

Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst German Academic Exchange Service

Advocacy and Leadership in Social and Healthcare Professions

1st Online Workshop on May 10th













Agenda

- Team Neubrandenburg
- Challenges
- Research Interest
- Definitions
- Theoretical Approach
- Research key questions
- Methodology
- Timeline
- References



Hochschule Neubrandenburg

University of Applied Sciences

Team Neubrandenburg

Professors



Prof. Dr. Northoff



Prof'in. Dr'in.
Dreas



Prof'in. Dr'in. Kraehmer



Emelie Langer Research Assistant M.A. Student – 4th semester

Students



Lea Sophie Rauch M.A. Student – 2nd Semester Science Social Work



Clara Mikolajetz B.A. Student – 4th Semester Social Work

Lisa Matthe B.A. Student – 4th Semester Social Work



Johann Kohls B.A. Student – 4th Semester Social Work



Challenges

Leadership

- Systemic approach
- Ethical approach
- Transactional approach
- Different definitions
 - Leadership as a position
 - leadership as a quality (DE)
- Qualities of a Leader
 - Money
 - Dignity
 - Rights
 - personal

Advocacy

- Networking
- Political influence
- Advocacy in Social Work
- Could Advocacy influence leadership?
- Values and norms
- Triple mandate
- Manage the change

Leadership and Advocacy are interdependent?!



Research interest

Leadership:

Tension between economics and fundamental values in social institutions

- → Scope of action
- → Leadership style

Advocacy:

Tension between interests of clients, organizations and social policy

- → Awareness raising
- → Lobbying
- **→** Change Management

Definitions

Advocacy

 Advocacy describes the claim of professional acting in social work to take responsibilty for the dignity and rights of clients (Graßhoff et al. 2018, p. 473)

Leadership

- ... is "a process by which an individual influences a group of individuals to achieve common goals" (Northouse 2004, p. 4)
- ... One definition of leadership in social work is "the ability of a social work leader to demonstrte professionalism, confidence, credibility, clear goal setting, solution-focused problem-solving, and effective collaboration to support and empower others" (Alimo-Metcalfe B./Alban-Metcalfe RJ 2001)

Theoretical approach

- How do leaders perceive themselves?
- What does leadership mean for social workers in different hierarchies levels?
- What are the paradoxes, ambiguities and dilemmas surrounding leadership and advocacy?
- What tensions do leaders perceive?
- What are the different advocacies focused in different leadership style?
- Which role does social work play in intermediating between leadership and advocacy?



Research key question

What are the fundamental tensions between essential values and economics for leadership?

How is it possible for advocacy to deal with different leadership styles and the effect on social structure?

What does "good leadership" mean for professionals in different hierarchies?

What are the possibilities of balancing the different interests of awareness advocating by lobbying and change management?



Methodology

Research interest:

Manage advocacies in a leadership position of a social work service

Desk research

Questions about Leadership & Advocacy

Field access

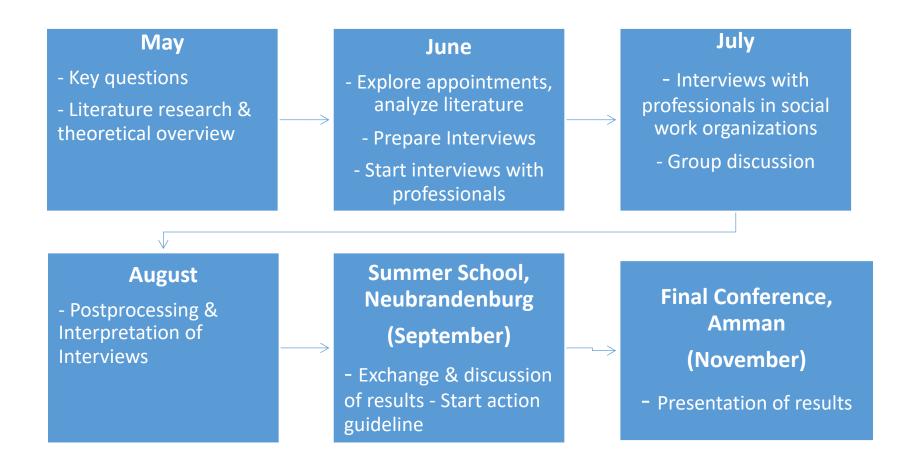
- •Search for two organizations of social work in Mecklenburg-Vorpommern, Germany
- •One small to mid organization and one mid to large organization

Qualitative research

- •4 semi-structured expert interviews, one from each perspective in the different organizations
- •request two experts per social work organization for interview & group discussion
- •creating guide
- •conducting interviews
- Job shadowing

Presenting of results

Timeline



References

Alimo-Metcalfe B./Alban-Metcalfe RJ (2001): The development of a new transformational leadership questionnaire. J Occup Organ Psychol; 74; p. 1-27

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Thank you!