Identifying Organizations

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SOCI212

Poverty and Homelessness Organizations

**Volunteers of America**

Volunteers of America is a non-profit organization that deals with the providing affordable housing to the poor, especially those from low-income families (citation). The organization is faith-based organization that is headquartered at Virginia, U.S.A. The Volunteers of America has been influential since the 1896 and was established after the founders branched from the Salvation Army in America. Initially, the organization began with programs that provided medical dispensaries, employment bureaus, and the distribution of clothes among other services. The organization was influential during the period of the great depression whereby it provided services to the hungry, homeless, and the unemployed. Identically, the organization has been instrumental during the hurricane Katrina event. Afterwards, the organization advanced in the provision of long-term nursing care. Furthermore, the organization has been involved in fundraising programs to assist those engulfed in poverty.

According to Bundy (2015), the Volunteers of America organization has been instrumental to provide affordable housing to more than two million people on a yearly basis. The organization gets its funding from partnerships with other organizations such as Major League basketball players Association. The partnerships assist the organizations in funding as well as support in providing for services for the poor. Volunteers from the populations are also utilized in the provision of services to the homeless and the poor. The target groups for the services include; people with disabilities, homeless children and families, low-income seniors, veterans, and those people who are recovering from incarceration and addiction. During holidays and celebrations, the organizations provides food and gifts to the poor to enable them participate in events such as New Year’s Eve. In another aspect, the organization also provides aids to victims of domestic violence together with their children. Support is provided to the victims so that they can attain self-sufficiency.

**National Coalition for the Homeless**

The National Coalition for the Homeless that is striven from poverty is a faith-based organization that aims to eliminate homelessness (citation). The organization was founded in 1981 in New York City. The National Coalition for the Homeless began as a community program. Afterwards, the organization formed coalitions with other local and statewide homeless coalitions to form the National Coalition for the homeless was formed in 1982 and exempted from the payment of tax. The organization aims at the elimination of homeless whereby everyone has a safe, decent, and an affordable home. The organization therefore ensures that the immediate needs of the homeless are met and their civil rights secured. The services that the National Coalition for the Homeless provides include; housing services, long-term healthcare to the elderly, and support to the youth who faced with addiction problems (Kilgore, 2013).

In order to address the social problem of poverty and homelessness, the organization provides home facilities to the homelessness, especially, low-income women. Another service provided by this organization is to provide training to enable the homeless and the poor to gain self-sufficiency. The organization similarly provides education to the masses in the bid to enlighten them on homelessness and the bid to the problem. In the aspect of funding, the organization relies on donations from the public. An organization website has been created to provide access to the masses about the programs and services affiliated with the organization. Other than that, the National Coalition for the Homeless has instituted a program referred as the Faces of Homeless Speakers’ Bureau and Homelessness Empowerment Project that seeks to provide a platform for the homeless to air their issues.

Reference

Bundy, A. (2015). Scholarly Engagement: A Study on Applied Research to Help Homeless Shelter Volunteers.

Kilgore, P. E. (2013). Epidemiology of Homelessness in the United States. *Annals of Epidemiology*, *23*(9), 594.