

Social Economic Empowerment of Homeless Families

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Abstract—Society and government often blame the poor like homeless and scavengers. They live together without marriage, sleep in the storefronts and wild huts. They are not registered by the state and are in social exclusion, even have not assurance and civil rights. This study aims to description the steps to empower the social status and economy of homeless families in Bandung. The subjects in this community service are 14 people homeless. The methods used Research Action in this community service activity are: the assistance to build awareness of legal marriage; the assistance in stimulants for rented house in order to build proper and human housing needs; the advocacy to stakeholders and assistance for subjects to have an electronic Identity Card; and the last entrepreneurship training to increase income. The results are: awareness of marriage has been built both in accordance with religion and in accordance with state rules, the need to have a safety place to stretch has been built too, advocacy and assistance helped them to obtain an electronic Identity Card, and the training done increased their skills in order to manage secondhand goods needed by the society.

Keywords: *empowerment, social economic, homeless, social exclusion*

I. INTRODUCTION

The values of individualism, hedonism and materialism have strengthened in urban communities such as in the city of Bandung. Community and government perspectives on the poor like homeless and scavengers often blame the poor as lazy, resignation, difficult to adapt, hard to believe. The homeless, and scavengers are partners in the Community Service Program. They are often the target points of order and beauty of the city with frequent raids. The time to get income of homeless people is very limited, from 5:00 a.m. until 14.00, which means about 10 hours. They walked for many kilometers to find secondhand goods with a maximum income of Rp. 25,000,-/day. Then, they sell it to collectors and they dream to become a collector.

The lives of homeless people are often not in accordance with the norms of a decent life and a permanent residence because of wandering in public places [1]. Homeless and scavengers are citizens who are unregistered as citizens, so that the rights as citizens to get a variety of social security and civil rights are neglected. They live together without the bond of marriage even many of them have offspring, alternating sleeping in the patio of shops, beds-bedded, and cardboard houses or under bridges. They are untouched by the hustle and

bustle of development, without coaching, without anyone fighting for how they should live properly and humanely. Life is very alarming. They are as marginalized in the process of "social exclusion". According to Oxford Dictionary, "social exclusion is a process by which individuals or household experience deprivation, either of resources (such as income), or of social links to the wider community or society" [2]. A theoretical definition of poverty that focuses on the inability to make ends meet, "the poor are those who, due to insufficient access to economic resources, have an unacceptably low level of consumption of goods and services" [3].

According to the Bandung City Social Service, the number of homeless / homeless and beggars is 1692 people and poor families as many as 80.285 people with various other social problems that surround them [4]. The problems of these 80.285 people are the condition of social injustice. According to Clive Sealey, "the analysis highlights the significant difference that focuses on processes rather than outcomes of social exclusion can make our understanding of inequality and social injustice" [5].

Having this phenomenon, the state should be present and responsible, be a friendly, caring, fostering and empowering host. However, as if detached from his eyes to educate citizens to better understand the importance of religion, decent and human living. The state was established to prosper all people / all citizens.

The Partnership to Community Program is present as a representative of the government/Ministry of Education and Culture together with Langlangbuana University to help and improve the living conditions of homeless people and their families to become normal, decent and human citizens. In order to success in this community service activity, must be identified the main problems. The problems discussed in this research are new. These problems were not discussed by the other researchers before. The problems identified are the low awareness of marital relations that uphold religious norms and state rules, the low awareness of the need for adequate shelter and the inability to rent a place to live. Beside these the lack of Identity Card and low ability to manage secondhand goods make them enable to have a decent life.

Given the above, we can formulate the following research purposes to show the steps to empower the social status and economy of homeless families.

II. METHOD

The method used in research is Action Research. "Action Research offers a greatly-needed forum at a time of growing recognition around the world that engagements between researchers and practitioners are central to generating both new knowledge and innovations in practice relevant to many critical problems" [6].

Participants or the target group of this study was 14 homeless people, age between 22 – 65.

Data collection techniques are depth interview, observation and focus group discussion. Sources of data or information in this research were used primary and secondary. Method sampling techniques was purposive, while the data analysis used qualitative method.

The steps of qualitative interviews for data analysis, according to by Berkum and Oudshoorn, are : mapping the problem and potential related to the experience of accessing services within their community, reasons for service use, barriers in service provision from government, collaboration or coordination among services, and suggestions for service improvement [7]. The one new thing in this research method introduced by the author of this research is the implementation/ intervention towards the problem as result research.

In implementation process, the Community Service team acts as a facilitator. The facilitator is present as a community worker to improvise the model that was built, namely the Community Action Planning Model. This model by Rothman and Tropman that changes or community development can be done very well through an active participation from the local community [8]. The local community here is understood as a partner group to improve the socio-economic living conditions of the homeless and beggars. The action plan model is facilitated in a participatory way to provide an opportunity for partner groups to ensure the learning process runs according to their needs and expectations. Partners are expected to learn in order to make the right decisions about their living conditions, both problems and strengths that exist in themselves. This condition is an entry point to go further in formulating an action plan that will be decided to achieve the desired goals in accordance with the perceived needs. In order to increase the awareness of marriage were done some actions like: mapping temporary shelters for homeless people, maintain intensive relation with the key persons, holding focus group discussion and clinical approaches to form their vision of life, approach different parties to support mass marriage. In these community service activities the team collaborated with village and sub district Religious Affair Office, Population and Civil Registry Office and the board of the Mosque Welfare Board to legally marry according to religion and state.

