

Research on the Strategy of Social Work Intervention in Community Correction for Adolescents

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Abstract

Juvenile delinquency is a hot issue of social concern. Social work intervention in juvenile community correction has professional advantages, but there are problems such as low service quality, insufficient social worker capabilities, and lack of social resources. It is necessary to implement "correction" according to individual needs, strengthen the construction of social work talent teams for correction, establish a community for juvenile community correction, improve the intervention of social work in adolescent deviant behavior, enhance the efficiency of social workers in solving adolescent deviant behavior problems, and promote the recovery of adolescent self and social functions.

Keywords

Adolescent Community Correction Target; Community Correction; Social Work

1. Introduction

The phenomenon of juvenile delinquency is a "social syndrome", and as a relatively special criminal group, community correction for juvenile offenders has become particularly important. Since the implementation of the Community Correction Law, community correction has become an important way to try to solve the problem of juvenile delinquency. The state encourages other social organizations related to minors to participate in community correction work for minors. In the field of managing the objects of youth community correction, social work has become an important force in participating in youth community correction with its professional advantages[1].

2. The advantages of social work intervention in adolescent community correction

It is difficult for the judicial department alone to achieve good correction results in adolescent community correction. Social workers with professional knowledge and skills can leverage their advantages in adolescent community correction, which is conducive to achieving the goal of adolescent re socialization correction.

2.1. Absorbing professional youth correctional social workers can improve correctional efficiency

The judicial office is the most basic organizational structure of the judicial administrative organs, but its work content is diverse and complex, with heavy tasks. In the process of undertaking youth community correction work, it is inevitable that it cannot take into account all aspects, resulting in low work efficiency. The investigation found that there is a lack of professional community correction staff in grassroots judicial offices, such as in Weifang City, Shandong Province, where there are a total of 120 judicial offices in towns and villages, and 203 judicial office staff in the city, with an average of less than 2 people per office, making it difficult to effectively carry out community correction work[2]. In recent years, community correction work has been comprehensively implemented nationwide. With the involvement of social work in community correction work, the community correction team has absorbed professional social work talents, combining social work professional knowledge and skills with practical work, which has significantly improved the efficiency of community correction.

2.2. Joining the "flexible" power of social workers improves the corrective effect

Community correction has the characteristics of rigidity, compulsion, and punishment, and correctional workers are prone to the problem of "excessive rigidity and insufficient flexibility" in their work. Judicial staff communicating with juvenile community correctional objects in a teaching and commanding manner can bring a sense of oppression and tension to the juvenile community correctional objects, which can easily arouse the resentment and resistance of rebellious teenagers, deepen their defensive psychology, and hinder effective communication[3]. Social work adheres to the principle of putting people first and focuses on education and correction. Social workers do not have a serious appearance. They wear more approachable casual clothes and have equal contact with adolescent community correction objects. By using professional communication skills, they can gain more recognition from adolescent community correction objects and bring them closer to each other. This is conducive to delving into the inner world of adolescent community correction objects, guiding them to express their feelings, inspiring them to make positive changes, and making the correction process smoother.

2.3. By applying professional value concepts, the potential for correc-

tion can be stimulated

The values of social work provide conceptual support for community correction of juvenile delinquency. The professional philosophy of social work believes that everyone has infinite potential, especially teenagers who are in a period of rapid physical and mental development, full of infinite potential. Fully understanding and exploring the potential of adolescent community correction objects is one of the most important tasks of social work intervention in adolescent community correction. In adolescent community correction work, correction workers should stand from the perspectives of moderators, listeners, and guides, help adolescent correction objects discover their own strengths and potential, enhance their self-confidence, strengthen their self affirmation, guide adolescents to play to their strengths, and help them explore their potential.[4]

2.4. Pay attention to inner correction, and the function of corrective education can be fully utilized

Community correction is a non custodial execution method of punishment, and punishment is one of its essential characteristics. In the past, in the process of community correction for young people, judicial staff were more focused on the "supervision" function due to the influence of traditional imprisonment [3]. Correction focused more on external behavior rather than internal feelings, which easily led to some young people undergoing community correction only changing their behavior without any change in their internal feelings. Compared to supervision and management, social work places more emphasis on education and correction. Through various forms of education and guidance, it aims to improve the ideological and cognitive abilities of adolescent community correction targets, enabling them to recognize their mistakes from the bottom of their hearts, correct their deviant behaviors, restore social functions, and achieve self growth.

