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# Literature Review on Social Workers' Involvement in Targeted Poverty Alleviation

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*Abstract*—Targeted poverty alleviation is the focus of China's work in recent years, and also an important topic of social work. According to the research results of various scholars, this paper analyzes the target, methods, advantages, limitations and feasible measures of social work involved in targeted poverty alleviation, hoping to provide support for the research of social workers involved in targeted poverty alleviation.

Keywords: social workers, intervention, targeted poverty alleviation

# I. INTRODUCTION

"Targeted poverty alleviation" was first proposed by General Secretary Xi in a Tujia village in Fenghuang County, Hunan Province. He proposed that poverty alleviation should be realistic and take measures according to local conditions. We should not shout slogans or set ambitious goals for targeted poverty alleviation. Although as a policy, targeted poverty alleviation has no clear definition, it can be seen from the six precisions mentioned in the decision of the CPC Central Committee and the State Council on winning the crucial battle of Poverty Alleviation (accurate support objects, accurate project arrangement, accurate fund use, accurate measures to households, accurate village personnel and accurate poverty alleviation results) that targeted poverty alleviation is the one who supports poverty, The more support the poor get. In a great sense, targeted poverty alleviation is aimed at in system practice, which is practical and precise. Targeted poverty alleviation is a systematic practice with direction. Social work and targeted poverty alleviation are isomorphic and have their own characteristics. This shows that social work can make its own contribution to targeted poverty alleviation in theory and Practice (Wang Sibin, 2016).

## II. SOCIAL WORKERS INVOLVED IN TARGETED POVERTY ALLEVIATION

At present, social workers are mainly involved in targeted poverty alleviation from rural areas, aiming at the elderly and staying behind the elderly. The left behind Lizheng Jian Sichuan Agricultural University Ya'an, China 625014

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children should provide corresponding services according to the different needs of different groups. Hebei Baoding Shanhe social work development center established a community docking Charity Supermarket, which provides material support to the elderly, disabled and other residents who are unable to get out of poverty, and improves the enthusiasm and self-confidence of residents to participate in activities and avoid their welfare dependence by exchanging points for materials. They set up a hierarchical early warning mechanism for the elderly, and established an association for the elderly, which effectively promoted the elderly to participate in community governance and community autonomy. It also links resources to sell agricultural products and increase income for the left behind poor elderly. And carry out "cultural poverty alleviation" activities for left behind children, and increase their own capacity-building through interest groups and other forms (mu Wei, Yang Xinlei, 2018).

Baoding, Hebei sub objects take different measures to intervene in targeted poverty alleviation and achieve good results, but their definition of service objects is not clear, service groups are limited, and other poor groups are not involved. And this is only the practice of social workers involved in targeted poverty alleviation in Baoding, Hebei Province. Other regions should promote the practice of social workers involved in targeted poverty alleviation.

#### III. SOCIAL WORKERS' INTERVENTION IN TARGETED POVERTY ALLEVIATION

The process of social work involved in targeted poverty alleviation should be the integration of rural social work and targeted poverty alleviation. It is divided into three stages: initial fusion, moderate fusion and deep fusion. The initial integration is to understand the current situation, including the causes of poverty, and find the starting point of work. Moderate integration is the combination of linked resources and practice. The deep integration is based on the medium integration and continuous development. And form a complete model to effectively promote the poverty-stricken people in rural areas to get rid of poverty and become rich, and truly realize the long-term goal of good governance in poor villages (Liu Chunyi, 2017)

In addition, when participating in rural targeted poverty alleviation, social work should also pay attention to the impact of social environment, farmers' social support network and farmers' sustainable livelihood ability on targeted Poverty Alleviation (Yuan Jungang, 2017).

Social work should be involved in rural targeted poverty alleviation from three aspects: cultural construction, production development and coordinated governance. The rural targeted poverty alleviation work should not only "support the wisdom", but also "support the will". "Supporting wisdom" can improve the cultural quality and ability of the service object, and "supporting will" can stimulate the fighting spirit of the poor people. When choosing poverty alleviation projects, we should also pay attention to the actual factors such as local climate, whether it impacts the local culture, and cultivate the subject consciousness and participation enthusiasm of poverty alleviation objects. While effectively developing the economy of rural poverty-stricken areas, we should give full play to the main body consciousness and practical wisdom of the villagers by carrying out community development meeting, villagers' representative meeting and other measures (Rui Yang, 2018).

