

Running Head: COMMUNITIES AND HEALTH

Student's Name

Name of Institution

Date

Essay

Communities and Health

Introduction

The aim of this essay is to critically discuss, based on the given case scenario of Alice, the community-based support options available to Alice and explore what are the barriers to their success?

Childhood neglect and Youth Offending

The case scenario given in the youth offending case study of Alice is very suggestive of the fact that how childhood neglect can influence youth offending. In the contemporary literature there is substantial body of evidence to develop the nexus between childhood neglect (as Alice in the case scenario has faced) and committing offences at younger age. For instance Cashmore (2012), in a research article states that the link between child maltreatment and adolescent offending” has shown that 81% of young women and 57% of young men involved in youth offending and brought to justice system had been abused or neglected.

Community-based support options

Achieving the social inclusion, rehabilitation and reintegration of youth offender like Alice poses a great challenge to society and the State. For the youth offending team in the UK one of the Youth crime prevention programmes for Alice can be Youth inclusion programmes, this community-based support options available for young children like Alice (8 to 17 year of age) and typically takes about six month period for behavioral

modification, educational support, skill development and other activities to help young people is resuming normal and socially responsible life (GovUK, 2017).

The major barrier in implementing this intervention is that it's very long duration programs and requires love of individual motivation and family support to attend and complete this programme successfully (Lipsey, 2018). Secondly, this is costly community support intervention and not available for every young offender in every part of country (Zehr, 2015).

Another community-based support options available to Alice is Youth inclusion and support panels. These community support panels specially formed for young offenders like Alice in the age group of 8 to 14, comprising to community social and youth worker and relevant members of community local services, based on the individual needs of every young child (Mendes et al., 2014).

This panel will firstly make a critical evaluation of needs of Alice, by identifying variables of personality, family, peers and cultural / ecological context, childhood experiences, education and living conditions. On the bases of assessment , panel coordinate with other community service providers to procure required and additional support for her such special education, mental health care, behavioural counselling and financial assistance etc (Mendes et al., 2014).

Mentoring also involve some group activities in which youth offenders like Alice share their personal stories of coping with deviant behaviours with group of young offenders and group try to identify the challenges they face and support they need.

However, one of the fundamental barriers in implementing the panel and mentoring community-based support options for Alice is the limited availability of trained and

dedicated professionals, secondly, these individual while helping young offenders like Alice in their rehabilitation has very little resource control and influence on school and financial assistance (Humayun et al., 2017).

Hence these programs can best serve in the short run in developing constructive habits and activities among children but not feasible for long term behavioural modification and providing essential socio-economic assistance, to young offenders like Alice need desperately for longer period of time, even after their transition to adulthood (Case and Haines, 2013).

Another community-based support options for Alice is attending group rehabilitation programme run by community service and ministry of justice at council level in the UK. The objective of the program is to contribute to the prevention and reduction of violence that involves young people and adolescents, facilitating opportunities for them to integrate into the social and productive life (Humayun et al., 2017).

In order to execute the actions of the program, an important factor is that program teams remain mobile and also approach community areas where youth offending ratio is high and seeks to identify children and form group according to age, gender and nature of offending. Young people are trained until they reach basic conditions of personal development and social commitment to the problem of youth offending. In terms of time, the training varied according to the conditions of the groups, but finally everyone received a basic course of 40 hours (Zehr, 2015).

In the recent years, a growing interest is shown there in the UK community works studies on the social intervention for young offenders around the notion of resilience. It is defined by Case and Haines (2013) as an interaction among protective factors and

risk, which can reverse or interrupt patterns of deviant behaviour among young children like Alice with disturbed past.

This approach in the community work interventions for youth offenders has led to a experiences centred on individual and community work that insist on the importance of approaching prevention by closely working with families and children and potential young offenders, in a difficult situation to strengthen their capacities to maturely assume their diverse roles (family, economic, cultural).

This community-based support is combined with socio-economic programs to increase job opportunities for vulnerable families and young people and ensure their labor insertion, taking care at all times to rehabilitate young women who suffered damages caused by abuse of rights or deviant behavior. This approach fosters the promotion of an multidisciplinary action for the rehabilitation of youth offenders in which the different institution and the community collectively provide opportunities for education, family and social integration and providing mental health and drug cessation services to youth offenders like Alice.

The critique of this resilience based approach argues the this social support approach is more focused in controlling the risk factors which cause children and young people to get involved in offences, however, when it comes to youth offenders like Alice who have been reported for disorderly behaviour and has committed offence, this intervention is very time consuming and seeks a very close family community and service provider coordination which in most of the practice setting is not easy as its presented in books (Lipse, 2018)

Another community-based support options available to Alice is parenting programmes for her mother, this intervention is developed on the assumption that deviant tendencies are results of neglect and poor parenting, hence for a young child like gets into trouble with the law, their carers or parents should be provided a parenting programme, to learn parenting skills spicily how to monitor and control deviant tendencies among young children and timely seek appropriate support from mental health, police or community support (Cashmore, 2012).

The major barrier in implementing this Intervention for Alice is that this option is mostly voluntary base and Alice mother cannot be compelled to attend this programme.

Secondly, the net outcome of this program (stopping youth crime and rehabilitation) will largely depend not upon Alice but on her level of skills and interest in the various interventions to support Alice.

Conclusion

It's evident from the case study of Alice that childhood negligence, lack of behavioral counselling; discontinued education has all result in creating Alice a youth offender. For preventing her further committing any offences had her rehabilitation various community-based support options available, which can support Alice is supporting her with financial, family, educational and behavioural issues. Though, no single options appears complete and there are some flaws and resources constraints in every option. Hence its recommended that a youth offending team must develop a comprehensive crime prevention and rehabilitation program for Alice with specific urgent, short term and medium term objectives.

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