IFS Concern Group, HKSWGU 12/12/2011

# A Veteran's Perspective---Review on the Implementation of Integrated Family Service Centre (IFSC) Service Mode

- A There are 40 SWD and 21 NGO IFSCs since 2004. Each IFSC serves about 100,000 150,000 people, disregarding their demographic distribution in that boundary.
- B The review on IFSC was completed in 2010. Most of the recommendations put forward were not deemed constructive by frontline workers. Apart from the recommendation to carry on with the work and to streamline the operation guidelines, there was no solution to ease the concern of workers to deal with the referrals from HA and poor working relationship with the stakeholders.
- C The recommendation to combine Education Groups, Support Groups and Treatment Groups does give workers more flexibility to conduct their programs. However, there is little resources, in terms of both space and manpower, for workers to serve groups with special needs i.e. the single parents and mentally ill persons.
- D As a result of increased population and the down turn of their social and economic power, IFSC workers had high intake of families in need. These families have multiple problems but there are insufficient resources to fulfill their needs:
  - 1 single parents encounter illnesses and emotional crisis, needing home placements for their children but workers could not locate home placements.
  - 2 Low income families, with both parents working, in need of day-care placements and/or after school care programs do not get what they need and have to leave their children unattended.

- 3 Families with elderly parents, of whom some are very frail and mentally unstable, have to wait for many years for a home placement. While waiting for placements, they could not afford to pay for community care services. Other families who can afford to pay do not get sufficient back up either due to lack of care staff. IFSC workers are expected to tackle the crisis of the carers.
- 4 IFSC workers have to turn the unemployed new arrivals away because they are not entitled for CSSA or housing benefits. It is very painful for IFSC workers to turn away clients in need. There is huge difficulty for new arrivals to obtain gainful employment.
- 5 Many physical disabled and mentally handicapped clients have no home or day centre placements. IFSC workers are helpless in witnessing families stretching their limits to take care of their members. There is no financial assistance for the family members should they want to give up work to take care of their family members.
- 6 Many workers have difficulties in rendering service for ethnic minorities. There is lack of training for workers on language and culture of the minorities.
- 7 Many workers were frustrated that they could not advocate for their clients in need due to heavy workload. There is structural problem in the policy level and no one single worker or IFSC could offer solutions to needy clients. The morale of workers suffers.
- 8 Many workers suffer from the adverse impact of the Lump Sum Grant and would leave NGO IFSC to become SWD IFSC workers. Unstable manpower has been the persistent problem of the NGO IFSCs.

於房屋署轄下的屋邨另設社工職位 為綜合家庭服務前線社工拆牆鬆綁 全力提升風險家庭抗逆力

自從去年6月,立法會福利事務委員會檢討綜合家庭服務中心(以下簡稱服務)服務模式至今,有關服務的前線社工依然面對一些老舊問題,困擾不已。

在此, 撮述理工大學朱志強博士及其研究團隊, 於2008年搜集的資料顯示, 前線 社工認為服務的原先理念很好,但難於實行。原因是人手編制不足以應付服務綜 合化之後對服務數量的要求,而服務的焦點被迫集中在補救性的工作,只能應付 最高危機及嚴重的個案,未能兼顧預防和發展性的工作。因此,社工不能提供深 入輔導,面對沒有即時危機但需要專業服務/弱勢的社群,社工有可能未能及 時跟進。

基於服務涉及的對象範圍太廣,其他持分者和市民對服務的期望殷切,故此與其他服務單位或政府部門的工作重疊性,至今並未切實解決。朱博士當時反映了社工心聲,指出此模式徒令聯繫上的行政工作過於繁重,最終加重工作量,減低工作效率。本關注組更察覺不同服務單位或政府部門彼此虛耗不少心力於工作界線的交涉之上。本組近年收到針對合作伙伴的投訴,大多涉及房屋署的不當轉介程序和手法。(請參考附頁A及B最近半年所撮錄前線社工所提出的案例和心聲)本組已得悉房屋署管理層正尋求改善,不過,本組期望有關改善可以加快。本組亦要求社會福利署及勞福局發揮更強的協調和完善政策的功能。

為了幫助前線社工拆牆鬆綁,本組同意朱博士曾提出的**建議:在應付一般民生訴求的社會資源審批工作**方面,**宜交由另一批員工專責處理**,他們最好具社會工作 訓練背景,否則,最低限度也要曾接受社會科學的訓練(如社政、應用社會科學、社會服務、心理學、社會學等),再輔以在職培訓,好使能夠協助社會政策的落實,藉此強化政府管治和關懷市民的角色。

據此,本組進一步**建議**政府考慮**在房屋署轄下的屋邨另設社工職位**,專門協助處理房屋署的轉介個案和及早在屋邨識別有潛在輔導需要的家庭和個案,並轉介個案接受合適服務。

香港社會工作者總工會 綜合家庭服務關注組 2011/12/12

# 飞行页 A.

case 1:

案主需要區外調遷,房署已經拒絕,案主表示沒有任何輔導需要,但房署仍轉介案主到中心,工作員致電案主後,案主表示自己也不知道房署爲什麼會轉介個案到中心。

case 2:

