



UCLA Luskin Social Welfare

ISUSW 2022

July 11 – 22, 2022

Community Engagement and Social Justice



INTERNATIONAL
SUMMER UNIVERSITY
IN SOCIAL WORK



Luskin
Social Welfare

Welcome to ISUSW 22!

Dear Participants of ISUSW 2022,

Welcome to UCLA Luskin Social Welfare, the site of the 2022 International Summer University in Social Work (ISUSW). We are located within one of the world's top public universities and the interdisciplinary Luskin School of Public Affairs. UCLA Luskin, located in the vibrant and diverse city of Los Angeles, engages with communities around the block and around the world. Innovative scholarship and real-world field education prepare our graduates to effect change as practitioners, researchers, and policymakers

Social Welfare at UCLA Luskin advances knowledge, practice, and policy for a just and equitable society. It leads in the pursuit of social and economic justice, the improvement of health and mental health across the lifespan, and the advancement of child and family well-being. We demonstrate our commitment to this mission by educating leaders and change agents to tackle society's most pressing social issues, producing knowledge to inform social policy and practice, and partnering with communities and agencies in Los Angeles and across the globe.

On behalf of the Department of Social Welfare and the Luskin School of Public Affairs at the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA), we are delighted to welcome you to this collective learning space about community engagement and social justice in the global context represented by all members of the ISUSW consortium.

A brilliant team of UCLA graduate students of social welfare (including eight masters students and two doctoral students), accompanied by professors representing our Department of Social Welfare, is ready to welcome you and guide you through a pedagogical journey including dynamic workshops that will stimulate collective thought and reflection about social justice and social injustices in the different countries represented in our consortium. We will also spend time thinking together about the role of social workers in advancing justice in partnership with historically marginalized communities in different parts of the world.

The ISUSW 2022 experience in Los Angeles includes site visits and cultural outings that will expose us to the extremes of Angeleno society, from spaces of privilege in Beverly Hills and Hollywood, to spaces of structural poverty and exclusion in the streets of Skid Row that are home to thousands of unhoused Angelenos.

UCLA-led faculty lectures and workshops have been designed to address these scenarios of socio-spatial contrast in the city as a means of opening critical dialogue about the role of social workers in intervening dilemmas of injustice, exclusion and violence in the multiple country contexts represented in our ISUSW collective learning community.

We are excited to enter into dialogue with all of you and look forward to learning and thinking together about ways to address the urgent dilemmas of injustice in our societies throughout the world.

We wish you a safe journey and arrival to UCLA and look forward to sharing space soon.

All the best,

Dr. Amy Ritterbusch, Dr. Rosina Becerra, and Dr. Laura S. Abrams

The Objectives of the 2022 Summer University

The ISUSW is a consortium of university social work programs from nine countries that brings together participants from these various countries for a unique opportunity to meet and work together during an intensive two-week course. The goal is to enhance international collaboration through providing opportunities for analyzing and reflecting upon the global processes that shape social policies and affect social workers' interventions on a daily basis. Founded upon values of pluralism and diversity, the ISUSW program promotes social justice based on informed social consciousness. The ISUSW creates a learning environment that enables comparisons at local, national, and global levels. It also promotes theoretical and professional presentations that are innovative and challenging. Participants will not only discover new ideas and practices but also to critically reflect upon them and their relevance for their own professional background.

Participants are expected to acquire a deeper knowledge of social work paradigms and of the ways they are integrated into the professional cultures of all represented countries. A broad range of activities combining scientific, practical, professional, cultural and social aspects should allow participants to identify the variety of factors that contribute to the different configurations, types of responsibilities and priorities found within the social work professions.

This year's theme is **Community Engagement and Social Justice**. We aim to create a space of collective inquiry where participants learn from community-engaged scholarship, advocacy and activism to advance social justice in the most marginalized communities at local and global scales.