We should also pay attention to the "embedding" and "infiltration" paths when social work helps targeted poverty alleviation. Starting from the diversified poverty alleviation subjects and poverty alleviation services, the resources are "embedded" in the targeted poverty alleviation, and the concept, context and working methods of social work are used to "infiltrate" the targeted Poverty Alleviation (Xi Xiaoli, 2018).

Social work has gradually formed three relatively fixed intermediary paths in China's poverty alleviation. First, the "principal-agent" poverty alleviation path: generally speaking, the government as the principal and the social work organization as the agent sign a contract, and the agent is funded by the principal to complete the set objectives, and the process is supervised by the principal. Second, the poverty alleviation path of "cooperation and mutual assistance": social work institutions and grass-roots governments, communities, volunteers and other groups or individuals carry out poverty alleviation work in a way of mutual assistance and cooperation. Third, the poverty alleviation path of "outreach one intermediary": this path reflects the initiative of social workers in poverty alleviation. Social workers find that service objects are involved in poverty alleviation in their daily work (Li Yingsheng, Xu Xiangwen, 2016).

According to the existing social work involved in the model of targeted poverty alleviation, the main task is to carry out needs assessment first, and then carry out poverty alleviation through linking resources. In the process of work, we also pay attention to the capacity-building of poverty alleviation objects themselves. However, this process may make the process slow and inefficient, so more attempts should be made to find efficient intervention methods. However, targeted poverty alleviation itself is a long-term work, which needs to form a good and perfect working system for reference, so as to ensure more efficient completion of poverty alleviation.

# IV. ADVANTAGES OF SOCIAL WORKERS' INVOLVEMENT IN TARGETED POVERTY ALLEVIATION

Due to the isomorphism of social work and targeted poverty alleviation, social work has many advantages in involving in targeted poverty alleviation.

The professionalism and professionalism of social work itself enable social workers to pursue humanitarianism as the basic value when they are involved in targeted poverty alleviation, effectively grasp the psychology of service objects, generate empathy for service objects, and effectively assess the historical causes of poverty (Yuan Jungang, 2017). In the face of the requirements of fine, trivial and conflicting multi-dimensional poverty identification, social workers from the grass-roots level have the natural advantage of understanding the needs of villagers, and use their identity as a third party independent of the government to conduct a detailed and in-depth baseline survey of the poor groups. The results and official data corroborate and supplement each other to enhance the credibility of poverty identification. As a service provider, social work not only provides material assistance for the elderly, but also pays attention to spiritual consolation, empowerment and energy enhancement. (Wang Sanxiu, Rui Yi, 2018).

Rural social work can play a role in the intervention of targeted poverty alleviation from the following aspects: first, it can effectively promote self-help and mutual assistance of service objects by using the core concept of "helping people and self-help"; second, it can fully tap local social resources and promote the exchange of local resources and foreign resources by using the advantage perspective, so as to realize the effective link of resources (Liu Chunyi, 2017). At the same time, the internal fit between precision poverty alleviation and social work is that social work provides reference, support and methods for "who to support", "who to help" and "how to help" in precision Poverty Alleviation (Gao Fei, Xiang Deping, 2016).

From the perspective of the role played by social workers, social work takes the establishment of professional relationship with service objects as the premise of service, and plays a professional role by actively playing various roles and identities (direct providers, advocates, organizers, etc.) in the process of interaction with service objects (Hou Liwen, 2016).

In a word, social work has professional advantages and functions in the aspect of concept and method. First of all, the basic concepts are the same and the working methods are suitable. Secondly, evaluation and supervision are integrated to highlight the advantages of the third party. Thirdly, we should link resources outside the region and promote multiple forces. Finally, focus on long-term development and consolidate the achievements of poverty alleviation. (Li Yingsheng, Xu Xiangwen, 2016)

The nature of social work itself is very consistent with targeted poverty alleviation, so the advantages of social work involved in targeted poverty alleviation are from the development, entry and end of work. However, in the actual process of social workers' involvement in targeted poverty alleviation, we still need to start from the reality of povertystricken areas and use a variety of professional methods to effectively enter poverty-stricken areas and promote targeted poverty alleviation.

## V. THE SHORTAGE OF SOCIAL WORKERS INVOLVED IN TARGETED POVERTY ALLEVIATION

As a relatively new direction of social work, targeted poverty alleviation also has some shortcomings in the process of work.

The knowledge preparation of rural social work is insufficient, and there is no comprehensive way to deal with rural poverty. The existing anti-poverty experience and relevant knowledge of poverty alleviation and development in China are not well understood (Wang Sibin, 2016).

