

Section 6. Sociology

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SOCIAL WORKERS IN VIETNAM- ACHIEVEMENTS AND CHALLENGES

Abstract. The social work profession in the world has been formed and put into operation for more than one hundred years, but in Vietnam, the social work profession has been really interested in developing since 2010 since the Prime Minister issued it. Decision No. 32/2010/QĐ-TTg Approving the Project on Development of the Social Work Profession for the period 2010–2020. Since then, the social work profession in Vietnam has made great progress in all aspects: Awareness of the social work profession has changed; The legal framework for professional social work activities has initially been formed; Human resource training in social work has been paid attention; The network of social work service providers and human resources engaged in providing professional social work services develops rapidly. The social work profession has made an important contribution to ensuring social security and bringing happiness to people, ensuring human rights and social justice, especially for disadvantaged groups. However, the development process in the context of international integration of the social work profession in Vietnam also encounters many difficulties and challenges in aspects related to the development of the professional social work profession. awareness, legal, training, human resource development, providing social work services.

Keywords: Social work, social work profession, awareness of social work, law on social work, human resource training in social work, human resources to provide social work services.

Achievement

The perception of the role and position of social work has changed significantly with the recognition that social work is a practice-based profession and a discipline that promotes change and development in society. Social cohesion and participation, and empowers and freedoms for everyone. The central principles of social work are social justice, human rights, gender responsiveness, cultural sensitivity, collective responsibility and respect for difference. Based on theories of social work, social sciences –

humanities and indigenous knowledge, social work activities encourage the participation of people and agencies and organizations in order to solve problems. difficulties in life and improve the welfare of all [1]. In the fight against the Covid-19 pandemic in 2020–2021, the role of social work has also been emphasized in ensuring equal rights and human well-being through group assistance activities. people at risk by the pandemic Covid-19 infected, lost job, deeply reduced in income, faced many difficulties in life

The legal framework on social work has also been gradually formed, creating a legal corridor for the practice of providing social work services in the fields of social welfare, education, health and justice. The Prime Minister has issued three decisions: Decision No. 32/2010/QĐ-TTg dated March 25, 2010 approving the Project on development of the Vietnamese social work profession for the period 2010–2020; Decision 112/QĐ-TTg dated January 22, 2021 approving the social work career development program for the period 2021–2030. Decision No. 1719/QĐ-TTg, stipulating that March 25 every year is the Vietnamese social work day.

The Ministry of Labour, War Invalids and Social Affairs shall assume the prime responsibility for, and coordinate with other ministries and sectors in, also promulgating legal documents specifying codes and standards for professional titles of public employees specializing in social work [2]; regulations on professional ethics for social work practitioners [3]; standards for social work collaborators at commune level [4]; To prescribe the functions, tasks, powers and organizational structure of the social work center [5]; regulations on the case management process; Regulations on organizational structure, functions and tasks, staff norms, processes and standards for social assistance at social assistance establishments; To stipulate the conditions, content and form of examination or consideration for promotion of professional titles of public employees specializing in social work [6]; stipulate economic-technical norms as a basis for formulating prices of social assistance services [7].

The Ministry of Education and Training has promulgated legal documents specifying the code of social work training at college, bachelor, master and doctoral levels in social work; At the same time, it also promulgates documents regulating social work activities in high schools, and psychological support activities for students at schools [8].

The Ministry of Health also promulgates legal documents stipulating the functions and duties of social work activities in hospitals [9]. The Ministry of Public

Security is also testing a juvenile-friendly investigation room model as a basis for issuing legal documents on the above issue. The Supreme People's Court is also in the process of studying and promulgating guiding documents on social work activities to support minors who are victims and witnesses in the criminal proceedings.

Human resource development training in social work has made a remarkable development. In 2002, there were only 3 universities and colleges participating in training in social work, by 2022 there were 55 universities. participates in training bachelor's degree in social work, in which 12 schools participate in master's training, 2 schools train doctoral level and 21 vocational schools train social workers at college level and intermediate. Every year, about 3000–3500 bachelors, 100 masters, 7–7 graduate students and hundreds of employees with college and intermediate degrees in social work are graduated. The Ministry of Labour, Invalids and Social Affairs and localities have also organized training to improve professional qualifications for about 3,000 employees working in social work centers and social assistance establishments. festival. The content of training programs specializing in social work is also regularly renewed and updated to meet the advanced, relevant and specificity. The survey results of 100 social work graduates from Da Lat University showed that 21% rated it very first, 68% rated it quite first; 25% of the reviews are very suitable, 70% are quite suitable; 15% very specific and 70% quite specific [10].