Drawing on Freire's (1970) concept of *conscientização*, we define activism as the space where critical consciousness building meets social justice action. In other words, we emphasize the process through which activism happens to effect social change. At this political moment of deepening racial, social, gender and economic injustice globally, we look forward to engaging in dialogue during the ISUSW space regarding the relationship between social work and social justice and the role that community-driven activism plays in justice-seeking activities led by social work practitioners and researchers.

Keynote Speaker Bio Karina L. Walters, PhD

Karina L. Walters, an enrolled member of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma, is the Katherine Hall Chambers Scholar, and the co-director and principal investigator of the Indigenous Wellness Research Institute (IWRI; NIMHD P60MD006909) at the University of Washington. IWRI was one of 16 National Institute of Minority Health and Health Disparities Comprehensive Centers of Excellence and one of two devoted to American Indian and Alaska Native (AIAN) research in the country.

Dr. Walters has more than 25 years of experience in social epidemiological research on the historical, social, and cultural determinants of health among AIAN populations as well as chronic disease prevention research (e.g., HIV, AOD, obesity). Much of this social epidemiological work has targeted urban AIANs and LGBT-Two Spirit AIAN populations across the United States. In recent years, Dr. Walters has since expanded her research foci to include tribally based intervention research in the areas of substance abuse, obesity, diabetes, and HIV/AIDS prevention, particularly among American Indian women. Methodologically, she has expertise in decolonizing methodologies, particularly with respect to designing community-based, culturally grounded interventions.

Dr. Walters has presented at more than 360+ national and international conferences; was an invited speaker for Wednesday Afternoon Lecture Series (WALS) at the NIH; and was a Fulbright scholar at the University of Auckland, New Zealand. Dr. Walters has served as Principal Investigator or Co-I on over 46 National Institutes of Health (NIH) grants (20 as PI) from diverse NIH institutes; has mentored over 110 scholars from historically underrepresented populations including 55 AIAN scholars; and has participated in 16 national research training programs for underrepresented ethnic minority scholars. Currently, she is active in NIDA's American Indian Scientific Committee and is Chair of the NIH's Intervention Research to Improve Native American Health (IRINAH) Committee.

Dr. Walters received her B.A. (sociology) in 1987, her M.S.W. (clinical) in 1990, and her Ph.D. in 1995 all from the University of California, Los Angeles. After serving on faculty as an Assistant and Associate Professor at Columbia University School of Social Work (1995-2001), she joined the University of Washington faculty in 2001 and became Full Professor in 2011. She has served as Director of the Doctoral Program (2003-05) and as Associate Dean for Research (since 2012). Prior to her career in academia, Dr. Walters was a community-based psychotherapist and served as Commissioner for the Los Angeles County American Indian Commission.

Participants

Chinese University of Hong Kong, China

Faculty

Steven Ngai (virtual)

Students

Zia Ullah Akhunzada

Charlotte Hei Ting Ho

Rajagiri College of Social Science, India

Faculty

Fr. Shinto Joseph

Students

Bobby Benny

Seba Franklin Jesuraj

University of British Columbia, Canada

Faculty

Antoine Coulombe

Students

Simrit Birk

Khadija Hammuda

Shannon Murphy

Western Sydney University, Australia

Faculty

Hong-Jae Park

Students

Troy Byrnes

Gabbie Lynch

Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Israel

Faculty

Hanita Kosher

Students

Liron Cohen

Hodaya Kantarovitz Wachtel

Mahdi Shalodi

Shandong University, China

Faculty

Miao Yu (virtual)

Student

Fenghua Wang

University of Applied Arts and Sciences, Switzerland Faculty

Faculty

David Pichonnaz

Students

Guillaume Dafflon

Aline Felix

Delia Giandolini

Severine Pedraza

UCLA Participants

Faculty Organizers

Laura S. Abrams
Ron Avi Astor
Rosina Becerra
Amy Ritterbusch
Carlos Santos
Michelle Talley

