

Community Engagement (LCBB4002)

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- **Centrepoin charity organization**

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Introduction

Homelessness in its every meaning is definitely one of the biggest social problems in past and this century. The current statistics are showing us that the homeless people worldwide are around 100 million. According to information posted by The Guardian there are 320,000 homeless in England and Wales. Many of them driven from their home by violence and poverty living in refugee camps or on the street. The problem is very serious which multiple questions arise every day. In this paper I argue that Centrepoin's work is crucial element for ending homelessness amongs youth in the UK.

Analysis of the organization

Centrepoin is a charity organization based in the United Kingdom which main objective is to support young people at age between 16 and 25 to get employment and a place they call home. The organization supported than 9000 homeless young people to get a place to stay (Kellie, 2017). I will begin by outlining the different types of prevention measure in order to provide a better understanding of their importance. There are two different types of prevention measures: primary prevention measures which objective is to reduce the risk of homelessness among the population, and measures of secondary prevention which focus on people who have a higher potential risk of homelessness due to the likeliness of certain situations that may push them to leave home in the future. Tertiary prevention measures, policies related to improve the supply, access, and maintenance of housing are especially significant in primary and tertiary prevention measures. Thus, housing policies such as subsidies to cover basic needs or measures aimed at maximizing affordable housing availability are very relevant in the case of primary prevention measures.

Centrepoin which strategic priority is offers assistance measures that provide help to youth who do not have sufficient resources to cover their survival needs and develop an autonomous life and whose habits prevent them from managing a home. The direct provision of services for the homeless and the support provided by the administrative or political sphere to the organizations that offer these services and on the other hand are so-called care-type measures (East, 2020). Centrepoin has enough experience and expertise to handle this situation since any inappropriate measure can aggravate the situation of the homeless. This is a belief held by some planners and providers of shelters, that these spaces and other temporary accommodations are the only solutions capable of mitigating homelessness.

However, the diversity of causes that give rise to the homelessness and the disbenefits suffered by the homeless, require an individual approach to each situation. Therefore, in many cases, they stay in certain accommodations that should be as transitional as possible between losing a home and finding a new one. There are two types of accommodation resources depending on the types of users: transitional, intended for people who are looking for their own permanent home and for whom preparation to manage a home is not necessary, and accommodation as a means of protection, aimed at the most vulnerable groups.

Centrepoin uses elements on which both the access to the housing of the most disadvantaged social groups and the type of policies developed towards homelessness in terms of housing. It depends on supply and prices of housing, the structure of the housing sector and availability of public housing. Thus, Centrepoin

considers affordable housing and financial assistance for housing expenses as the most important factors in solving homelessness in the long term.

Through various donor funds and assistance, Centrepont uses the private rental sector as a fundamental element to increase accessibility to housing and provide more security in their tenure among those with difficulties to occupy and maintain them. This consideration is based on the evidence that the number of private dwellings is increasing in Europe. It follows that social housing programs are not enough to satisfy the demand for accommodation of the population facing the most difficulties accessing a dwelling and that social rent has decreased over the last 20 years in EU countries (Pescod, 2020). Thus, it is expected that the private rental sector will become, in the long term, the rental scheme, and the recent evolution of this proportion differs between European countries. It should be noted that about two-thirds of EU homes are privately owned. The countries with the highest percentage of privately owned homes are those with the lowest GDP, predominantly Eastern European countries (Jozwiak, 2017). In general, home rental rates have decreased over the last 20 years, especially in Mediterranean countries. The regulation of the private rental sector, due to different historical trajectories and the diversity of relationships between each state housing market and the dynamics of globalization, also differs spatially; in some countries, it has been liberalized, or flexible regulations have emerged, and in others, it remains limited.

The opportunity of occupying subsidized housing is one of Centrepont's few options for homeless people to have their own accommodation. This measure is a key element for many youths to overcome homelessness and have residential stability. The Centrepont using a hierarchical method of compensation. People who advance favourably up the rungs of the ladder may have regular homeownership which is compensation for the ladder's upper levels (Buzzelo et al, 2016).