案主在青山醫院有醫務社工跟進,而房署亦多次與醫務社工商討其 區外調遷,醫務社工亦準備好替案主撰寫其報告。但房署卻表示沒 有案例是轉介至醫務社工作區外調遷爲由,在未經案主同意下轉介 其個案至中心。

case 3:

案主與兒子一家人同住,案主因和兒子一家有爭執,想和兒子一家 分戶,房署表示由於兒子的收入若減去案主後,會超出入息限額, 所以未能分戶,房署轉介其個案到中心,表示只要申請恩恤安置便 可,但房署並未有任何提及案主有任何理由申請。

case 4: 經常爭吵人

case 5:

案主住天恩邨細廁所的一人單位,想申請區內調遷至正常廁所的單位,醫生已經寫了兩次醫療證明給予房署,房署亦表示案主已有足夠理由,但由於天恩邨沒有其他正常的一人單位,所以房署表示必須「經一經社署作區外調遷」

case 6:

案主欠租3個月,房署轉介案主到中心尋求經濟援助,但工作員與 案主一詳談後,便發理案主一家的經濟根本沒問題,案主亦有足夠 能力交回欠租的。

case 7:

案主離婚後需要遷出,案主表示不願意遷出,而案主又拒絕轉介到 明愛的,但房署仍強行轉介案主的個案到中心。

case 8:

案主離婚後需要遷出,案主表示不願意遷出,要求恩恤案置,房署 表示看不到案主有理據作恩恤安置,但因爲案主堅持要恩恤安置而 轉介到中心。

#### Case9:

# 誤導

曾有市民到中心求助,因房屋署要取消該市民的公屋戶籍,在面見房屋主任時,主任向該市民表示可向社工就居住問題求助,讓該市民覺得有機會可以保留戶籍。但在社工在市民面前致電該房屋主任澄清時,該主任否認表達有關意思,純粹指該市民可在搬離公屋後,要解決住屋需要問題時,可向社工求助,最後,該市民在與房屋主任傾談後得知無法取回公屋籍後離開。

#### Case 10:

#### 不主動澄清

有市民致電中心求助,因不滿居住環境,希望調遷至區外,社工表示該市民需要 向房署提出申請,該市民無奈理據不足,被房屋署拒絕其申請,但該市民向房署 提出是否需要社工的推薦時,該職員表示如有需要,可向社工求助。讓該市民覺 得有機會可以申請到調遷,但在社工澄清後,房屋署的職員表示該市民有情緒問 題,有可能需要社工進行輔導,故建議該市民到中心求助。

#### Case11:

### 不清楚 IFSC 服務範圍

曾有居住在社署服務範圍的公屋租戶欠租三個月,而該租戶有經濟困難,故房署在接見該租戶時,租戶有極大情緒問題,該房屋主任卻致電 NGO 的中心求助,希望可以轉介該租戶申請「及時雨基金」來應付支出,在社工澄清服務範圍後,該職員致電社署 IFSC(其辦事處更加是該租戶所在的屋邨)希望申請基金,但被社署拒絕。

附頁 B.

## 綜合家庭服務社工心聲

- 1. 房署員工及駐屋邨之管業處員工經常將大部份房屋問題,以"去搵社工寫信就得喇!"為卸責理由,不處理及不拒絕不合理訴求之申請,而且不用正式渠道轉介有實際需要之住戶。結果社工成為出氣袋,因為街坊會話"房署話你地肯寫就咩都得!"。
- 2. 房署同工經常誤解體恤安置之作用及對申請人表示「你有社工寫就有屋 LA」, 因而轉介予綜合家庭服務跟進,但當同工向申請人解釋其情況不合體恤安置 /優先選區資格時則非常影響 WORKER 與 CLIENT 之關係,令 WORKER 計劃為其提供其他福利需要時更為困難,建議房署方面向其職工作出相關培 訓。
- 3. 房署不應在轉介文件千篇一律地寫"seems to have medical / social ground that may warrant special consideration"等字眼,必須具體地列明轉介理據和目的。
- **4.** 應清楚向申請人解釋轉介至社署還是非政府機構,並要讓申請人明白兩者之原因、分別及其限制。
- 5. 案主查詢(親臨或電話)時,房署要給予一個「查詢編號」以便案主及社工翻 查及了解相關內容。
- 6. 房署自行處理離婚戶無地方居住一方之收屋問題時,不應因收屋有困難便轉 介個案至家庭服務,要求評估是否合資格申請體恤安置。
- 7. 有醫療因素的個案不應再轉介予家庭服務。
- 8. 應盡所能以房署內部資源處理大部份"其它房屋需要",例如: 調遷、地區選擇、extra-offer cases,讓社工可以集中資源做輔導工作.
- 9. 應加強房署內部的上下溝通,因為仍有下級房署職員不知道新的房署轉介指引,胡亂轉介。
- **10.** 房署職員不應因近年申請公屋的人士不能申請市區公屋的規定,而個別申請人卻不斷堅持要求,在欠缺理據下,仍然要求社工改用體恤安置協助申請人。