## **Graduation Thesis Abstract**

**Graduation thesis topic:** Social support of the handicapped in the city center of social service for residents

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Urgency of the research. According to the research of the Ministry of Health of the Russian Federation, as of 2016, there are 12.9 million handicapped people registered in Russia. People with reduced health capabilities are the most socially insecure category of the population. 2.51 million are recognized as able to work, but only 817 thousand are working in fact. Apart from that, material and psychological difficulties are experienced by the families that have handicapped people.

The relevant tasks of social work with the handicapped include the aspect of the provision of equal possibilities for them with other citizen of the Russian Federation in the context of implementation of rights and freedoms, elimination of limitations in their life activities, creation of favorable conditions allowing them to have a proper lifestyle, participate in the economical, social and political life of the society, successful accomplishment of their civil duties.

The established social reality requires suggestions, which will favor the improvement of the life quality for the people with reduced capabilities, from the society. Contemporary social policy of the Russian Federation is aimed not only at rehabilitation of the handicapped, but also at their habilitation, i.e., teaching new skills for the handicapped, which significantly increases the chances of people with disabilities for successful integration into the society. On January 1, 2015, a Federal Law 422 "On the fundamental principles of social service of citizen in the Russian Federation" dated December 28, 2014 No. 422 - Φ3 came into effect. According to this law, a new notion of the *support of citizen* is established, which supposes the provision of psychological, medical, legal, pedagogical, social help.

Thus, the borders of social support effect are expanding. Functions of specialists performing social support are becoming more versatile both in public and private sectors. At the same time, there is the need in the development and implementation of new instruments and means of improvement of social service for the handicapped, aimed at successful integration of individuals with disabilities into the society.

The objective of the paper consists in studying of issues connected with social support of the handicapped in the center of social service for residents in order to develop new instruments favoring the improvement of their life quality and social adaptation.

## Tasks of the paper:

- 1. Analysis of the modern theories of aid for people with disabilities.
- 2.Generalization of the international experience of social support for the handicapped to identify the most optimal technologies that can be adapted to Russian conditions.
- 3.Investigation of the evolution of centralized provision of social help for the handicapped in the Russian Federation.
- 4. Determination of social and legal foundations for social support of citizen with disabilities in the Russian Federation.
- 5. Analysis of the organization of social support for the handicapped in the Center for Comprehensive Social Service of the Residents in the city of Pyatigorsk.
- 6.Development of the recommendations on the improvement of social servicing of the handicapped in the Pyatigorsk Center for Comprehensive Service of the Residents.

**The object** of the research is social support of the handicapped.

The subject of the research is the essence, as well as main methods and technology of the social support of the handicapped in the city center for comprehensive servicing of the residents.

Theoretical and practical relevance of the research consists in the fact that the instruments developed as a result of the research, able to improve social servicing for the handicapped, can be used in the activity of the Center, which will allow to increase the quality of the services provided. Moreover, analysis of practical work, which was performed during the internship in the Pyatigorsk Center for Comprehensive Social Servicing of the Residents, was used in the paper. The obtained theoretical materials can be applied in the process of training of social workers.

**Results of the research.** In the course of the undertaken research we established that social support of the handicapped is a complex of social services aimed at maintaining of socially active lifestyle, forming of natural capabilities of the recipient of social services, as well as organization of events in order to prevent negative consequences and different social problems, mobilization of the handicapped person's personal resources, teaching new professions, overcoming of difficulties without external assistance.

We indicated the main theoretical aspects, on which social support of the handicapped is based in modern science and social work practice. We determined that the need in organization of social support stems from the status taken by the handicapped in the community. We are sure that for them there is a need not only in medical rehabilitation, but also social, which is the aim of social support. We have analyzed the existing regulatory acts of the Russian Federation on the degree of limitation of working capacity, on social and legal status of the handicapped in Russia, generalized information that depending on the disability category, allowances and social services provided by the state are determined, for citizen who are not able to solve the problems of this category to the full extent.

In foreign countries analyzed in paragraph 1.2., great attention is paid to social support of the handicapped by the state, which makes their socialization faster and more effective. The peculiarity of organization of social support for people with disability abroad is a considerable number of innovative methods and auxiliary means used in practice. Technology and equipment helps the individuals

with health limitations not only in domestic life, but also in professional activity of social workers. The use of computer technologies to solve communication problems and difficulties in socialization is successfully used in the foreign practice and leads to positive results. The accumulated experience also allows them to improve in the field of occupation therapy and demonstrate the wonders of rehabilitation and habilitation of people with different physical and psychological problems. To improve social support of the handicapped in Russia, it is necessary to address the leading technologies of foreign practice of social work with the handicapped.

We have determined that centers for social servicing of the population provide a complex of social services for individuals with disabilities. Having identified that apart from entertaining and health-improving events, the handicapped express the need to increase their level of education and acquisition of knowledge and skills on disablement. Thus, the need of increase in the number of events on improvement of legal literacy of the handicapped became obvious. We reckon that the task of social work specialists is to process the necessary information, regulatory acts in a competent manner and present them using plain and understandable language at individual or group lessons with the handicapped. As a result, we will get a population that is more enlightened in social and legal issues, and centers of social servicing will be able to extend the range of provided services and increase the quality of their provision.

Having studied the practice of social support of citizen with the handicapped, we determined that the social supporter's attention is focused on the activity including: teaching of self-servicing and care, labor activity, spending of free time and rest. Social support is always personalized and aimed at a specific individual, even if the specialist is working with a group.

The support including help and sustaining does not assume solution of the problem for the supported individual, but stimulation of his or her independence and involvement in the solution of a problem. The process which social workers use to achieve this result is called differently: rehabilitation, socialization,

integration. However, the main objective is always to return or form the ability to act independently for the service recipient in this social context.

The social support process is bi-directional. A person with a disability should not depend on the supporter completely, on the contrary, the social worker should assist the handicapped in acquisition of independence, which is why the methodical resource suggested by us is addressed both to the handicapped and their family members, and social workers.

Following the above, it can be noted that the social support activity is based on knowledge and skills that may help the handicapped save their health, decrease the possibility of additional injury and disablement, as well as lead an independent lifestyle.

Thus, social support is the most important component of social activity, the essence of which lies in reinforcement of positive and neutralization of negative tendencies in the life and activity of an individual with health limitations.