

Case Assessment and Research Intervention: Center For Refugee Services

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SM was referred to the Center For Refugee Services by self and the need for services. She is a young female adult who is a refugee. SM entered the services of Center For Refugee Services a few months prior to Longwood University Social Work Department of Education being involved with the agency. She left her country with her husband and two young male children. The name of the issue is unknown. However, it is known that there was a war against women's rights beginning. SM admired her rights as a woman and wanted to continue her daily functions. SM had the concern of not being able to live her life and use her credentials as before. This had a significant impact on her life, and she later began her migration to the United States. As she knew what was best, she entered the United States to strive for a better life with ethical human rights and asylum. SM and her family currently live in San Antonio, Texas. She and her husband are currently unemployed. However, they do have shelter that was implemented by the Center For Refugee Services. SM shows gratitude and worry about her needs due to her immigration. All responses are in-depth and not as close-ended, yet there is a communication barrier. A key element to working with SM was the ability to gather the client's needs. The needs are employment, communication skills, asylum, medical insurance for children, and a cell phone.

Social workers have the demographics of handling case assessments. They understand the steps and criteria for assessing the needs. A part of the assessments involves applying theories and assessments for the clients. There is always a family that is in need of assessments for referrals; however, each family and individual will be unassociated from one another. When having interactions with clients, it is imperative to ensure that the change model is in effect. The change model is to allow the social worker and client management the criteria and lay out the needed categories for success. Being in connection with the coordinator, she ensured that the agency used the change model as well to ensure the needs of services.

The first part of the assessment was to gain the client's trust and sense of comfort. As a rising social worker, I was sure to ask about the client's expectations and needs. As services continued, there were life and communication skills taught. I do not have the credentials, but I worked more as a resource for resources and advocate for the client. As the needs were assessed, solutions were in place for the client. After all, the research began on how to serve and be beneficial for the client. Plans were assessed and pushed through the limitations of not having the credentials to serve as a social worker. The assessment went into gaining more information about the needs and referring services and skills. The last part of the assessment was termination. The client appeared to understand the regulations for termination. However, the client was not terminated from the services of the Center For Refugee Services.

Established on research the theoretical framework of Exile and Resettlement. This is a theory that induced an understanding of the thoughts and factors of refugees. According to the theory, refugees can often feel “unequal in social relationships and more marginalized from society” (Dryden-Peterson, 2016). Refugees go through a lot of rejection from jobs, socially, and primarily from society. Therefore, they have different types of refugees in society. There are those that are closed off and against services and assistance. Then there are those who are “exiles” because they do not want to identify with the nation. They are just here because of human rights” (Dryden-Peterson, 2016). Lastly, those that gather the sense of resettled and identify with the nation but not always the government” (Dryden-Peterson, 2016). Each factor has its own contribution to how the refugee settles into the new nation they are in. In this case, SM was a refugee who wanted help from services. She wanted to fight for her right to belong, asylum, and continue her profession. There was no guard due to the want and need of services.

For SM, an intervention that can enhance her understanding and reach a solution is psychosocial intervention. It is known that refugees suffer from mental health concerns. Those who are currently pushing for their asylum may be experiencing an increased amount of stress and mental health concerns. The psychosocial intervention clients to be considered in the studies are individuals who experience “ mental health problems, reports of PTSD, and depressive or anxiety outcomes”(Turrini et al., 2019). The intervention will consist of the “Cochrane procedure, which is the measure of strengths and limitations, and a systemic review of meta-analysis” (Turrini et al., 2019). The overall intervention was shown to improve the effects and symptoms of stress. Follow-ups were conducted and gathered relative information from those involved in the study. There were positive attributes of this conducted study.

The theoretical framework of intersectionality is another theory to apply for and to the client's needs. Intersectionality is a framework with many attributes, such as race, sexuality, religion, gender, socioeconomic status, and social class, that dispurses an individual's identity. There are pros and cons when adding this theory into assessments” (Gillborn, 2015). Intersectionality allows the social workers and agency to have a form of understanding of the client. This framework is impactful to the client because of the different factors that make her who she is, such as being a woman. Not just a woman but a refugee woman, woman of color, educated wife and mother.

The agency Center of Refuge Services will manage matters pertaining to the referral of services, health and wellness, community support, counseling, educational classes, communication improvement, employment, and basic needs as they pertain to the needs of the refugees and their families. The agency manages the matters by being connected to other agencies, having the resources inside the agency, and granting funding and donations to supply

the basic needs. The mission of the agency is “ to promote the wellness, self-sufficiency, and successful community integration of resettled refugees and their families” (Center For Refugee Services).

Lastly, discuss termination for the client. There was discharge planning at the beginning stages of meeting with the client. There were several goals that the client wanted to reach, as was stated that we would have to focus on a few at a time. However, it was assured that there would be an accomplishment for the client's benefit. The termination will consist of reassuring all that has been discussed in previous meetings. Letting the client show me that she has obtained the information and will use it to her advantage. Making sure the client is provided with lifelong skills is crucial for the client and social worker's benefit. Within this case, there were a lot of needs that were needed; therefore, focusing on what is more beneficial is what could work sufficiently. As a social worker who promotes human rights, it is crucial to always work by the social work code of ethics.

As I take the time to reflect on this specific point of the internship, there is a lot that I would do differently. First, I would go past the eight weeks with the client. It appears that there is a lot more that could have been done ethically. Also, would consider doing more research on refugees and the services and agencies that are offered to them further than in Texas. As education and advocacy become more known for refugees, I will have more compassion and enthusiasm to advocate for the refugees who are in greater need. There were a few ethical considerations as the social worker. As the upcoming, it was hard to work and not understand what the working goal was. There were a few scenarios where I was confused and afraid success was not in the future. As I go into my next internship, I know to go with confidence but also with

questions to ask. I know to give myself personal principles and rely more on the social work code of ethics.

In conclusion, when working with refugees, it is crucial to have a holistic approach. As American citizens, we do not have the same life experiences as refugees; therefore, it is significant to identify the limitations. SM is a young adult who is continuing to learn her strengths and importance as a refugee. Providing theories, services, and lifelong skills is beneficial to the life of SM. SM was still connected with the Center For Refugee Services during the time of termination. There have not been any follow-ups conducted since then.

References

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