The objective of the organization

Centrepont charity works with young people who have lost their home because of problems with mental health, abuse or family breakdown. According to information shared by Centrepont 110,000 young people were asked for help in 2019. The objectives of the organization are to provide young people with health support, accommodation, training, life skills to get them back into education and employment. These objectives are executed through information, consultation, workshops, health and wellbeing programs, Databank and of course renting the house.

Practices of Community engagement in the Centrepont

Community engagement is essential for the work of organization like Centrepont to be successful. This is the process to building collaborative working between Centrepont's stakeholders and local community members. Community engagement is considered to be a main factor for growth, prosperity, communications and bonding between organization and other communities. Engaged employees are more productive since they feel much secure. Failure to engage workers might lead to low productivity or shift to other opportunities (Hoppe, et.al. 2015). The theory is the most practical framework for social employers finding a lasting change for people and the society in which they live. It focuses on people who are much oppressed and look for solutions to the problem. In most cases, while providing these services, it opts to work with the people from the locality where the development is being carried out. Here, the process calls for the association and good interaction among both parties. When the administration engages its persons, they feel wanted and cared for, and as a result, they work on the task fully motivated.

Stakeholders organization

Stakeholders are a key part of every profit and nonprofit organization. The use of stakeholders is another strategy adopted by the Centrepont charity. It is a route for certain institutions to include stakeholders in external or internal projects. Stakeholders are very crucial since they assist in raising project success (Hazy, and Uhl-Bien, 2015). Centrepont working closely with all stakeholders helps setting to prioritize and to risk mitigation. Stakeholders are bases of the supporting network and they are main factor Centrepont to achieve their objectives. Good communication and collaboration between stakeholders, make Centrepont the UK's leading youth homelessness charity

Media

Media plays a crucial function in every project of the Centrepont and it is one of the most cost effective communications channels..Social media can offer education to the people involved and prevent the occurrence of risks in the future while still on the ongoing project (Morecroft, 2015). Using platforms as Facebook, Twitter etc... to share real stories provides communication and allows Centrepont organization to build very good relationships with their audience. This gives a chance to increase the organization's budget, speed the transformation of the project and to achieve very good results. Social media helps Centrepont to showcase the results of their work and to be transparent front of stakeholders and donors. Using social media to publishing more detailed briefing and guidance on topics helps organization raised members during the work and promote prevention frameworks.

Volunteers

The other key piece in the organization is a Volunteer. Volunteers offer support through physical or funding. Volunteers work hand-in-hand with the other stakeholders who are in working to attain the same goal. Volunteers make established connections in case they are familiar with some organizations (Frow, et.al. 2015). They do not just make connections but also engage Centrepont to different community groups and local business to break the wall of the youth homelessness. Volunteers can also offer financial support to see the project doesn't go to a standstill. Working with volunteers creates the aspect of working and assisting others in effecting their overall psychological well-being profoundly.

Government

The government is essential to a project of every nonprofit organization. When Centrepont working together with well-know institution like local government make the public develop trustworthily. This packing up together enable the Centrepont to give the best due to support. Hence, important thing for Centrepont Charity to include the government while carrying out projects. The government offers them capital and other requirements required to run the project. It provides accountability by giving directions and making decisions measures and validating effects on the project (Morecroft, 2015). The government's work is to offer education if needed to any project that might be going in society.

Contributors/Donators

Contributors or donors are organizations or people who contribute some cash used to start or complete a project already started. Contributors ensure the project runs smoothly and the goals are met on time (Morecroft, 2015). Contributors/Donors give advances and ways that can be employed to ensure the project has achieved its objective. To some extent CentrePoint Charity have had many long-lasting donor relationships who assist them in running and maintain the organization. Centrepoint always offers donors many details about what will happen as result of their gift and even publishing financial information.

Conclusions

From this report it is concluded that the safe and sustainable accommodation is one of the step to breaking problem of youth homelessness in Uk. Centrepoint gives the young people a safe place to stay while they needed and helps them get solutions of the problems .When Centrepoint has started its activities in 1969 the office of organization was in a basement of the church in Soho and had a few staff work .Today organization has more than 400 members of staff across the UK and helps and support 14000 young people every year. The Centrepoint charity has very integral role in the community by trying to helps young homeless person to reconnect with social capital and to creates a better future for them. Using principles of community engagement makes their activities successful.

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