Faculty Participants

Laura Wray-Lake
David C. Turner, III

Student Ambassadors and Participants

Claire Amabile
Sacha Fernandez
Jhorna Islam
Keenan Leary
Loren Lewis
Angela Medrano
Jay Quiroz-Martinez
Joanna Plummer

PhD Student Support

Kim Fuentes
Vanessa Warri

Staff Support

Shelly Brooks
Brianna Miller

ISUSW Daily Program

Day 1

Monday, July 11, 2022
Module 1 - Approaches to community engagement in research and social work

Time	Agenda	Location
7-9am	Breakfast	De Neve
8:40am	UCLA Ambassadors meet with students to walk to campus	De Neve Courtyard
9am	Welcome & Introduction of Program Co-Chairs <i>Laura Abrams, Chair, Luskin Social Welfare</i>	
9:15am	Review of program objectives, student ambassadors and overview of guiding principles of the program <i>Professors Amy Ritterbusch and Rosina Becerra</i>	
9:30am	World Café Activity: Creation of our Collective Learning Objectives and Guiding Principles for this Justice Dreaming Space. Review of key concepts of social justice and community engagement for social work theory and practice. <i>Moderator: Amy Ritterbusch</i>	1209B Bunche
10:30am	Break	Outside PAB
11am	<i>Introduction of Keynote Speaker: Professor Laura Abrams</i> Keynote Address: Yappalli Choctaw Road to Health: Centering Indigenist Methodologies for Community Engaged Health Promotion Interventions <i>Professor Karina Walters, School of Social Work, University of Washington</i>	1209B Bunche
12:15pm	Lunch – Kogi Truck	Sculpture Garden
2pm	Discussion on Keynote Address and Global Social Justice (SJ) Movements <i>Moderator: Amy Ritterbusch</i>	1209B Bunche
4pm	Tour of campus with UCLA Student Ambassadors Ending at Luskin Conference Center	
5pm	Opening Reception	Luskin
6pm	Welcome Dinner	Conference Center

Day 2

Tuesday, July 12, 2022
Module 1 - Approaches to community engagement in research and social work

Time	Agenda	Location
7-9am	Breakfast	De Neve
9am	Collective Activity: Reflections on SJ, social change, in small groups. <i>Moderator: Amy Ritterbusch</i>	1209B Bunche
10:30am	Break	Outside PAB
11am	Introduction of Faculty Speaker: Vanessa Warri Faculty Lecture: Young Black Changemakers and the Road to Racial Justice <i>Dr. Laura Wray-Lake, UCLA Department of Social Welfare.</i>	1209B Bunche
12pm	Lunch	Outside PAB
1pm	<i>Introduction to Workshop: Amy Ritterbusch and Vanessa Warri</i> Workshop 1: Discussion in small groups about lecture. Reflections and generation of questions.	1209B Bunche
3pm	Return Sunset Village to prepare for evening cultural event (SEE WELCOME PACK FOR DETAILS)	
4:45pm	Depart Sunset Village and walk in groups to Federal Bldg 11000 Wilshire Blvd. for Hollywood Bowl Shuttle (first shuttle departs 5:30pm and then every 15 minutes) COMFORTABLE WALKING SHOES RECOMMENDED	
6:15pm	Arrive and go to Museum Garden picnic area for dinner (provided), wine and beer available for additional cost to participants. Walk down hill and get on Shuttle to Lot 2 Westwood, Line 652	Hollywood Bowl

Day 3

Wednesday, July 13, 2022
Module 1 - Approaches to community engagement in research and social work

