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Baby's Bounty

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Social Problem/ Issue Research

Social Issue: There are disadvantaged mothers that come from domestic abuse cases, teen pregnancies, unemployment, underemployment, and have mental health issues

Ideal State:

- Not having babies go home from the hospital without essential supplies to thrive

Current:

- Mothers that become homeless have usually been abused
- Poor/ Low Income mothers are prone to depressive symptoms due to stress of poverty.
- Significant reduction in teenage pregnancies in past decade, but services must still be provided to continue this downward pattern.

Service Site Approach: Baby's Bounty supplies mothers with baby bundles which include any requested items. Ex: car seat, diapers, blankets, bibs, bottles, etc.

My Approach to Issue: Not only supply the mothers with baby supplies but provide them with programs to develop themselves.
Ex: Help them obtain jobs, GED, etc.



Service Learning Experience

Service To Community: I helped with awareness of this organization, making it available to the community and made a difference by lending a hand in whatever Baby's Bounty needs were.

Ex: receiving donations, keeping inventory, helping with bundles.

Semester Reflection: This service learning project has helped me see that temporary solutions to an issue are not always the most helpful to solve a social issue. It also helped me understand the struggle of smaller service sites in need of help. It is not a bad idea to come out and help out the community in ones free time.

Pros:

- Good feeling
- Networking
- Had Fun!

Cons:

- Conflicted with work at times
- Long hours

Expectations: I thought I would just be going in and do my hours. I didn't expect to become great friends with the staff and enjoy going as much as I did. I even learned a lot about different names for baby products!

Difference Making & Future

Differences I made for site:

- Became a regular volunteer they could rely on
- Helped them with their moving process
- Helped them keep their inventory organized and counted for accurately

Personal/Professional Learning:

- Now know varies baby product names and their uses.
- Patience is key, especially when moving
- Always keep a positive environment to get people to keep coming back

Future Change/ Effort:

- Keep volunteering !
- Pitch in ideas for developing the mothers to ensure both baby and mom thrive.
- When I become a Pediatrician, provide affordable or free medical care for less fortunate mothers.

