



SOCIAL PEDAGOGY. SOCIAL WORK **СОЦІАЛЬНА ПЕДАГОГІКА. СОЦІАЛЬНА РОБОТА.**

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SOCIAL ADAPTATION OF SOCIAL DORMITORIES RESIDENTS TO INDEPENDENT LIVING

I. V. Lityaga*, S. M. Sytniakivska**

This article highlights the relevance of social adaptation of social dormitories residents to independent living. Attention is focused on the analysis of scientific research on this issue by various scholars.

The article notes that orphans and children deprived of parental care have mostly medium and low levels of social adaptation.

The article also describes their problems in everyday life, conflict-free communication, education and further employment. The authors analyze the legislation on living in social dormitories and describes the tasks of social dormitories.

It is noted that when leaving residential institutions, children should be ready for social life, choosing a profession, searching for a job, and in case of difficulties, assistance should be provided by specialists working in social dormitories.

It is emphasized that the forms and methods of work used by social workers in social dormitories should be clearly defined and contribute to the successful process of social adaptation of their residents. When working with this category of youth, it is also important to take into account that orphans and children deprived of parental care may have special needs and problems related to discrimination and stigmatization, which can complicate the process of their social adaptation.

Social workers should perform tasks in accordance with the approved social adaptation program, as well as provide social services aimed at adapting young people to the social environment and acquiring new knowledge, skills and abilities for independent living.

The article highlights the main forms of work with residents of social dormitories, namely: individual, group and community work. The main methods of providing social services for the social adaptation of social dormitories residents are: social and psychological support, social and legal assistance, assistance in education, employment and retraining, assistance in solving housing issues, assistance in self-service skills developing, work with biological family.

* Candidate of Pedagogical Sciences (PhD in Pedagogy), Docent
(Zhytomyr Ivan Franko State University)
innalet@ukr.net

ORCID: 0000-0001-6210-4145

** Doctor of Sciences (Pedagogy), Professor
(Zhytomyr Ivan Franko State University)
hng@ukr.net

ORCID: 0000-0003-1367-0487

It is noted that specialists of social dormitories develop and implement special social programs on topical issues and organize the free time of residents of social dormitories, as well as their participation in volunteer activities.

Keywords: *social adaptation, social dormitory, independent living, orphans, children deprived of parental care, socialization.*

СОЦІАЛЬНА АДАПТАЦІЯ МЕШКАНЦІВ СОЦІАЛЬНИХ ГУРТОЖИТКІВ ДО САМОСТІЙНОГО ЖИТТЯ

I. В. Літяга, С. М. Ситняківська

У даній статті висвітлено актуальність соціальної адаптації мешканців соціальних гуртожитків до самостійного життя. Закцентовано увагу на аналізі наукових досліджень з даної проблематики різними науковцями.

У статті зазначено, що діти-сироти та діти, позбавлені батьківського піклування, мають переважно середній та низький рівні соціальної адаптації.

Також описано їх проблеми у побуті, безконфліктній комунікації, здобутті освіти та подальшому працевлаштуванні. Проаналізовано законодавство, що стосується проживання у соціальних гуртожитках, описано завдання функціонування соціальних гуртожитків.

Зазначено, що залишаючи інтернатні заклади, вихованці повинні бути готовими до суспільного життя, визначитись із професією, знайти роботу, при виникненні складнощів допомога має надаватись фахівцями, які працюють у соціальних гуртожитках.

Закцентовано, що форми та методи роботи, які використовуються соціальними педагогами соціальних гуртожитків, повинні бути чітко визначеними, ефективними та сприяти успішному процесу соціальної адаптації їх мешканців. У роботі з даною категорією молоді важливо зважати також на те, що особи з числа дітей-сиріт та дітей, позбавлених батьківського піклування, можуть мати особливі потреби та проблеми, пов'язані з дискримінацією та стигматизацією, що може ускладнювати процес їх соціальної адаптації.

Соціальні педагоги мають виконувати завдання відповідно до затвердженої програми соціальної адаптації, а також надавати соціальні послуги, спрямовані на адаптацію молодих людей до соціального середовища та здобуття нових знань, умінь та навичок щодо самостійного життя.