Time	Agenda	Location
7-9am	Breakfast	De Neve
9am	Dialogue on Pedagogies for Social Justice (engaging with legacies of Latin American theorists Boal & Freire) <i>Moderator: Amy Ritterbusch</i>	Powell Library Classroom C
10:30am	Break	Outside PAB
11am	Introduction of Faculty Speaker: Amy Ritterbusch Faculty Lecture: Lessons Learned from Critical Pedagogy for Continuous Learning in Social Work <i>Dr. Antoine Coulombe, University of British Columbia, Canada</i>	Powell Library Classroom C
12:30pm	Lunch	Outside PAB
2pm	Workshop 2: Organized by Dr. Antoine Coulombe	Powell Library Classroom C
4:30pm	Dinner/leisure/free time	Sunset Village

Day 4

Thursday, July 14, 2022 Module 1 - Approaches to community engagement in research and social work

Time	Agenda	Location
7-9am	Breakfast	De Neve
9am	Board Bus for 9:15am departure	Bruin Safe Ride Stop
10am – 1pm	Agency Visit: Los Angeles LGBT Center Bagels, juice and coffee served	
1pm	<i>Board bus for 1:15pm departure</i>	
1:30pm	Lunch	Outside PAB
2:30pm	Introduction of Faculty Speaker: Rosina Becerra Faculty Lecture: Community-Engaged Approaches to Social Work Practice <i>Dr. Shinto Joseph, Ragagiri College of Social Sciences, India</i> Group Discussions after lecture (Q & A)	1209B Bunche
5pm	Dinner/leisure/free time	Sunset Village

Day 5

Friday, July 15, 2022 Module 2 – Contributions of Social Work to Social Justice and Social Change

Time	Agenda	Location
7-9am	Breakfast	De Neve
9am	Agency (Los Angeles LGBT Center) Discussion <i>Moderator: Michelle Talley</i>	
9:45am	Student Led Presentations on the Guiding Principles and Praxis of Community Engagement <i>Moderator: Amy Ritterbusch</i>	1209B Bunche
10:30am	Break	Outside PAB
10:45am	Introduction of Speaker: Rosina Becerra Faculty Lecture: Why Do Social Workers Choose Community Work (or Not)? <i>Dr. David Pichonnaz, University of Applied Sciences and Arts, Western Switzerland</i>	1209B Bunche
12pm	Lunch	Outside PAB
2pm	Workshop 3: Co-organized by Dr. David Piconnaz	1209B Bunche
4:30pm	Dinner/leisure/free time	Sunset Village

Saturday, July 16 and Sunday, July 17, 2022 Leisure/Free Time

See Welcome Packet for Local Los Angeles Outing Ideas and Activities

Day 6

Monday, July 18, 2022 Module 2 – Contributions of Social Work to Social Justice and Social Change

Time	Agenda	Location
7-9am	Breakfast	De Neve
9am	Collective Activity	Dodd 170
10:30am	Break	Outside PAB
11am	Introduction of Faculty Speaker: <i>Rosina Becerra</i> Faculty Lecture: <i>The Role of Social Workers in Promoting Children's Right to Participation</i> <i>Dr. Hanita Kosher, The Hebrew University, Israel</i>	Dodd 170
12:30pm	Lunch	Outside PAB
2pm	Workshop 4: Amy Ritterbusch in collaboration with Dr. Hanita Kosher	Dodd 170
4:30pm	Dinner/leisure/free time	Sunset Village

Day 7

Tuesday, July 19, 2022 Module 2 – Contributions of Social Work to Social Justice and Social Change

Time	Agenda	Location
7-9am	Breakfast	De Neve
9:am	Introduction of Faculty Speaker: Rosina Becerra Faculty Lecture on 'Transnational Later-Life Migration and Anomic Elder Abuse: A Social Justice Perspective,' <i>Dr. Hong-Jae Park, Western Sydney University, Australia</i>	Dodd 170
10:30am	Break	Outside PAB
11am	Workshop 5: Amy Ritterbusch in collaboration with Dr. Hong-Jae Park	Dodd 170
12:30pm	Lunch	Outside PAB
1:30pm	leisure/free time – prepare for cultural outing	Sunset Village
3:45pm	Board bus for 4pm departure Hollywood, Walking Tour, Dinner (at your own expense) (Check Welcome Packet for Details)	Bruin Safe Ride Stop
8pm	Moulin Rouge	Pantages Theater
10:45pm	Board bus for prompt departure	Drop off location

