms of exploitation and discrimination;
- ⇒ right to development;
- ⇒ decent standard of living;
- ⇒ full life and social integration of children with disabilities;
- ⇒ entitled to child offenders fairly and lawfully and with due respect for their dignity;
- ⇒ participation of children.

DEPENDING on the degree of intervention services are divided into the following areas:

1. PREVENTION SERVICES

THESE services aim to provide knowledge and skills for family life and positive parenting, responsible behavior towards themselves and others, successful social realization and integration. The services are provided to the widest possible range of users where it can be clearly identified specific risk. In general, all these services are developed at the municipal level.

1.1. SERVICES PROVIDING ACCESS TO SOCIAL RESOURCES

THEY aim to connect children and families at risk with appropriate social, educational, health, administrative and other services according to their needs and problems. These services are a kind of control center to other services and the need for them arises from the fact, that one of the problems of families with children at risk is their low social competence / incompetence to contact the appropriate institution or a specialist to help them in the decision of a problem situation. They are aimed at children and families at risk.

THIS service is implemented in each municipality. It can be offered by a social worker in community. The service can be implemented as part of the complex of services offered in a center as a separate service within the municipal administration. Developed in each municipality and its scope are residents of the municipality.

1.2. SERVICES IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF LIFE SKILLS AND PREVENTION OF RISKY BEHAVIOR

THE purpose of this service is to acquire knowledge and skills, develop attitudes of conduct supporting child development, social integration and family life. It is targeted to children and young people, depending on the topics of work and risks that targeting can be defined more precisely target groups such as: children aged 14-18 years, children and young people from informal youth groups dropped out of school or at risk of dropping out, children in institutions, in foster care with relatives and others. In essence these are preventive services and therefore the entrance to them is fully open.

THE team for the realization of these services varies depending on the topics of work. It consists of at least two people, one of which is a social worker. The team may be incorporated - psychologist, physician, teacher and more. Service is provided in partnership with other institutions and organizations - kindergartens, schools, community centers, centers for children and others.

THE services are developed in each municipality covering the inhabitants of the municipality.

1.3. SERVICES DEVELOPMENT AND SUPPORT SKILLS FOR PARENTING

THEIR aim is to increase the competence / ability of parents to perform a qualitative their parental roles through changing attitudes, attitudes, understanding, knowledge and skills of good parenting. Under good parenting means - striving for recognition, understanding and ability to meet the needs of the child; ability to provide all kinds, including emotional support and stimulation of the child; ability to build and maintain connections and relationships in the family, which will provide secure, safe, supportive and stimulating environment for the child; ability to build and support a constructive pro-social behavior.

THIS type of services aimed at parents; parents in a situation of risk - single parents, many young parents with low social status; parents (biological, foster, adoptive parents and relatives who have placed children) of children at risk - children with difficulties in behavior, abandoned children, children with disabilities, children victims of violence and so on.

THE team used the services include a psychologist and social worker. The size of the team depends on the capacity of the service, but the ratio in individual work is 1 specialist assisting 15 participants.

THE service is provided in inpatient centers for social services, nurseries, kindergartens, where they can create favorable conditions for motivating and full participation of parents. Part of it could be provided at home, especially counseling.

THE services are developed in each municipality covering the inhabitants of the municipality.

2. SOCIAL INTEGRATION AND REINTEGRATION

THESE services aim to:

- ⇒ to support children at risk in completing the deficits in their skills and abilities for full social integration and development;
- ⇒ to support vulnerable families in providing better care for their children and to develop resources to deal.

2.1. SUPPORT FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF PERSONALITY DEVELOPMENT AND ABILITIES OF CHILDREN

THROUGH this social service is aimed at developing the capabilities of the children in accordance with their capabilities and desires. Development of their abilities to better understand themselves, others and the world by the specific language of art, sport, in terms of the interaction in the group. Directed entirely to children at risk.

THE services team consists of social workers, psychologists and experts in specific areas. Applied in social services centers and other specially equipped spaces where children are dealing with professionals. Develops municipal / inter-municipal level, depending on the size of the municipalities.

2.2. DEVELOPMENT OF SKILLS FOR INDEPENDENT LIVING

UNLIKE prevention services that work with the widest possible range of users and rely on group programs and campaigns, this service is aimed at groups with low social competence and relies on individual approach. These services are aimed at acquiring knowledge and skills for independent life. They are aimed at children aged 12-14 years with low social competence, subject to exclusion from specialized institutions for children or other forms of care, children with disabilities, school dropouts with deviant behavior.

THE team for the realization of these services varies depending on the topics of work. It consists of at least two people, one of which is a social worker. The team may be incorporated - psychologist, physician, teacher and more. Service is provided in partnership with other institutions and organizations - schools, community centers, specialized institutions for children, labor offices, health centers, professional training and more. These services can be realized in social service centers (required only to space for the preparation of the team) and in places where children and young people live. It is recommended though they are in a special place outside the home / institution. Can develop a municipal / intermunicipal level, depending on the size of the municipalities.

