

John Volken Therapeutic Community group

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JOHN VOLKEN THERAPEUTIC COMMUNITY GROUP

John Volken Therapeutic Community group

Introduction

John volken therapeutic community group is found mainly in Canada and has its campus in Canada and the United States of America. This help group provide long-term drug addiction treatment and offer life skills training to people aged 19 years to 34 years. Their approach is holistic, effective, and practical. The academy offers a two-year program that requires one to pay \$5,000 for the whole process. They mainly use the therapeutic community approach to treat addiction. Students participating in the program are organized into a group and participate in peer to peer counseling. Also, the students are allowed to acquire work experience that one might continue with education afterward (Miovský 2014). Attending one of their regular meetings in their premises located in Kent Washington along Central Avenue, I learned that learners acquire knowledge on root causes of substance abuse and enable their healing. On this meeting, the academy carried out a workshop on drug addiction and highlighted some of the dangers of drug abuse. Also, those present were equipped with skills to avoid drug abuse and how to encourage others to enroll in rehabilitation centers for substance abuse treatment. Also, the drug test was carried to those present to determine the substance level in their blood. Students in this academy were allowed to take advanced studies which took approximately two hours, which is their daily routine from Monday to Friday. During the occasion, several formats of speeches were used to present different information to the students present. The main form of address used was demonstrative speech. This was used to demonstrate the dangers of drug and substance abuse, and the speakers used visual aids that illustrated the risks. Also, motivational speeches were delivered to motivate those undergoing treatment as it is not something easy to change lifestyle.

JOHN VOLKEN THERAPEUTIC COMMUNITY GROUP

The explanatory address was finally given to explain the importance of taking a treatment approach in the treatment of addiction.

John volken therapeutic community group emphasize teamwork, hard work, respect, honesty, and sobriety in all aspect of their learning and life. They encourage students to help each other in dealing with hardship that might occur in their rehabilitation life. Hard work is also encouraged to both the students and counselors. Each should work hard to ensure the success of the academy and help the learners. The most important of all is sobriety. Each should act in a manner that shows maturity and respect to all. This is applicable when the person is sober. Respect for all is also encouraged. These values create a welcoming environment in the academy and even to the treatment of addiction. Upon entering the premises of this institution, an atmosphere of hope is created due to the respect and honor credited to people. Even after the meeting, one feels part of the institution and always wish to be present in any conference organized by john volken fraternity. It will be a lie if one attends classes in the institution and finally say the institution does not understand the obligations that the institution was formed to perform. Even during the meeting, everyone attending the teaching can clearly understand the duties of the group. So the feeling is calm.

This group has a population of more than 400 drug addiction rehabs that undergo treatment in john volken academy campus in Washington. Apart from the rehabilitation center and services provided by the group, it also has education programs that are given to students who wish to extend their education. Elementary training is given to all students, and those who excel are allowed to further their education. As such, they provide all levels of education to their learners. Though their recovery services are charged, they offer high-quality services that everyone is willing to pay. As such, this group is viable, and following the objectives, it was

JOHN VOLKEN THERAPEUTIC COMMUNITY GROUP

formed to perform. The group also allows students to develop spiritually, emotionally, mentally, and physically. They provide physical education like games and body fitness exercise that enable students to grow physically and interact with one another. Apart from the mental support that the group offers students, its core values are based on spiritual uprightness and fear for God. This is what makes it viable. Under their program, they have the lift the child initiative which reach out struggling children and orphans and provide support to them. These orphans are given long-term financial support and also link them to an individual who sponsors their education (McGee 2005). In this case, john volken foundation has funded several children orphanage mainly in east Africa, where it has covered their total operating costs.