The development of the force of civil servants, public employees, employees and social workers is also interested, currently there are about 235 thousand people in the country, of which about 35.000 work in health care facilities. services, nearly 100.000 work in associations, mass organizations, over 100 people are members of poverty reduction, prevention of social evils, child protection. Thus, there is one professional and semi-professional social worker for every 425 people.

The network of organizations providing social assistance services has also developed strongly in

both quantity and quality. Currently, the country has about 425 social assistance establishments, of which 195 are public and 230 are external public. Most of the social support facilities are in the process of transitioning between functions and tasks, combining foster care with providing specialized and specialized social work services, out of 425 social support facilities [11]. helping society there are 23 social work centers specializing in providing social work services. The provision of social care services has linked care at the facility with the community, especially 3-level child protection services, mental health care services, and people with mental disorders.

International cooperation in the field of social work career development is also interested and promoted. Over the past 10 years, Vietnam has cooperated to implement the project of cooperation to support the development of the social work profession in the period 2010–2014. with Atlantic Philanthropies, UNICEF. The project cooperates with FHI on developing the profession of social work in the field of addiction treatment. Cooperating with the World Association of Schools of Social Work, Hong Kong UNICEF, UNHCR in developing the professional social work profession in Vietnam. Cooperate with the Asian Academy of Social Sciences to develop master's degree training in social work in Vietnam; Coordinating with the cooperation project with Family and Community Services International (CFSI) "Developing human resources for social work for the disadvantaged and vulnerable in Vietnam" to train staff Manager is the leader and manager of Social Protection Centers, Social Work Service Provider Centers and Departments of Labour, Invalids and Social Affairs. Cooperate with countries in the ASEAN region to develop the Hanoi Declaration on the development of the social work profession to 2030 and develop a roadmap for implementation.

Difficulties and challenges

The awareness of a large number of people about social work, the position and role of social work is still limited, so the demand for accessing professional

and specialized social work services has not yet been established. be "awakened". On the other hand, the disadvantaged group is the group that has a very high need to access social care services, but has limited ability to pay service fees, and the government has not had adequate policies to support the disadvantaged group. and the private sector is involved in providing social care, so it also influences the development of the social work profession.

The legal framework has many gaps: There are no regulations on conditions for practicing social work; there are no regulations on examination and issuance of practice certificates: there are no regulations on conditions for being recognized as a social worker; there is no regulation on registration of social work practice; there is no regulation on quality standards of social work services; there are no regulations on economic and technical norms for social work services; there is no regulation on social work services in court; There is no regulation on social work services in criminal proceedings. Employment positions and rights of social workers have not been specified. Currently, the private sector is also actively involved in the provision of social work services, but there is no legal regulation. There are no regulations on the National Association of Social Workers. There is no regulation on the Association of Social Work Training Schools ... This more or less affects the development of professional social work profession in Vietnam.

Raising and development of human resources still face many difficulties and challenges: Rapid development of training "hot development" leads to the risk of a shortage of experienced trainers; social work practice establishments that do not meet training requirements; have not designed appropriate output standards like other countries with experience in social work training; The quality of graduates has not yet met the requirements for practical skills. The risk of training is much, but working under the training profession is less. The survey results on employment of bachelors of social work at Vinh Long University of Technology and Education who

graduate in 2021 (K41) and 2022 (K42) show that 92% have jobs for K41 and 80.% for K42). However, working in the right profession is only from 18–10%, working in the wrong profession is from 70–74%; 20–8% have not found a job yet [12].

Although the ratio of social workers to the population is 1/425 people, over 80% are semi-professionals and collaborators, so the provision of social work services is still very limited, not meeting the needs of the community. demand of the people.

Although social support establishments are numerous in number, they are limited in terms of physical facilities and human resources in providing social work services; only about 25% of establishments are capable of providing social work services; most of the remaining facilities are still heavy on foster care,

Discuss

As the social work profession develops rapidly and sustainably, Vietnam needs to continue to pay attention to communication to raise awareness of the people and the community about the role and position of the social work profession in the implementation of policies. social policy, social security. accelerate the completion of the legal framework on the social work profession at the level of a law or decree. Renovate the program of training content and improve the quality of the teaching staff specializing in social work, consolidating and improving the quality of the team of supervisors. Transforming the model of providing social care services in social support establishments, paying more attention to professional and specialized social work services.

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