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Catholic Charities of Southern Nevada

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Catholic Charities of Southern Nevada (CCSN)

Ye Eun Nam

Introduction

History and Purpose

- CCSN was established in 1941 by Bishop Thomas K. Gorman.
- The site was acknowledged as nonprofit in 1945.
- CCSN initially started to provide help to homelessness, family, adoption, special legislation, and United Service Organization.
- Later CCSN expanded to include senior citizens, refugees, immigration, home for girls, shelters, work programs, and employment services as the population of Nevada grew.

Community Service Paradigm

- There are multiple branches to target every social issue the charity is covering.
- For example, to target hunger, the charity has three different branches for families, elderly, and homeless.



Social Issue Research



Social Issue Addressed

- The social issue addressed by CCSN is the prevalence of hunger for homeless, families, and elderly.

Current and Ideal State of Social Issue

- America is suffering from the current issue of “silent undernutrition.”
- With undernutrition in America, the overall health of American citizens is on a decline (Cutts, Pheley & Geppert).
- Some speculate that the issue of hunger arises from systematical error in the government (Brown & Allen).
- Ideal state of the social issue will be the disappearance of charities to provide food for those who are in need (Silvasti & Riches).

Service Site’s Approach to Issue

- CCSN provides immediate nourishment for homeless, families, and elderly.
- Additionally, it is creating a branch of charity to target addiction because there is high correlation between hunger and addiction.

My Approach to Issue

- My approach to the issue to volunteer at the charity so I can help CCSN feed one more person.
- As a student, I am not loaded with money, so I help my community by donating a part of my time to volunteer at the charity.

Resources

Brown, J. Larry, and Allen, Deborah. “Hunger In America.” *Public Health*, vol. 9, 1988, pp. 503–526.

Cutts DB, Pheley AM, Geppert JS. Hunger in Midwestern Inner-city Young Children. *Arch Pediatr Adolesc Med*. 1998;152(5):489–493. doi:10.1001/archpedi.152.5.489

Silvasti T., Riches G. (2014) Hunger and Food Charity in Rich Societies: What Hope for the Right to Food?. In: Riches G., Silvasti T. (eds) *First World Hunger Revisited*. Palgrave Macmillan, London

Service Learning Experience & Making a Difference

Service to Community

- I served the community by volunteering at Meals on Wheel-Tray Line and Hands of Hope Community Food Pantry.

Semester Reflection

- Volunteering at the charity allowed me to see outside my comfort zone to take a further look around the surrounding and world.

Expectations

- I expected many face-to-face interactions with the people who came to the charity to seek help.
- Also, I expected all the interactions to be a friendly.

Differences in My Own Views

- I realized that our community is still divided between the rich and poor even when we try to break all barriers within our community.

Differences I Made for the Site

- Volunteering at the site allows the charity to spend more resources on the community than on workers.

Personal / Professional Learning

- I learned to get out of my comfort zone to interact with strangers, which will help me for my future career.

Future Changes, Effort, and Outcome

- In the future, I will try to volunteer as much as I can to provide more for my community.