This group is viable to individuals who have wished to cut ties drug and substance abuse like alcohol, bhang, cocaine, among others. Also, I encourage learners to chances that are available in john volken academy school and get the best education. The government should even step up and finance the activities of this group. The reasons for rising these recommendations are that it has the best rehabilitation systems and treatment methods for addiction. Of all self-groups I have managed to visit; this is the only one that has the sense of humanity and cares for human feeling. The quality of education that learners get from this institution is high. It is characterized the professional teachers who handle learners well. Also, their support for orphans is well organized and thus helps to fund education and living for children who do not have parents and give shelter to them. The government, as such, should step in and provide financial aid to this group to fund its operations. The group mainly depends on fees paid by learners, which have proved to be inadequate. Humphreys (2003), argues that the government should also step in by funding the organization for it to offer free treatment. The \$5,000 fee that they request for admission has proved to be too high for people and thus has

JOHN VOLKEN THERAPEUTIC COMMUNITY GROUP

discouraged many from getting addiction treatment. Finally and the most important for this group is the mental, spiritual, social, and emotional support that they offer to people. This help people to get treatment with ease, and upon graduation, they live a successful life.

During addiction treatment, several issues are addressed: detoxification, life skills, screening and assessment and addressing the basic needs of the patient. It is quite challenging to address the basic needs of addiction patients. This is because their requirements vary from one person to another, depending on gender, culture, sexual orientation, and legal status. In such a situation, clinicians emphasize on providing sufficient basic needs so that the person can undergo treatment successfully. Detoxification is another issue highlighted in addiction treatment (Marsch et al. 2014). Detoxification is essential as patients may lie the extent at which they have used the substance. Life skills are taught to addicts so that they will fit well in the society after treatment. Finally, screening is done to determine the extent of detoxification and precaution measures to be taken. This practice has experienced many setbacks in an attempt to treat addicts. First, researches show that drug and substance abuse has increased over time in both rural and urban areas. This has pressured the available resources for treatment. Also, the lack of sufficient funds has negative impacts on addiction treatment. Many of those who abuse drugs cannot afford the cost of treatment and thus remain to use the drug. Another challenge that has faced addiction treatment is the lack of sufficient personnel, inadequate training, and remuneration to the clinical officers. They do not undergo the appropriate training and are poorly remunerated and therefore, are discouraged from performing their duties.

The Minnesota model is also called the abstinence model was created in the 1950s by a young psychologist who neither had experience in addiction and alcohol. It then spread fast under the Hazelden foundation. The key feature of this model was the blending of professionals

JOHN VOLKEN THERAPEUTIC COMMUNITY GROUP

and recovering staff in alcoholics and anonymous. It also involved the family of the addict in treatment that took 28 days. According to White (1998), this model required a twelve-step program and was treat addiction by including medical and health treatment in twelve steps. The Minnesota model works under five core components. That is detoxification, group meeting, educational lectures, evaluation mind, and referral services. Detoxification was the first step and involved handling any drug in the body of the individual and aimed at withdrawing the substance. This was followed by an evaluation of the mind to determine the mental problems caused by the drug. These are like severe anxiety and depression — the model aimed at diagnosing these problems. Most of the therapy was done in a group, and that was the essence of group meetings. Lectures were given that were informed of warnings and education on the dangers of substance abuse. Those who required further treatment were referred to appropriate services for additional medication. This model had a shortcoming in that it had the effect of putting an individual in the risk of being irresponsible for their addiction.

Therapeutic community model is a model that was on the principle of community to initiate and promote change among addicts. It is based on “each one to teach one.” In the program, participants were required to observe the behavior of peers and change for the better. This was based on the role model where senior participants taught the juniors by examples and thus became their models. As such, it is a group-based approach that has been in existence since the 1950s. It does not only help addicts stop using drugs also understand why they used drugs and thus provide a long-lasting recovery. The process of healing can occur between two years and five years (De Leon, 1997).

JOHN VOLKEN THERAPEUTIC COMMUNITY GROUP

Conclusion

Drug and substance abuse has become a big problem among young people. As such, strong measures have to be taken to discourage addiction. This may involve the use of self-help groups where addicts can rehabilitate and learn new lifestyles and become useful people. Also, the role of government in drug abuse control should be well stipulated. Addicts also should be encouraged to take treatment to change their lives. It should also be the responsibility of everybody to ensure addicts receive treatment but be reminded they were responsible for their addiction.

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John Volken Therapeutic Community group

GRADEMARK REPORT

FINAL GRADE

/7

GENERAL COMMENTS

Instructor

PAGE 1

PAGE 2

PAGE 3

PAGE 4

PAGE 5

PAGE 6

PAGE 7

PAGE 8