

MENTAL HEALTH PLANNING NEEDS ASSESSMENT

Needs Assessment

1. Broad Based - *TOTAL Assessment*
2. Targeted - *Specific Issues*

Needs Assessment- What is It?

- Identify issues that affect a community. Identify, Describe, Understand
- Issues that have negative consequences for the community.
- Issues are at times out of awareness.
- "Discovery" Focus may be an issue that underlies community concerns -(Ex: Homeless and Poverty).

Goal

1. Help plan areas of intervention.
2. Have a clear set of priorities.
3. Selection of interventions will then be decided by how well they relate to needs.

* Typical Parts of Needs Assessment

① Demographics of problem

- a. Prevalence, Incidence
- b. Risk Factors

② Community and personal cost of problem?

- a. Financial
- b. Personal and System Impact (ex. What is life like?)
- c. Specific needs evoked by problems (ex. Transportation)

③ Adequacy of current resources

- a) Programs that deal with problems (Ex: after school)
- b) Educational Outreach
- c) Treatment Resources
- d) How are resources used by target group (Time Line)

④ Community Awareness

- a) Groups involved in treatment
- b) Concerns of significant target groups
 1. Police
 2. School

⑤ Future Plans of Community and Agencies

*See Ecological Research Methods in: American Journal of Community Psychology Feb, 1996. The whole issue is devoted to it.

especially

talk about the needs?

what have to change what's I imagine

5 parts

what is the

5 points important

what's the

important problem.

what's gonna cause the problem?

* think of that

the more what gonna cost you?

what's striving for?

How many clients program under 16

what's cost who deal with different the culture

how much what's cost

How common is that?

Benefits of Needs Assessment

1. Program Planning – Identify problems
2. Community Awareness – Make use of/raise awareness of current resources [indirect benefit]
3. Community Advocacy – Vulnerable populations identified
 - a) Local and state funds - grants
 - b) Changes in local priorities and resources
 - c) Public support for initiatives
4. Outcomes Assessment – Have a baseline
5. Lobby with policy makers
6. Reach out to other communities – CAN COMPARE COMMUNITIES, BECAUSE WE KNOW THE FACTS

Culture and Needs Assessment

1. Identifying a need is a value judgment.
2. Culture defines problems.
3. Culture shapes a hierarchy of needs.
4. A community frequently has more than one predominant cultural group.

Suggestion: Know your Community.

1. Include members of the community to “evaluate” your question.
2. Key community members – include formal and informal leaders.

big problem

Needs Assessment – Definition of the Problem

Things to Consider:

1. Need is a value judgment. Need is relative to some standard.
2. There is a difference between actual-satisfactory and ideal.
3. Identifying a need does not mean that you have a “wish” or desire for change. Therefore part of need assessment is an evaluation of the communal desire for change.

Steps in Need Assessment

Cook (1989)

BEFORE YOU START: Identify

1. Target of Analysis who is the issue, who is consider about.
 - a. Community
 - b. Target Group Only (ex. Teens) who gonna talk to
 - c. High Risk Groups groups
2. Method to contact the target (Be specific)
3. Measurement scheme – Tools used (Ex: Questionnaire)
4. Data Interpretation

Tools for Assessment

Cook (1989) – Use variety of methods

1. Key Informant – Somebody in a position to know.

- a) Public Official.
- b) Administrative Personnel in a related agency.
- c) People engaged in delivery or service (Primary care or administration of health service).
*Ex: Doctors, nurses, vocational rehab counselors or directors, community or county mental health administrators.

Limitation: Bias of Information

2. Community Forum – Focus Group

- a) Series of public meetings
- b) People in general community
- c) Include groups who lack power

Benefits of Focus Groups (Direct Input) -

- a) Reveals local priorities.
- b) Priorities general understanding and agreement.
- c) Empowerment.

Limitation: - Attracting cross section of the population.
- Time consuming.

3. Rates Under Treatment – Client profile from treating agencies.

Community Case Register

- a) Establish Trends of Needs
- b) Pattern of Services

Limitations

- a) Some People Don't Use Agencies
- b) Unofficial of Out of Community Services
- c) Multi Agencies Double Count

4. Statistical Indicators – Public Records

- a) Census data
- b) Health and education stats

*Ex: Drop-out rate, divorce rate, suicide rate, delinquency

5. Field Survey

- a) Interviews – phone, in person.
- b) Questionnaires – in person, mail, phone.
 - 1. Awareness
 - 2. Rank ordering needs
 - 3. Paired comparison of need
- c) Types Of Questions
 - 1. What are important problems
 - 2. What resources do they know about

talking to people who should know

*small group, talk the problem
How many cases*

*what's the number
who gonna interview?*

3. What would they do if they had a problem
 4. Effectiveness of various resources
 5. Rank problems
 6. Estimate of Prevalence (Guess)
 7. Willing to Support...?
- *Limitations: Small Representative Sample Truthfulness of Responders

the d? ↓

Community Field Survey talk to whom.

Speak to:

1. General population
2. High risk group
3. Affected group (homeless)
4. Previously affected group (former homeless)
5. Target informants

Target Informants

- Pattern of the problem – when, impact, who
- Rating of effectiveness
- Discover other resources – who else works in this area
- Wish List

Affected Group

- Pattern of the problem - when, impact
- What might help – What has worked for them?
- Awareness of resources
- Evaluation of their experience with resources

what they are afraid of
loneliness, no friend no money
what's the big
problem?

General Population

is not that great.

- Awareness – Do they know about...
- Concern – Willingness to commit resources

High Risk Group

- Awareness of problem
- Awareness of resources
- Adequacy of resources – would they recommend.

After Needs Assessment

we need some research

Goal Setting: With Community Involvement

1. Create Specific Program Goals
2. Services Provided That Address the Goals

Research

1. Programs that work in similar community setting
2. Literative search

Decision Making

1. Intervention or Service "Fits" Program Goals
2. Resources Currently Available
3. Community Interest in Service
4. Fit in with Different Cultural Groups
5. Benefits/Outweigh Costs
6. Ways to measure outcome or effectiveness

Planning for Implantation

Grant Proposal:

1. Demographics of Problem
2. Possible Causes
3. Community Interest in Service
4. Fits in with Different Cultural Groups
5. Benefit/Outweigh Cost
6. Ways to Measure Outcome or Effectiveness

Grant Proposal Budgeting – usual span is one year.

1. Line Item Budget

- A. Job – Function
Cost – Salary, Benefits
- B. Administrative Cost
 - Rent, heat, electric
 - Supplies
 - Communication (Ex: Phones)

2. Program Budgeting

Total projected cost - Program is accountable in accomplishing goal.

3. Zero Based Budgeting

Each program has to justify its existence by success and cost effectiveness.

Sources of Revenue

1. Fees
2. Contributions
3. Govt. appropriation – based on current legislative goals.
4. Agency Grants (Ex: Gates Foundation)

I think we need program like that?

different ways

I need psychologist/social worker

I need

what program cost me.

the cost for session

Can you design for elderly program agency?