

Abstract

Introductory part of my work delimits concept of charity and concepts related to it, the first chapter formulates fundamental theoretical basis of charitable work. Next chapter briefly summarizes changes of charity practice in Czech and European setting from antiquity to the end of twentieth century according to chosen criteria. The aim of the fourth chapter is describing present activity of Charity of the Czech Republic as a provider of social services, the fifth chapter delimits some specifics of charity work in the context of dialogue between theology and social work. Empirical part tries to find out (by the form of semi-structured interviews with directors of professional charities, in the basis of content analysis and by the participating observation), what is the specific character of charitable helping practice that gives to its activity long-term orientation and an unmistakable position at social services market.