For resettling homeless people and feel comfortable staying at home the team followed the steps:

Organized target groups to facilitate assistance, found a location to rent for homeless people, prepared a contractual stimulant for three months and obtained approval of location and contractual stimulant for three months.

A very hard work was to obtain residence permit for homeless people. The advocacy and assistance was necessary. So, after occupying a rent house the team reported their existence to the stake holders, district and the Population and Civil Registry Office. The team followed all procedures like filled 5 forms legitimated by two witnesses and the house owner and apply for the Electronic Identity card. To get an Identity Card, each person needs to have at least 12 people who are signed on the form. The homeless can obtain the electronic Identity Card and also a place to live, but the important thing is to have an income. For this, they need skill. In order to determine their interests and talents, the team conducted focus group discussion followed by an entrepreneurial training for waste pickers.

III. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The activities result are 7 couple have a place to live and at this time the stimulant funds to rent a house have run out, but continued by each partner by saving to pay for a rented room because the need for a house / residence has been built. 14 people already have a family card. 14 people have been recorded / photographed and already have an electronic identity card in the city of Bandung. Data for marriage in the process by Religious Office.

While the other results are increased ability to build entrepreneurship, especially plants to increase income from uses goods in the form of making paper bags. There is an entrepreneur's readiness helping partners and the Community Service Team for further assistance.

Policy contexts to identify the expectations held of social service departments within a corporate social responsibility. On Steward's opinion "Analysis in working with homeless families highlights practical support through the homelessness process and dilemmas over child protection" [9].

Various problems felt by homeless families are rarely felt by most people, corporate social responsibility and governments who are supposed to be servants and fulfill the needs. Scavengers have all dimensions of poverty both social, cultural, asset, environmental, economic, and political aspects. Roche argues that in Harrysson and O'Brien, "Social exclusion refers to the ways in which particular sections within society at large can be deemed to be more or less excluded from a variety of economic, social, political and cultural resources and activities; and the latter depends more specifically on economically rooted inequalities in the sphere of work and income" [10].

The analysis involved empirical identification of two social exclusion structural components: material deprivation and social isolation [11].

Identification material, deprivation and social isolation are the social exclusion phenomenon is not a sudden occurrence, but it can be hereditary from generation to generation. All these last very long and occurs during two or three generations even more. Thus, it is not easy to facilitate them and a high commitment is needed to advocate various problems of themselves and families to the people around them and the government.

TABLE I. THE MODEL CHART AS RESULT OF EMPOWERMENT SOCIOECONOMIC FOR IMPROVING CONDITIONS OF THE HOMELESS

EMPOWERMENT	First Month	2 nd & 3 th Month	4 th & 6 th Month	7 th & 8 th Month
INPUT	PROCESS 1: Mapping and Relation	PROCESS 2: Assistance with Housing contract & population administration	PROCESS 3: Assistance to build a better life	PROCESS 4: Business assistance
UNMARRIED COUPLE →	Mapping the place to live in ↓	Advocacy administration ↓ of population →	Have a Family card / e-KTP →	Collectively Married ↓
	The 'key person' approach and relationship with the client ↓	Housing contract assistance ↓	Literacy and arithmetic course and recite →	Training and business assistance ↓
	→	Building a vision of life and marriage		IMPROVES SOCIOECONOMIC CONDITION

Assistance in making personal identities such as e-Identity Card for scavengers, because they do not have a population identity, the bureaucracy is very long and the documents must be signed by a minimum of 12 people.

The attitude of the government to see these groups as ordinary citizens, has a long impact to ensure that those scavengers are equal in their rights and to fulfill civil rights as citizens. Likewise the attitude of the people who often also view them as "community rubbish" with various stigma attached as "criminal" makes it not easy to carry out such assistance.

Therefore, it needs strong advocacy to all parties to care about the problem of homelessness or bummers. Advocacy has a role in transforming private troubles into public issues or personal problems into social issues. Advocacy is often part of client support and representation and, if possible, involves client self advocacy [6].

The length of facilitation to make e-Identity Card is around 6 months and has an impact on the slow marriage of homeless people through Religious Affairs office and legalized by the state. The need to get married quickly and the growing awareness of partners. Only the problem of the procedure becomes an obstacle to the official marriage process that is done quickly because of the lack of ownership of e-Identity Card.

On the other hand, the results of the assistance of stimulant funds make partners build awareness that their home or residence is important and needed by them. The change in attitudes towards the needs of home and marriage are the effects of intensive mentoring. Supporting a decent life requires an increase in income to cover the needs of the house / board. In improving economic conditions, they make training in waste management every day. The results of the training can be done easily and are absorbed by the market in the form of making paper offices for fried snacks that can be sold in the market and also direct selling to fried food sellers who increase almost every day.

The results of the calculation shows that every day are obtained 10 packs per people containing about 50 bags at a price of 6,000. Each bag costs IDR 6,000. So, the income is

around IDR 50,000. This activity is very simple according to the results of the training and they are able to do it. Managing used goods should be adjusted to market share, bring money quickly and do not require complicated skills.

IV. CONCLUSION

After doing these research we conclude that:

- The homeless families have the awareness of marriage in accordance with religion and in accordance with state rules
- The homeless families have a safety place to live
- The homeless families have obtained an electronic Identity Card and
- Giving them the training they have the skill to manage secondhand goods needed by the society.

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