

Community Engagement

Reflective Report

Assignment 2



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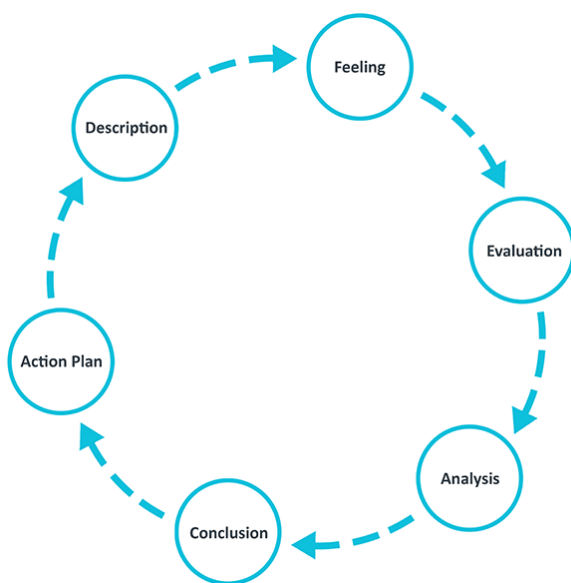
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Table of Content

1.Introduction	3
2. What is community engagement ?.....	3
2.1 Description.....	4
2.2 Feelings.....	5
2.3 Evaluation.....	6
2.4 Analysis	8
2.5 Conclusion	10
2.6 Action plan	10
2.7 Reflection	11
3.References	14

1.Introduction

This report will provide my personal relevant reflection on assignment one as partitioner in The Princess Project with critical and logical thinking. To go in more depth I will use Gibbs Reflection Cycle following guide I will follow Gibb's steps questions who help to engage critically with learning experience.



Source: <https://www.ed.ac.uk/reflection/>

2.What is community engagement ?

Community engagement is a strategies, practices and processes who aiming to identify specific group of people from the community and develop, relationship, and community collaboration between both sides (Carnegie UK Trust, 2007).

Now in this days with developing of the global business environment lot of countries, governmental , non-governmental organisation and companies release that one of the most important resource is the social capital or human resource. With another words to expand or

implement some processes in any company or organisation you need to make sure you engage with the the social capital who can help the organisation to build, maintain and expand any activities. In every developing country you can find many projects which mission is to engage with the local community and build relationship with them.

The Princess Project is a great example for local community project who manage to identify his target group, implement good community practice and support, educate and build confidence in such a weak part of the local society like young or single mums.

To reflect on as a participation in this community engagement project I will use as a mention above already Gibb's reflective cycle which is build on some very simple question which will help me to reflect honest as possible, logical and critical on my previous Assignment 1, where I discuss The Princess Project as a participation in details.

2.1 Description

The Princess Project is :

“A project for passions for mothers, all precious daughters of God The King” . (The Princess Project , 2023).

The project is inclusive organisation with christianity religion and faith based in Maidstone, Kent who provide help to the local community and support the young mothers and families with social, emotional and physical support. According Princess Project Inclusion Statement (2023) they embraced people from different religions, sexual orientations, religion background, cultural identity.

In this subheading we can identify four main principals to engage with the local community such as : Objective, Principles, Standards and and Strategy which will help us to describe the project.

The main object is to engage with healthy relationship between participations and the local community and provide supportive environment to young single mothers and develop a sense of belonging emotional well-being (The Princess Project, 2023).

The Princess project currently focusses on inclusivity, empowerment, and sustainability as its guiding principles, which are commendable.

The project adheres to ethical standards, promoting transparency and accountability.

The current strategies include outreach programs, collaboration with local organisations, and leveraging social media platforms for awareness.

2.2 Feelings

There is definitely positive feelings, because the project has successful generated interest and positive feedback with the local community and indicate strong foundation. Moreover, clearly religion is social support for lost lonely people abandoned from the society and that definitely help to the organisation identify their target group. Nevertheless, according to Stepick (2009) there is research which show that people attending more often to the church services are more likely became volunteers which I feel is a advantage for the project.

