**Thesis Title:** Approaches for Organizing Social Welfare for the Elderly under Administration of Subdistrict Administrative Organizations in Bang Khonthi District in Samut Songkhram Province **Researcher:** Mrs. Pluemjit Wongpaisarn **Major:** Urban and Rural Community Development and Administration **Year:** 2011

## **Abstract**

The purposes of this research were to 1) investigate the existing condition of organizing social welfare for the elderly, 2) study the elderly's need for social welfare, 3) study the problems and their solutions of organizing social welfare for the elderly, and 4) examine the approaches for organizing social welfare for the elderly. The samples were 326 elderly people or their care takers, and 14 people of subdistrict administrative organizations in Bang Khonthi District in Samut Songkhram Province, consisting of administrators, permanent secretaries, and personnel responsible for social welfare work for the elderly. The research instruments were the questionnaire and the interview form. The data were analyzed by using frequency, percentage, mean, standard deviation, and content analysis.

The research findings were as the followings:

- 1. The existing condition of organizing social welfare for the elderly was overall at a low level including personnel's service, health and healing, recreation, family and social security, and income, respectively.
- The need for social welfare of the elderly was overall at a high level. The descending order of need level was as the followings: family and social security, income, health and healing, recreation, and personnel's service, respectively.
- 3. The problem of organizing social welfare for the elderly in health and healing aspect was the inconvenience and slow in diagnosing and healing. There should be mobile units for regularly providing health examination. The problem of insufficient income should be solved by providing every elderly the welfare and proper job training. For recreation aspect, the exercise activities should be continuously organized. The emergency vehicle service should be provided to ensure the family and social security. Finally, for the problem of lacking coordination of the personnel in organizing social welfare for the elderly, there should be a specific coordinator for doing this job.
- 4. The approaches for organizing social welfare for the elderly were health assurance fund raising, creating occupation groups for the elderly to lessen family and government dependence, organizing monthly recreation activities, providing transportion the elderly to join the activities. There also should be administrative personnels taking care of them in all aspects.

Subdistrict administrative organizations should give a chance for the elderly to participate in providing opinion on organizing social welfare for the elderly so that they could gain self-esteem, and they could be more valued by other people. The information from the research could be implemented for the integrated plan, both issue-focused and area-oriented for developing life quality of the elderly.