Day 8

Wednesday, July 20, 2022 Module 2 – Contributions of Social Work to Social Justice and Social Change		
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Time	Agenda	Location
7-9am	Breakfast	De Neve
9am	Collective Activity TBD <i>Moderator: Amy Ritterbusch</i>	Dodd 170
10:30am	Break	Outside PAB
11am	Introduction of Faculty Speaker: Rosina Becerra and Kimberly Fuentes Faculty Lecture: Interactional Understanding of the Welfare of Urban Youth with Disabilities in China <i>Dr. Miao Yu, Shandong University, China</i> VIRTUAL LECTURE	Dodd 170
12:30pm	Lunch	Outside PAB
2pm	Workshop 6: Kimberly Fuentes in collaboration with Dr. Maio Yu and Co-Leader	Dodd 170
4:30pm	Dinner/leisure/free time	Sunset Village

Day 9

Thursday, July 21, 2022 Module 3 – Connecting Local and Global Movements for Social Justice		
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Time	Agenda	Location
7-7:30	Breakfast	De Neve
7:45am	Board Bus for prompt 8am departure	Bruin Safe Ride Stop
9am	Agency Visit (St. Vincent Cardinal Manning Center) <i>Moderator: Michelle Talley</i>	
11am	Lunch en route back from agency visit	
1:30pm	Debrief on Homelessness	
2:30pm	Introduction of Faculty Speaker: Rosina Becerra Faculty Lecture: The (Good) Trouble With Black Boys: Race, Gender, and Reimagining Youth Power in the Carceral State <i>Dr. David Turner, UCLA Department of Social Welfare, United States</i> (Followed by discussion and Q & A).	Dodd 170
5pm	Dinner/leisure/free time	Sunset Village

Day 10

Friday, July 22, 2022 Module 3 – Connecting Local and Global Movements for Social Justice

Time	Agenda	Location
7-9am	Breakfast	De Neve
9am	Agency (Skid Row Tour) Discussion <i>Moderator: Michelle Talley</i>	
9:45am	Introduction of Faculty Speaker: Rosina Becerra Faculty Lecture: A Study of Self-Help Organizations in Hong Kong <i>Dr. Steven Ngai, The Chinese University of Hong Kong, China</i> (Discussion and Q & A follows) VIRTUAL LECTURE	Dodd 170
10:30am	Break	Outside PAB
11am	Fina Collective Activity – Prepare for Presentations	Dodd 170
12:30pm	Lunch	Outside PAB
2pm	Student-Led Group Final Presentations (30 mins each) <i>Moderator: Amy Ritterbusch</i>	Dodd 170
4pm	Closing Ceremony led by UCLA Faculty and Students Certificate of Completion	
5pm	Reception and Dinner to follow	Fowler Museum Courtyard

ISUSW Faculty Speakers and Abstracts

Day 1

Dr. Karina Walters, School of Social Work, University of Michigan, United States
Yappalli Choctaw Road to Health: Centering Indigenist Methodologies for Community Engaged Health Promotion Interventions

Day 2

Dr. Laura Wray-Lake, UCLA, United States
Young Black Changemakers and the Road to Racial Justice

Day 3

Dr. Antoine Coulumbe, University of British Columbia, Canada
Lessons Learned from Critical Pedagogy for Continuous Learning in Social Work

"We learn things about the world by acting and changing the world around us [...] This transformation of the world is done by us while it makes and remakes us." Freire, *Pedagogy of the City*, 1993, p. 108

Social problems change rapidly, and every case has unique characteristics. As Social Workers (SW), we continuously face new situations that challenge our knowledge and compel us to learn continuously, improve our practice, and promote meaningful social change. In the first part of this session, we will examine the essential elements of Critical Pedagogy that support continuous learning and learning in action. In the second part, we will engage with others to explore how Critical Pedagogy can enhance our learning in action.