У статті виділено основні форми роботи з мешканцями соціальних гуртожитків, а саме: індивідуальну, групову та роботу у громаді. Основними методами надання соціальних послуг щодо соціальної адаптації мешканців соціальних гуртожитків є: соціально-психологічна підтримка, соціально-правова допомога, допомога у навчанні, працевлаштуванні та перекваліфікації, допомога у вирішенні житлових питань, допомога з розвитку навичок щодо самообслуговування, робота з біологічною родиною.

Зазначено, що фахівці соціальних гуртожитків розробляють та реалізують спеціальні програми соціального спрямування з актуальних тем та займаються організацією вільного часу мешканців соціальних гуртожитків, а також участю їх у волонтерській діяльності.

Ключові слова: *соціальна адаптація, соціальний гуртожиток, самостійне життя, діти-сироти, діти, позбавлені батьківського піклування, соціалізація.*

Introduction of the issue. The relevance of the topic is due to the problem of orphanhood in Ukraine, which is associated with economic, social and cultural factors that negatively affect the process of social adaptation of children and youth who are orphans or children deprived of parental care. During the war, children are one of the most vulnerable categories of the population, facing many risks, including stress, trauma, separation from or loss of parents. The

Ukrainian authorities, by implementing relevant social programs and providing benefits, help to support orphans and children deprived of parental care and young people from among them. However, these measures are not always effective and, as a result, cannot always ensure high-quality social adaptation of such persons.

It is worth noting that orphans and children deprived of parental care have mostly medium and low levels of social

adaptation. In the institutions where they live, appropriate work is being done to integrate them into society, which improves their living conditions, but it is not effective enough to promote a successful process of social adaptation to the new environment and the acquisition of skills necessary for independent living. This is due to certain difficulties in adult life, namely: problems in everyday life, conflict-free communication, education and further employment.

Institutions that help these categories of people with their social adaptation in society are social dormitories, which began operating in Ukraine in 2011-2013 and are part of the system of social service institutions. Such social protection institutions are designed to provide their residents with housing and conditions for their successful preparation for independent living. Thus, the issue of successful social adaptation of young people from among orphans and children deprived of parental care continues to be relevant and open.

Current state of the issue. Regarding the studies and publications that have begun to address this issue, we have analyzed it from different perspectives, namely: Donnyk M., Sushchyk N. and Yusychenko A. considered the socio-psychological problems of social dormitories residents and the organizational, pedagogical and socio-pedagogical principles of its activities; Hordienko N., Matiushko L, Sokorynska M. focused on the peculiarities of the process of social adaptation and socialization of graduates of boarding schools; N. Lytvynova considered aspects of social and pedagogical diagnostics of the readiness of young people from among orphans and children deprived of parental care for independent living.

Thus, the sources studied by us indicate the grounds for increasing the development and improvement of scientific and methodological support for the activities of social dormitories.

Aim of research is to determine the features and content of social dormitory residents' social adaptation to

independent living. This goal is realized in the analysis (tasks) of the activities of a social dormitory as one of the institutions of social services and the role of a social worker in this process, as well as in the analysis of the process of social adaptation of residents of a social dormitory.

Methods of research: theoretical analysis of methodological and pedagogical literature, Internet resources on the issue connected with the topic, forms and methods of its organization; synthesis and generalization.

Results and discussion. Currently we are living in a constantly changing environment. This is primarily due to the war. Orphans and children deprived of parental care are one of the vulnerable categories that need state support. In order to provide citizens with appropriate conditions for their socialization, education, upbringing, and choice of profession, the Government of Ukraine needs to improve its social policy strategy and take into account the effectiveness of social protection institutions. The state promotes the organization and active development of a system of specialized institutions and social protection institutions whose main task is to provide social and pedagogical assistance to all citizens.

The problem of orphanhood in Ukraine is particularly relevant, in particular for children who leave boarding schools after reaching the age of majority and therefore face the problem of adapting to new living conditions. After analyzing the needs of these individuals, the Ukrainian government introduced special institutions (social dormitories) for this category of population.

Social dormitories for orphans and children deprived of parental care are institutions where children of this category aged 15-18 and persons from among them aged 18-23 are provided with the right to temporarily reside. The activities of dormitories are aimed, firstly, at providing the necessary conditions for young people to socialize, and secondly, at preparing residents for independent living [2].