3. The main problems of current social work intervention in adolescent community correction

Currently, although the intervention of social work in youth community correction in China is accelerating, due to the incomplete development of social work and inadequate policies and regulations, many problems still exist in practical work.

3.1. The quality of services provided by social workers is not high

When social workers provide services, they often use the method of case work. However, only by combining case work, group work, and community work can we better eliminate the deviant behavior of young people in community correction, help them tap into their potential, and truly integrate into society and establish themselves in the future. Social work emphasizes the comprehensive use of three major work methods to guide young community correctional objects to realize their own problems, enhance their ability to solve problems on their own, and enable them to

grow up healthy and happy. At the same time, social workers can use professional skills to calm the emotions of young people, eliminate their psychological distress, correct their deviant behavior, and gradually achieve correctional goals. But in practical work, perfect results are often not achieved.

3.2. Youth correctional social workers have weak service capabilities

Some junior social workers, due to their lack of proficiency, work experience, and limited abilities, are unable to comprehensively and thoroughly help young people solve various problems they face. Even mature social workers, without collaboration and cooperation from families, schools, and communities, and relying solely on individual efforts, are difficult to achieve corrective goals. Therefore, social workers need to adhere to the principle of "learning until old age" in their daily work and life, strive to learn, and improve their professional abilities; At the same time, leveraging professional advantages and combining multiple resources can achieve comprehensive and multi-faceted assistance in correcting adolescent deviant behaviors, promoting their rapid integration and adaptation into society.

3.3. Social work intervention has a longer cycle and lower efficiency

Social workers intervene in the process of community correction for adolescents, and different methods and strategies need to be adopted according to the different characteristics of each client[5]. After the intervention work is completed, social workers need to continuously follow up with the correctional subjects to understand and evaluate whether they have returned to normal and adapted to society. Therefore, the effectiveness of the intervention is relatively slow and the cycle is long, which will consume a lot of energy and time from the clients and social workers, and the results cannot be seen quickly. The patient and their family may also lack patience during the correction process, which can affect the effectiveness of the correction.

4. Analysis of the reasons for the problems of social work intervention in adolescent community correction

4.1. The particularity of adolescent community correction objects

Teenagers are in a special period of life, with significant emotional fluctuations and strong rebellious psychology. Social workers find it difficult to fully understand all the problems that teenagers face in their work. Teenagers face different environments at each age stage, and the problems they encounter also change with the environment, which poses challenges for social workers to carry out their work. Simply relying on individual case work for community correction of adolescents cannot effectively identify the impact of environmental changes, especially the problems exhibited by the client in a larger group outside of home and school. Social workers, groups, and communities need to work together to promote the potential of adolescents and enhance their ability to solve problems on their own.

4.2. Correcting the developmental limitations of social workers themselves

China's social work started relatively late, and although it has developed rapidly, it lacks both theoretical and practical experience, especially in youth community correction work. Although the professional knowledge and skills of social work can effectively solve the problem of adolescent community correction, due to the uneven level of knowledge and professional abilities, the professional abilities of social workers in the process of adolescent community correction are still unable to meet practical needs. Some social workers may experience fatigue after working for a period of time, no longer focusing on learning professional theoretical knowledge, and social work institutions have not provided relevant training, resulting in stagnant personal development and ineffective improvement of professional abilities.