Day 4

Dr. Shinto Joseph, Ragagiri College of Social Sciences, India
Community-engaged approaches to social work practice

Access to safe drinking water is considered a universal human right by the United Nations convention. However, this human right remains a dream for several developing countries in Asia, South America, and Africa. Water is essential for human health and well-being, and it is every human's right to have access to safe drinking water. As of February 2022, India had 180 million rural households, with only 46.29 per cent having access to safe drinking water. According to the UN Committee on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights (2003), the human right to water is indispensable for leading a life of human dignity. This presentation examines access to clean water and health promotion issues using social justice and human rights theories. With the help of various stakeholders, including social welfare organizations, India plans to provide safe drinking water tap connections to 180 million rural households by 2024. It is being implemented as a decentralized, demand-driven, community-managed system using a 'bottom-up' approach. Social workers are taking the lead in implementing the project's participatory and collaborative nature. This study also presents a case study report of a single local panchayath (Edavanakkadu, Kerala, India) that provided safe drinking water connections to 7650 families in the panchayath and discussed the role of social workers in the project's success. As a result, this project has inspired the other 941 local panchayats in the state and the remaining panchayats throughout the country. As a transformational programme, the project ensures that 'no one is left out' and that the poorest and most marginalized,

women and children, as well as the previously unreached, are all provided with assured safe drinking water thru community participation and "long-term sustainability."

References:

<https://www.hindawi.com/journals/jeph/2021/5568375/>

<https://jaljeevanmission.gov.in/>

Day 5

Dr. David Pichonnaz, University of Applied Sciences and Arts, Western Switzerland
Why Do Social Workers Choose Community Work (or not)? A Dispositional Analysis of Professional Decisions

Not all social workers can engage with the community, but some choose or decide not to. When we want to explain the way social workers behave in their job, we can look, firstly, at contextual constraints. Social policies and organisational arrangements largely contribute to determine what social workers are allowed to do and to set limits to their actions (e. g. by defining available resources and eligibility criteria). This kind of factors, which we can think of as being "external", can have deep impact on social work practices in general, and in particular on community engagement ones. Secondly, we can look at "internal" causes: social workers' visions of their work can be more or less compatible with a community engagement approach, with the willingness to (or not to) opt for participative approach and to seek social change. This lecture will focus on those "internal" causes. I will reflect on how the experiences social workers go through in their life-courses can impact their propensities to opt for community engagement and participative work. To do so, I will base on dispositional analysis, a sociological theory aiming at understanding how social experiences shape individual behaviours. The objective of the lecture is to identify experiences that can have an impact on social workers inclinations (or "dispositions") to engage with the community, to distance themselves from top-down approaches. I will suggest in particular that it can be rooted in past experiences, such as family socialization, political activism or specific experiences and encounters within the job. This reflexion aims at setting the bases for a collective discussion about the individual drivers for community engagement.

Day 6

Dr. Hanita Kosher, The Hebrew University, Israel
The Role of Social Workers in Promoting Children's Right to Participation

The current lecture will focus on the interaction between the social work profession and the idea of children's rights in general and children's rights to participation in particular. The connection between social work and children's rights is obscure and for many years social work has focused on children's welfare, offering them protection and provision, while almost ignoring them as independent human beings and ignoring their participation rights. The current lecture will discuss the relevance of the idea of children's rights in general and children's right to participation in particular to the social work profession. A special focus will be given to children's right to participation in the child welfare context. The lecture will include two parts: first, it will present the historical and philosophical background of children's rights and the idea of children's right to participation. Second, the lecture will present ways for integrating the idea of children's right to participation into the social work practice (children's rights-based approach in social work).