In its activities, the social dormitory is guided by the following specific legislative and regulatory acts: Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine No. 878 of 08.09.05 "On Approval of the Model Regulations on Social Dormitories for Orphans and Children Deprived of Parental Care"; Order of the State SSFCY of 26.11.07, No. 61 "On Approval of the Instruction on Accounting for Work with Orphans and Children Deprived of Parental Care, aged 15 to 18, and with Persons from among Orphans and Children Deprived of Parental Care, aged 18 to 23, who are in Social Dormitories"; The UN Convention on the Rights of the Child; The Constitution of Ukraine; The Family and Civil Codes of Ukraine; The Laws of Ukraine "On Protection of Childhood", "On Social Work with Children and Youth", and "On Ensuring Organizational and Legal Conditions for Social Protection of Orphans and Children Deprived of Parental Care"; Legislative packages on health care, insurance, education, labor, etc. [6: 250].

The main tasks of social dormitories are as follows:

- assistance in preparation and motivation for obtaining general secondary and higher education, assistance in further employment;
- assistance in overcoming difficulties and minimizing their negative consequences; development of independence skills (self-service, ability to be responsible for one's own actions and act on the basis of one's own reasoning and judgment);
- education on sexuality, pregnancy, conscious parenthood and healthy partnerships (before starting a family and in a family); learning to interact with the outside world without conflict and productively;
- informing, consulting and assisting in the realization of the rights and opportunities of residents;
- provision of temporary housing; assistance to young people in organizing their own productive leisure time [4: 165].

Currently there is no accurate information on the functioning of social dormitories. There is only information

about the relocation and re-equipment of this type of institution in different regions. In particular, after the events of 2014-2015, social dormitories that operated in eastern Ukraine were forced to move to other regions [7].

Social dormitories are established by executive bodies of local authorities or local self-government bodies. They are allowed to be located in special premises that meet all the established requirements of sanitation and hygiene, fire safety, technical and construction standards, and are provided with the necessary material and technical base. Financing of dormitories is carried out from the local budget [1].

When leaving residential institutions, children should be ready for social life, choosing a profession, and finding a job. As a result, young people will be able to successfully adapt to the new environment, choose a profession, plan family life and determine their moral and value orientations, as the process of social adaptation of residents of social dormitories is both a crucial and difficult factor in a person's self-identification and mastery of social norms.

Among the most common problems faced by residents of social dormitories are domestic problems related to the purchase of food and cooking, personal care and the purchase of necessary clothing and footwear; inability to manage their own budget, lack of skills in using and paying for utilities; problems with uncertainty about the choice of future profession, problems with entering educational institutions, problems with employment; lack of skills of conflict-free communication with the social environment, excessive impulsivity, anxiety; high/low self-esteem.

Researcher M. Donnyk, studying and analyzing the personal characteristics of dormitory residents and the conditions of their social adaptation, identifies the following problems that young people may face and that affect the adaptation process, in particular:

- intrapersonal problems – depression, unstable self-esteem,

phobias, isolation, psychological trauma, lack of vitality, etc;

- interpersonal problems – lack of desire to establish positive social relations with others;

- family problems – unwillingness and fear of living with a spouse and children;

- medical problems – HIV/AIDS and other diseases;

- addiction problems – drug, alcohol, toxic, computer and virtual addiction;

- educational and labor problems – self-realization, education, employment, leisure activities;

- social and economic problems – debt, loss of documents, lack of material support for the purchase of clothes, shoes, food, lack of skills for the rational use of own funds, etc. [5: 169-170].

One of the main roles in the activity of a social dormitory is played by a social worker. With the beginning of the functioning of social dormitories in the system of specialized social institutions, social workers faced a new requirement for their duties in interaction with a new category – residents of social dormitories [3: 92].

A social worker in a social dormitory is obliged to:

- possess basic knowledge, skills and abilities in the field of social work, including case management and interviewing skills;

- develop and monitor individual work plans based on data on the needs and capabilities of residents;

- represent the interests of young people at the state level;

- be aware of the program of social adaptation of orphans and children deprived of parental care;

- possess special knowledge, skills and abilities with a specific target audience and have experience of working with other vulnerable groups;

- possess knowledge on the current laws on the rights of children and youth, and, if necessary, be able to apply and adhere to ethical principles in working with the above.