As a participation I feel that there is definitely more room for improvement terms of modern techniques to engage more with the locals, for example social media is great modern way to reach your target group, collect feedback and communication which can be used. However, some members of the community may feel disconnected due the

lack of personalised communication and limited opportunities for involvement.

2.3 Evaluation

Positive: The Princess Project has managed to attract diverse participants, fostering an inclusive environment..

The Princess Project in Maidstone aims to empower young girls and promote self-esteem, confidence, and leadership skills. As an evaluation assistant, I have analysed the key aspects of the project to provide a comprehensive evaluation.

a. Program Structure:

The project incorporates a well-structured program that focuses on various aspects of personal and social development. It includes workshops, mentoring sessions, and group activities, providing a holistic approach to empowerment.

b. Engagement and Participation:

The level of engagement and participation among the young girls in the Princess Project in Maidstone is commendable. The project's activities and initiatives have successfully captured their interest and encouraged active involvement in program sessions.

c. Mentorship:

The presence of supportive and knowledgeable mentors within the project is a significant strength. The mentors play a crucial role in inspiring and guiding the girls, promoting personal growth and leadership skills.

d. Impact on Self-esteem and Confidence:

The Princess Project in Maidstone demonstrates a positive impact on the self-esteem and confidence of the participating girls. Through targeted activities and

mentorship, they gain a better understanding of their abilities and strengths, enabling them to believe in e. Collaboration with Schools and Community:

The project effectively collaborates with local schools and community organisations, creating a strong network of support. This collaboration enhances the project's reach, ensuring access to a wider audience of young girls who can benefit from its services.

e. Monitoring and Evaluation:

To ensure the effectiveness of the project, continuous monitoring and evaluation should be carried out. This includes collecting feedback from participants, mentors, and stakeholders, as well as assessing the overall impact and identifying areas for improvement.

f. Sustainability and Expansion:

The Princess Project in Maidstone should strive for sustainability by exploring long-term funding options and establishing partnerships with organizations that align with their mission. Additionally, there is potential for expansion to reach more girls in Maidstone and extend the project's impact.

Overall, the Princess Project in Maidstone showcases a well-structured program that effectively empowers young girls, promotes self-esteem, confidence, and leadership skills. The project's focus on mentorship, collaboration, and its positive impact on participants makes it a valuable initiative for the community. Continuous monitoring, evaluation, and sustainable growth will further enhance its effectiveness in the future.

2.4 Analysis

The project's principles align the values of the target community, which create a sense of commitments and ownership. The current strategies heavily rely on one-way communication, limiting opportunities for meaningful dialogue and collaboration. However, there is a lot positive and beneficial aspect such as:

A. Focus on Empowering Young Women: The Princes Project's emphasis on empowering young women in Maidstone is a significant strength. By providing opportunities for skill development, mentorship, and personal growth, the project contributes to building stronger and more confident individuals who can positively impact their community.

B. Tailored Approach: The unique aspect of The Princes Project in Maidstone lies in its tailored approach. By recognising and addressing the specific needs and challenges faced by the local community, the project ensures that its initiatives are relevant and impactful.

C. Collaboration with Stakeholders: The Princes Project's ability to collaborate with various stakeholders, such as local schools, businesses, and community organizations, is commendable. This collaboration enhances the project's reach and effectiveness, enabling a broader and more sustainable impact.

Areas for improvement:

- i. **Enhanced Outreach:** While The Princes Project has made significant strides in empowering young women in Maidstone, there is potential for expanding its reach and engaging with a broader demographic. Strategies to enhance outreach, such as targeted marketing campaigns and partnerships with additional community organizations, can help ensure that the project reaches those who would benefit the most.
- ii. **Long-term Support:** The provision of long-term support to young women involved in the project could be strengthened. Continued mentorship, networking opportunities, and access to resources beyond the initial program duration can significantly contribute to the sustainability of the project's impact on the participants' lives
- iii. **Evaluation and Impact Measurement:** Implementing a robust system for evaluating the project's outcomes and impact would be beneficial. Establishing clear metrics and regularly collecting data can provide valuable insights into the effectiveness of the various initiatives and guide future enhancements.

