

Research Title : An Approach of Providing Welfare Service for
the Aged.

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Abstract

Government of Thailand has realised the constant increasing of the Aged problem and estimated that this problem will be more serious than ever before. The National Committee of the Aged and the various profession involving to this problem has then made several policies and plans to undertake activities and programs for the Aged.

But due to the new concept of development for the Aged in Thailand the policy makers and practitioners need a great deal of informations in this area, especially at the practitioner level there is an increasing effort to seek measures to provide an appropriate welfare services. Yet it is still found that there is lacking datas and informations in this field. It may be noted here that there is hardly any detail studies in the area of the welfare for the Aged. This study is therefore aims at getting the informations about the status of the aged in Thai society, the Concepts and Principles in providing the welfare services to the Aged, and also social work services with the Aged. The methodology is to study from the documentary resources and case studies. The findings are that the Aged is one of the stage of

development in human life and that it keeps on changing and dynamic in physical, emotion, psychological and social areas. This change effect the Aged in physical condition owing to the deterioration of the body and the abnormality of their organism. The Aged face with the physical illness which by and large followed by the mental problems.

At Present the Socio-Economic problem is also another problem faced by the aged. The change which is due to the change in jobs, professions and social situation give rise to the lack of income, abundance and inabilities to accept the capacities and other related problems. Therefore the Aged is the group of people that need help, care and welfare services that should be sufficient enough to meet their needs.

Various Government and Non-Government agencies, for example Department of Health, Ministry of Public Health, Department of Public Welfare, Ministry of interior, External Education Department, Ministry of Education, National Council of Social Welfare, Waitana - Niwas Foundation, Home for the Aged at Bangkok etc. render the services with material assistance and immediate help in nature rather than long term services which in long run lead to the development as a whole.

The Concept of providing services in the future is to emphasis the social welfare and social work services that aim more at solving the problem and promote the need of the Aged by bringing about the new concept of working with the people in the community on community basis principle. It emphasises the essence of the family as the important primary institution in taking care of the Aged. In practice it emphasises the interdisciplinary approach in order to promote fully the co-operation and the co-ordination of the organisations and the professioners.

At the same time, the role of the professional is still maintained in providing direct services including an appropriate development. This include the developmental role of the protector in order to protect the right of the clients. This would lead to the change and modification of the policies in giving full cycle of services to the Aged which would fulfill their needs in a more suitable way.

The suggestions from the researcher is that the concerning agencies should pay attention to the Aged belonging to the middle and lower income group and to those who live in the rural areas. Various kind of service should be directed toward this group by relying on the existing resources or the original projects within the community.

The education in various ways and means through different kind of medias should be undertaken. A study the abilities of the family institutions and the communities to carter the Aged should also be fully paid attention by various academic professionals.

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