A social worker should identify the needs of young people and analyze the

situation, taking into account certain facts and assessing cause and effect relationships, and implement programs to support residents in difficult life circumstances and help them find solutions to problems on their own under the guidance and supervision of specialists. A specialist should provide individual assistance to a person in a difficult life situation by informing, counseling, providing appropriate financial, psychological, and pedagogical support, providing social rehabilitation and orienting them to possible solutions to the problems they face [3: 93].

The tasks to be solved by a social worker, according to the approved social adaptation program, are:

- 1) familiarization and study of the problem of the residents;

- 2) creating a plan of individual work;

- 3) analysis and selection of methods, forms and techniques of work that will improve the process of social adaptation in a social dormitory.

Social services provided by social dormitories to orphans and children deprived of parental care are provided and coordinated by a social worker in accordance with the resident's record card and individual work plan, which is approved by an order of the State Social Service of Ukraine. The services aimed at adapting young people to the social environment and acquiring new knowledge, skills and abilities for independent living are:

- social and domestic – provision of temporary housing and other necessary material support;

- socio-economic – counseling on social benefits and privileges, assistance in the rational distribution of funds received;

- socio-pedagogical – assistance in discovering and realizing one's own abilities, organization and involvement in leisure activities;

- socio-medical – conducting discussions and consultations on disease prevention, healthy lifestyle and health improvement;

- psychological – providing counseling on mental health issues,

conducting psychodiagnostics to study the social and psychological characteristics of a person for further effective correction or rehabilitation;

- information – reference, educational, advertising and propaganda services;

- career guidance – counseling on the choice of professions, higher education institutions and further employment;

- legal – consultations and discussions on the rights, obligations and opportunities of citizens of this category (in accordance with the current legislation) [4: 166].

The social adaptation of the social dormitory residents is carried out through defined and approved social adaptation programs. The main purpose of the services provided by the social adaptation program is to support young people in difficult life circumstances, provide counseling and practical assistance in overcoming the consequences of past problems, assist in establishing ties with the biological family, if any, and form personality traits that are capable of taking responsibility for their actions and making decisions independently. Forms of work with residents of social dormitories include individual, group and community work. The main methods of providing social services for the social adaptation of social dormitories residents are: social and psychological support, social and legal assistance, assistance in education, employment and retraining, assistance in solving housing issues, assistance in developing self-care skills, and work with biological family. The social dormitory also uses such methods as socio-pedagogical diagnostics and counseling, social and preventive work, social education, and correctional and developmental activities. Young people who live in a social dormitory after completing the adaptation program also have the right to use the social support service, which is implemented under the post-program.

Social work with people living in a social dormitory is determined by the

step-by-step implementation of their social adaptation to independent living.

At the beginning of the work, the situation should be analyzed and possible ways to solve the problems that arise should be sought. The main stage involves the implementation of a plan that provides for the implementation of certain actions, methods and measures through social support for each resident. When providing support, a social worker acts not only as a social worker, but also takes on the responsibilities of a consultant, mediator, educator, and mentor. He or she overcomes the challenges of creating comfortable conditions for the participation of residents of social dormitories in surveys and reflections, as well as activities to identify advantages and disadvantages; implementing measures to raise awareness of the benefits of social adaptation, opening up new opportunities after gaining new knowledge and mastering new skills; carefully planning and analyzing the expectations of social dormitories residents and their real capabilities.

In the process of working with residents of social dormitories, specialists work in accordance with the following areas of activity: social and pedagogical, the main purpose of which is to develop independent living skills; social and preventive activities aimed at preventing social development disorders; social upbringing, namely, promoting the establishment of social relations.

According to some scholars, encouraging young people to volunteer has a positive effect on their formation and development, in particular, it helps to shape their worldview, determine their position in relation to themselves, others and work. By participating in volunteering, residents feel themselves useful and important, providing help to those who need it. As a result, they gradually change their social role from passive to more active.

In social dormitories, certain forms, methods and means of social adaptation are used, as well as certain social assistance; social support and specific social services are provided.

In addition to the main areas of work, specialists of social dormitories develop and implement special programs of social direction on topical issues and organize the free time of residents.

Conclusions and research perspectives. Thus, given the relevance of this problem, it is important to improve

the conditions for social adaptation of social dormitories residents in Ukraine, the use of appropriate forms, methods and means of work in this area. As for further prospects for research in this way, it is planned to develop a technology for social adaptation of social dormitories residents to independent living.

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