Day 7

Dr Hong-Jae Park , School of Social Sciences, Western Sydney University, Australia
Transnational Later-Life Migration and Anomic Elder Abuse: A Social Justice Perspective

A growing number of older people move to another country at an old age to join their family members across the world. An example is the group of later-life migrants who are initially left behind in the homeland and then subsequently follow their children to live closely in the destination nation. This lecture will focus on Dr Park's research on new and emerging patterns of migration by older people in Australia and New Zealand. It will look specifically at Dr Park's latest findings from his research into emerging issues associated with later life migration, including loneliness and social isolation, 'anomic elder abuse', lonely death, and bystander attitudes toward migrant parents in transnational family settings. The lecture will challenge entrenched views about migration in later life, and discuss some implications for policy and social work practice concerning the vulnerability of older migrants from non-English speaking backgrounds.

Day 8

Dr. Miao Yu, Shandong University, China
The Evolution and Involution of Service Provision: Interactional Understanding of the Welfare of Urban Youth with Disabilities in China

China has the largest population of people with disabilities in the developing world. These people are identified as a vulnerable group, and as such, they have attracted increased attention from the entire society. The present welfare system in urban areas of China, which has been constructed through a long history of development, is an integrative system involving several service providers. The relationships among the service providers have attracted scholars' attention. However, service users' perspectives of their interactions with different service providers have garnered less focus. We adopt both a historical and an interactional understanding of disability in an effort to examine the development of social welfare for young people with disabilities in China. We examine the transitional process and analyze the themes underlying the policies for families in which there are people with disabilities in the present welfare system. We discuss the evolution of service provision, especially in regard to the way in which it reflects the disabled community and the rational employment market; we reveal the involution of service provision for families, involving both ethical and functional considerations in familistic Chinese culture; and we analyze the dilemma regarding supportive policies for families in which there are people with disabilities in urban China. We also point out that the "individual" and the "family" cannot co-benefit in the implementation of current policies.

Day 9

David C. Turner, III, UCLA, United States
The (Good) Trouble With Black Boys: Race, Gender, and Reimagining Youth Power in the Carceral State

Day 10

Dr. Steven Sek-yum Ngai, Department of Social Work, The Chinese University of Hong Kong

Model Development for Indigenizing Best Practices for Sustainable Self-Help Movement: A Study of Self-Help Organizations in Hong Kong

Self-help organizations (SHOs) are formed when members with a common chronic illness come together to share their perspectives and knowledge in problem solving with the support of helping professionals. SHOs in Hong Kong have been developing rapidly in the recent two decades and today there are over 170 SHOs in the city. Despite the rapid development of SHOs, there are very few studies that examine the success factors and well-consolidated models for sustainable SHO development. Most of the available SHO references are from overseas contexts. Moreover, Hong Kong's self-help movement has reached a stable but stagnant stage, and obstacles such as issues associated with the succession of leadership and the paradigm shift from mutual support to membership welfare may hinder the development of SHOs. There is an urgent need to build an indigenous model with best practice guidelines for local SHOs that best fit their needs and concerns. Such a model of development will help SHO leaders identify unique developmental needs of their SHOs and what strategies SHOs can use to meet these needs. Accordingly, this study examines best SHO practices in Hong Kong by using data collected from a territory-wide survey of 232 SHO leaders. We will report findings on nine best practice strategies for sustainable SHO development. These include success factors for good SHO leaders, team building and managing to achieve SHO goals, working with paid staff in daily SHO operation and development, development of effective mutual support core services for members, development of participation ladder for members, engagement of community resources for developing long-term collaboration, raising or applying for different funding in cost-effective ways that fit the development of the SHO, facilitating members to participate in policy advocacy for promoting their well-being, and raising public awareness and understanding of chronic illnesses and SHOs.

Bibliography

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