

Abstract

This thesis of diploma entitled *Care of clients of sheltered housing in the senior age and at the time of dying* deals with the care for old persons in sheltered housings for mentally disabled persons. The goal of the thesis is to identify and to describe obstacles, which, at present, prevent sheltered housings for mentally disabled persons from providing care for clients, who have grown old in the facility, who what to spend there their declining years and who wish to die in their familiar environment with dignity. Such care should be available regardless of the location of the sheltered housing, regardless of clients' financial situation and the type of governing authority of the sheltered housing. The second goal of the thesis is to find satisfactory solutions to all the identified obstacles, in order to realize the clients' right to choose their environment and suitable care at the end of their life.

The thesis consists of three sections. In the first section, the author defines basic terms and describes two variants of sheltered housing – a basic option with age restriction and an option with enhanced program for old persons. The following chapters of the first section deal with theoretical background in support of the enhanced program and characterize the needs of old persons. The author also mentions several surveys carried out in the Czech Republic and abroad, which are dedicated to topics such as places preferred by old persons to spend the end of life, their concepts of care, etc. The last chapter covers the solutions to similar topics implemented abroad.

The second section of the thesis is dedicated to a survey. Providers of sheltered housing services in selected regions of the Czech Republic were asked, if they take the problem of the service age restriction into account, and which aspects influence the decision-making process regarding the applying or non-applying an age restriction. The goal of the survey was to better understand all possible obstacles, which impede sheltered housing services to be provided without any age restrictions.

In the third section, the author endeavors to find solutions to all obstacles identified in the survey, and points out problems that, for various reasons, remain unresolved.

Key words: sheltered housing, age restriction, clients' rights, mentally disabled persons, old persons, dying