Week 4 - Discussion

The stigmas of mental illness and substance abuse

The stigmas associated with mental illness and substance abuse have created a barrier which prevents many people from receiving services.

* How have recent national legislation or policy efforts helped or hurt the battle against these stigmas?
* What can be done in the future from a national policy perspective to reduce these stigmas?
* As a human services provider what could you do to ensure people needing services for mental illness and substance abuse had access to these services?
* What unique needs do you believe these clients would have that you would consider as you plan services for them?

Respond to at least two of your classmates’ postings by Day 7. APA 6th edition format is required for any citations and resources used. Your post should be 300-350 words

Introduction: Mental Health Policy and Service Delivery

The mental health and substance abuse treatment systems are regulated by state and federal laws and regulations. Deinstitutionalization of those in state psychiatric hospitals resulted from the least restrictive legislation during the Kennedy administration. Unfortunately, many of those former state hospital patients are now homeless or in jails.   
  
The stigma associated with mental illness and substance abuse is still evident in our society and often becomes a major obstacle to those suffering from these issues to seek help. Human services professionals, now more than ever before, need to understand how these policies impact their ability to deliver services to these clients and to manage their cases.

Resources

Required Text

Herzberg, J. T. (2015). *Foundations in human services practice: A generalist perspective on individual, agency, and community.* Upper Saddle River, New Jersey: Pearson. ISBN: 9780205858255; eISBN: 9780205982233   
Chapter 1: Case Management Theories

Karger, H. J. & Stoesz , D. (2018). *American social welfare policy: A pluralist approach* (8th ed). Upper Saddle River, New Jersey: Pearson. ISBN: 9780134628127; eISBN: 9780134543468    
Chapter 13: Mental Health and Substance Abuse Policy

Recommended References

de Vet, R., van Luijtelaar, M. A., Brilleslijper-Kater, S. N., Vanderplasschen, W., Beijersbergen, M. D., & Wolf, J. M. (2013). Effectiveness of case management for homeless persons: A systematic review. *American Journal Of Public Health, 103*(10), e13-e26. doi:10.2105/AJPH.2013.301491

Friedman, M. B. (2015). The complexity of American Mental Health Policy: Implications for systems improvement. *American Journal of Medical Research, 2*(2), 170-181.

*Health risks to the world's young* [Video file]. (2011). Retrieved April 15, 2017, from [*http://fod.infobase.com/PortalPlaylists.aspx?wID=105281&xtid=47483 (Links to an external site.)*](http://fod.infobase.com/PortalPlaylists.aspx?wID=105281&xtid=47483)

Hwang, S. W., & Burns, T. (2014). Health interventions for people who are homeless. *The Lancet, 384*(9953), 1541-7. doi: http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736(14)61133-8      Hwang, S. W., & Burns, T. (2014). Health interventions for people who are homeless. *The Lancet, 384*(9953), 1541-7. doi: http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736(14)61133-8

Mental Health America. (n.d.). *Homepage*. Retrieved from [*www.nmha.org/index.cfm?objectID=C3162C54-1372-4D20-C8E62AB28BB3FF5B (Links to an external site.)*](http://www.nmha.org/index.cfm?objectID=C3162C54-1372-4D20-C8E62AB28BB3FF5B)