4.3. The participants in adolescent correction lack cooperation and are unable to effectively utilize resources

According to the Community Correction Law, community correction work requires judicial administrative organs to be responsible for guiding, managing, organizing, and implementing it, with cooperation from public security, procuratorial, judicial, relevant government functional departments, and social organizations. For teenagers, a collaborative mechanism needs to be established between the government, social organizations, families, schools, and communities to jointly participate in community correction work for teenagers. However, due to the lack of information sharing and smooth communication among various parties, there is a lack of connection in areas such as life security, education, employment, and migrant work during the correction process, and resources cannot be effectively utilized.

5. Strategies for Social Work Intervention in Community Correction for Adolescents

5.1. Strengthen the application of social work concepts and methods to improve service quality

The three major working methods of social work are the embodiment of the values and concepts of social work in practice. Case work is the main working method for correcting social work, providing individualized and differentiated services through face-to-face communication. However, considering that adolescents are in a transitional period of physical and psychological maturity, with strong plasticity, good imitation, and susceptibility to the influence of their surrounding environment, their sense of identity and belonging often comes from peer groups. Therefore, group social work methods have a strong appeal to adolescent correctional targets. Compared to individual case and group work methods, community work methods are more macroscopic and can intervene in correctional objects from the community and a larger environment. Organized and planned activities are carried out to elim-

inate the adverse effects of the community environment on adolescent correctional objects. The three major working methods should be comprehensively applied to improve the quality of corrective services and achieve the goals of community correction from different levels.

5.2. Promote the construction of a talent team for adolescent correctional social workers and enhance their professional abilities

We need to improve the relevant security system for youth community correction social workers and encourage more professional social workers to join. On the one hand, social work organizations can adopt different incentive measures, introduce a large number of professional talents, expand their teams, and arrange specialized training activities in a timely manner, inviting experts to train social workers. At the same time, establish a scientific assessment system, regularly conduct professional assessments of social workers within the organization, and quantify various assessment contents to help social workers clearly understand their strengths and weaknesses, and help them improve their work methods in a timely manner. On the other hand, social workers should systematically integrate the professional values of social work with real cases in a scientific and effective manner, and improve their ability to combine relevant professional theories with practical work methods when carrying out their work. At the same time, social workers should constantly remind themselves to keep in mind the professional values and ethical codes of social work, apply them to their daily work, and strive to improve their professional abilities.

5.3. Coordinate the relationship with judicial administrative personnel to achieve maximum corrective effect

In the specific practice of youth community correction, the unclear division of responsibilities and scope of work between social workers and judicial administrative personnel can easily lead to problems such as confusion in responsibilities, reduced utilization of social resources, and inadequate cooperation between the two. This requires social workers to strengthen information communication and cooperation with community correctional judicial administrative staff in the specific practical process, build a two-way linkage mechanism, establish a diversified information collaboration platform, and promote information sharing; Clarify the functions and responsibilities of oneself and judicial administrative personnel in youth community correction work, optimize resource allocation, and maximize the effectiveness of youth community correction.

5.4. Establish a community correction community for young people and improve resource utilization efficiency

Teenagers need the care, support, and assistance of their families, classmates, and teachers during their growth process. In daily life, parents and teachers are easily imitated by teenagers, and their words and actions play a crucial role in their growth and development. If the community correction work for teenagers lacks the

companionship of families, support from schools, and cooperation from the community, then no matter how hard social workers work, the correction effect cannot be maximized. Therefore, social workers should leverage their professional strengths, act as a "glue", integrate available social resources, build a bridge for the joint communication between families, schools, and communities in youth community correction work, help young people establish a three-dimensional visual and clear network support system, better meet the needs of youth community correction, and improve their interpersonal relationships.

6. Conclusion

The intervention of social work in the correction of juvenile delinquency is a product of social development and a direction for the professionalization of social work. The implementation of community correction work for adolescent community correction objects is of great significance to society, the country, and adolescents and their families. China's community correction work is in a period of continuous exploration, and the development of adolescent community correction has achieved some considerable results, but there are also some practical problems that cannot be ignored. Therefore, social work intervention in youth community correction requires joint efforts from all parties to promote effective resolution and prevention of juvenile delinquency.

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