Effectiveness of Unique Aspects: The unique aspects of The Princes Project in Maidstone have been effectively implemented, contributing to the project's impact. By tailoring initiatives to address the specific needs of the local community, the project ensures relevance and resonance. The collaboration with stakeholders has created valuable partnerships, enabling a holistic approach to empowerment. However, continued emphasis and

improvement in these unique aspects would further enhance the project's effectiveness.

2.5 Conclusion

According to Carnegie UK Trust (2007), in this days 40 percent of the merge end up with divorce which increase the number of single mums with double compare to the previous couple of decades.

The Princess Project has made significant strides in community engagement, but several areas could be improved to ensure a more seamless process.

For example ensuring that sufficient resources, whatever financial, human, or technological are allocated to the project is crucial for the success. This considering factors like funding, expertise, equipment and infrastructure necessary to achieve the desired outcomes.

2.6 Action plan

Enhance Communication: Utilise multiple communication channels, including community meetings, newsletters, and phone calls, to reach individuals who may not have internet access.

Personalise Engagement: Offer individualised meetings or focus groups to understand specific community needs, aspirations, and challenges.

Collaborate with local organisations, community leaders, and influencers to widen the project's reach and ensure representation.

Feedback Mechanisms: Establish a feedback loop to ensure community members can express their opinions, suggestions, and concerns at different stages of the project.

Capacity Building: Offer training programs and workshops to enhance digital literacy among community members, enabling them to actively participate online.

Developing an inclusive approach for example initiatives for good practices in managing volunteers (Tribal,2008)

2.7. Reflection:

Successful implementation of the above recommendations will create a more seamless process, providing a platform for effective community engagement within the Princess Project. Nevertheless, the recommendations can have provide better understanding of the local population. Regular reflections and evaluations can help identify any further areas for improvement, ensuring continuous enhancement of community engagement strategies. By following this forward-looking plan and implementing the recommended strategies, the Princess Project can enhance its community engagement efforts to achieve a more holistic and inclusive transformative project.

After end of my participation I realise my personal and professional growth and make me feel proud when see that confidence and independence increase in our community. Not of the end I gain so much skills such as a communication, understanding of the society problem solving and learn about the perspective which we can benefit as a healthy society. To be part of this project truly make me feel part of the local community and better person.

The Princess Project has had a significant positive impact on the local community in Maidstone. The project aims to empower and uplift young women, and it has successfully achieved this through several means.

The Princess Project provides support and guidance to young women, helping them build their confidence and self-esteem. By participating in various activities, workshops, and mentoring programs, the project has given these young women the tools to overcome challenges and transform their lives for the better.

In addition, the project has created a sense of community and belonging among these young women. They have formed strong bonds with each other, providing support and understanding in a safe and nurturing environment. This sense of togetherness has not only empowered them individually but has also strengthened the overall community fabric.

The Princess Project has also made positive changes in terms of education and career opportunities. It offers workshops and training sessions on various important skills, including interview techniques, CV writing, and public speaking. This has significantly improved the employability of the young women involved, giving them the confidence to pursue their desired career paths.

Furthermore, the project has uplifted these young women by providing opportunities for personal growth and development. Through various leadership programs and volunteering opportunities, they have been able to discover and nurture their leadership skills, enabling them to have a positive impact on their community.

One of the most significant improvements brought about by the Princess Project is the mindset shift among the young women involved. They have learned to set goals, chase their dreams, and believe in themselves. This transformation has not only positively impacted their lives

but also inspired others around them to strive for their own personal growth and successes.

In summary, the Princess Project in Maidstone has had a profound positive impact on the local community. By empowering and uplifting young women through support, guidance, education, and personal development opportunities, the project has transformed their lives and created a ripple effect of positivity within the community.

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