2.3. CONSULTING AND SUPPORT

THE consultations are as common approach in the provision of social services and self-service. The aim is to achieve a change in the understanding and assessment of the consumer for his life situation or problem, a change in his point of view and thus opening new opportunities for new solutions. Providing practical support to achieve this change.

TARGET group of consulting: parents, adoptive parents, foster parents and relatives raising children - in the case of educational difficulties, difficulties in relationships, illnesses and injuries in children, etc.; children over 10 years - with behavioral difficulties, victims of violence, etc.; juniors - vocational counseling and guidance, preparation for family life, parenting skills, behavioral difficulties, victims of violence, dependent on alcohol or drugs, criminal problems.

THE team realized services of experts in the field, specially trained in the consultation process. Social counseling includes a social worker and psychologist. Depending on the user's needs, it can be referred to other specialists - a professional consultant, lawyer, psychiatrist and others.

THIS social service may be provided in centers for social services in the home, at school, in a medical office.

THE social consulting developed in each municipality. Specialized counseling, which requires highly qualified specialists develop inter-municipal / regional level.

2.4. REHABILITATION

IT aims to support children and families for recovery and overcoming experienced physical / emotional / mental problem or injury and the development of coping skills / experience problems. Implements with children and families victims of violence, children with disabilities and their families, children with addictions and their families, children and youth with antisocial behavior.

THE team for the realization of these services includes therapists, psychologist, social worker. Service is provided in partnership with the structures of the health system.

THESE services can be realized as in social services centers (required only to prepare the space for the team), and in partnership with health facilities and in the field.

BASIC functions of identification and targeting should be available at municipal / inter-municipal level. Specialized rehabilitation, which requires highly qualified specialists develop inter-municipal / regional level.

2.5. FAMILY ACCOMMODATION

IT helps prevent the risk of child abandonment, institutionalization breakup of families or poor care and abuse of children. Developing skills and resources of families to cope independently and taking good care of children. The service is aimed at poor families, single parents, pregnant women at risk, parents and children victims of trafficking and violence.

THE team for the realization of these services include staff, which supports family life (service) and specialized - to support skills development, rehabilitation and social inclusion. The specialized team may include a psychologist, various therapists, medical specialists, teacher and more. The specialized team can be provided by other services.

THESE services must include special accommodation for families and children - apartment, house, separate rooms, homes of host families. Services by developing skills, rehabilitation can be offered outside the accommodation. To develop inter-municipal / regional level, depending on the size and number of municipalities population.

3. CARING

THESE services are intended to replace parents in the exercise of some or all of their parental rights and responsibilities for a period of time or permanently, while developing the capacity of the family for subsequent reintegration with the child. Here are assigned the following services:

3.1. SUBSTITUTE FAMILY CARE

THROUGH these services provide the best conditions for the growth of the child, depending on their age and specific development needs by meeting the needs of children. Services are for varying periods of time - day, a few days short, term and permanent. The target group which they pursue these services are children at risk of abandonment, children abandoned by their families, children placed in institutions and other forms of residential care;

children victims of violence; children whose parents are in temporary inability to care for them.

THIS group includes the following types of services - foster care, with relatives, adoption, child minders.

THE main team of specialists to work with people who care for children includes social workers, psychologist. Requirements to persons who care for children is determined by the purpose of cultivation / accommodation and its duration. To achieve the necessary services specially prepared place that should be a family or a family-like environment.

THIS service is developing inter-municipal / regional level, depending on the size and number of municipalities population.

3.2. RESIDENTIAL CARE

RESIDENTIAL care provides good conditions for the growth of the child, depending on their age and specific development needs by meeting the needs of children. The service is available for different periods of the day and for varying periods of time - during the day, urgently, a few days, short, long. This type of care is intended for children at risk of abandonment, children abandoned by their families, children placed in institutions and other forms of residential care; children victims of violence; children whose parents are in temporary inability to care for them.

THE types of services in this area include - day care (in living rooms and family centers) emergency accommodation in specialized centers or in separate rooms, short and long-term care in various forms of residential care (type of small group home to specialized institution).

THE team of experts, implementing this type of care should include social workers and social educators (social workers). The place where to be realized must be specially prepared place, which should resemble the home environment.

THIS service is developing inter-municipal / regional level, depending on the size and number of municipalities population.

THE above content in the article suggests the following conclusions and recommendations related to the vision for the management of social services for children:

- ⇒ The private sector and NGOs should be the main providers of social services for children. It is not acceptable state or municipalities are both in the role of the funding bodies and suppliers.
- ⇒ The municipalities and municipal structures of the Ministry of Labour and Social Policy and the State Agency for Child Protection should pursue immediate funding, coordination and monitoring of children's services. Municipal authorities must, however, do so in cooperation with all related services institutions.
- ⇒ The functions, the powers and the resources of the regional security structures of the Ministry of Labour and Social Policy and the State Agency for Child Protection, responsible for the development of policies for children should be expanded. They should not only carried out methodically and management control, but also be able resource to support local agents. This is especially important for small municipalities with sufficient financial and human resources.

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