Social workers' sense of identity has not been widely established in rural areas. Many rural residents have no idea what social work is, which makes it difficult to carry out the work (Wang Sanxiu, Rui Yi, 2018).

The existing top-level design is difficult to ensure the stable development of rural social work, and the special social work service funds cannot support the basic services for the elderly to get rid of poverty accurately (Wang Sanxiu, Rui Yi, 2018).

It is difficult for rural social workers to meet the multidimensional needs of the elderly to get rid of poverty accurately. There is a large gap in the number of rural elderly social workers, and the poor service quality of rural social workers and lack of project experience lead to a single service method (Wang Sanxiu, Rui Yi, 2018).

The objects, contents and forms of social work poverty alleviation are limited, the scope of social workers is not enough, the professional level and poverty alleviation ability of social workers are also limited, and the depth of social workers is not enough (Li Yingsheng, Xu Xiangwen, 2016).

These shortcomings of social workers' involvement in targeted poverty alleviation are mainly due to their short time, insufficient experience and few references. In addition to the limitations of social work itself, there are also deficiencies in social and policy support. Therefore, for the well-being of the majority of poor groups, social workers and all sectors of society need to continue to work together to better serve the poor.

## VI. THE WAY TO PROMOTE SOCIAL WORKERS TO PARTICIPATE IN TARGETED POVERTY ALLEVIATION EFFECTIVELY

In order to more effectively promote social work involved in targeted poverty alleviation, there are various measures to be taken.

Precision poverty alleviation needs the precision of social work (the so-called precision of social work is a kind of requirement for social work in precision poverty alleviation. This requirement is intended to enable the social work subject in precision poverty alleviation to establish a social work service goal targeted at the problems and needs of the poverty alleviation object, and select various advanced social work models with strong pertinence, strong function and active service Or ways, to ensure the social work quality and efficiency improvement process of providing social work services for specific poverty alleviation objects in a precise, accurate and efficient way.) It is necessary to strengthen accuracy in six aspects: service awareness, research and evaluation ability, scheme planning level, service mode selection, tracking and feedback mechanism and social work business (Xie Jungui, 2017).

In addition to the accuracy of social work, the following measures can help social workers effectively participate in targeted poverty alleviation. First of all, we need to establish and activate special funds for social work to intervene in rural poverty alleviation, so as to lay a material guarantee for social work to help the poor. The second is to cultivate a sound development environment for social work with the support of the government, and develop the local social work team in combination with local characteristics (Wang Sanxiu, Rui Yi, 2018). Bring rural social work back to the center of social work, and attach importance to the construction of Rural Social Work Service Center (Gao Fei, Xiang Deping, 2016). Next, we need to speed up the completion of the toplevel design to provide clear guidance for social work in poverty alleviation. And further strengthen capacity-building, improve the internal strength of social work poverty alleviation. At the same time, Shenzhen people carried out innovative practice and explored the feasible path of social work to help the poor (Li Yingsheng, Xu Xiangwen, 2016). Finally, it should be noted that community-based social work should become the core working mode of social work involved in targeted poverty alleviation; asset construction and social capital expansion should be the key policies of social work involved in poverty alleviation; social organizations should be the important carriers and platforms of social work involved in poverty alleviation; social policies and public services should be the focus of social work involved in targeted poverty alleviation Key areas; government purchase of services should become a normalized mechanism. (Hou Liwen, 2016)

Social work involves in targeted poverty alleviation and care for special groups in need. Instead of focusing on activities, it is necessary to explore and cultivate community backbone forces, so as to promote the development of rural community social organizations into self-organizations capable of self-management, self-service and self-development (Mu Wei, Yang Xinlei, 2018).

Scholars have put forward measures to promote social work to involve in targeted poverty alleviation in multiple dimensions and directions. The most basic thing is to strengthen the capacity-building of social workers, connect external resources according to the actual situation of service objects, and effectively carry out poverty alleviation with the support of policies.

# VII. CONCLUSION

The localization of social work itself started in recent years, and the time for social work to intervene in targeted poverty alleviation is particularly short. Therefore, in the process of work, we should correctly recognize the advantages and limitations of social workers' involvement in targeted poverty alleviation. We should actively carry out practical activities to accumulate experience and learn from similar experience. When our own ability is found, we should effectively participate in the targeted poverty alleviation work in combination with "six precisions" and available resources.

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