

Abstract

This diploma thesis deals with the care of people with mental illness. It describes the individual approaches (services and methods) that are used today in working with people with experience of mental illness, and connects these approaches with the role of a social worker.

The theoretical part deals with the development of care for people with mental illness, describes the possibilities of services and approaches in mental health care. Then the work defines the term "recovery" and characterizes the "Recovery College", in the country of authors and in the world, as one of the most modern approaches in the care of people with mental illness.

The aim of the work is to find out what benefits and differences are perceived between Recovery College and other approaches in the care of people with mental illness by peer lecturers and employees of Recovery College in Prague. In-depth interviews with open-ended questions were used for the solution.

Research has shown that Recovery College has a wide range of benefits not only for peer lecturers but also for students – people with experience of mental illness or for society in general. Recovery College is a place for recovery that gives hope to people. Peer lecturers perceive many differences between Recovery College and other approaches which have their justification and meaning in the service system. On the other hand, employees are reluctant to compare Recovery College with other approaches because they perceive different goals and intentions of work there.

An important finding is that in the traditional system of services compared to Recovery College, there is often a lack of respect on the part of professionals, an equal approach based on partnership, an active opportunity to participate in the method of their treatment, or providing recovery opportunity to clients. It is the hope, openness, participation and equal partnerships that peer lecturers value the most at Recovery College.

Keywords

Psychiatric and psychosocial rehabilitation, people with mental illness, mental illness, role of a social worker, recovery, Recovery College, peer lecturers, different approaches in the care of people with mental illness.