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**Community Organization and Civic Duties**

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## **Community Organization and Civic Duties**

### **Question 1**

The community board meeting that I attended comprised a diverse population of people from all parts of the community, which created a dynamic multiracial and multicultural meeting. This diversity presented many different skills, experiences, abilities, and ideas. Similarly, every person felt included as valuable members of a diverse culture since the meeting was about what ought to be prioritized to promote cultural diversity within the community to create a self-sustaining and conducive society for everyone. Another agenda for the meeting was to achieve effective outcomes for the culturally diverse community that we were, comprehending and celebrating the dissimilarities required to be valued and ingrained in the community's culture. It was argued that a properly managed diverse community base is essential to answering equally increasing diverse demands within neighbors and society. Likewise, different age groups were represented, with the elderly taking charge of the meeting.

The participant emanated from all walks of life that appreciated each other's differences. Surface level diversity refers to the visible difference one can generally observe, like gender, race, and age. On the contrary, the deep level diversity such as beliefs, personality, attitude, and values was only noticeable when a participant verbally shared his or her concerns or views. Similarly, participants expressed detectable levels of cultural competencies, which require individuals to be aware of their cultural values, practices, experiences, and the capability to read, interpret, and react to others within the community. Furthermore, the community board meeting encouraged community members not to try ignoring differences among people. They pointed out that certain individuals attempt so difficult to evade stereotyping that they surpass the extreme of attempting to elude sighting any variances at all amongst other individuals. The conclusion on

this matter was that people are unlike in numerous conducts; thus, we must accept that we must encounter the gains of diversity at all. However, the key issue for change that surfaced from the community board meeting was the lack of community prevention programs on violence, addiction, and drug overdose.

### **Question 2**

The major issues discussed by the community board members on the group's key issue was overdose from the synthetic opioid fentanyl and heroin, which is a drug that is 100 times stronger than morphine and lethal even in minimal doses devastating not only our community but other communities across the country as well. The community views these concerns as important because, due to this drug abuse, the community's level of violence and crime rates are escalating. Additionally, sexual assault, homicide, and bullying are on the rise, and the intervention measures remain inadequate. The suggested change in addressing this concern was a community prevention intervention to stop the youth from using illegal substances whereby the community would work closely with law enforcement agencies in helping them to identify offenders. This strategy was aimed at creating a drug-free community where every individual would live freely without fear.

The history concerning community transformation about the group's main issue has been transitional with minimal success from the past to now. This phenomenon has been fueled by the fact that drug trafficking has been a major concern nationwide. Even though addicts within the community were willing to transform and go for rehabilitation, only a small percentage were willing to do this with help from their family members. The majority, in this case, chose to stick to this vice, thus the sluggish transition in curbing this issue. Similarly, this issue exists in this community because of the levels of poverty and pressure among peers. However, the community

prevention intervention that has already been put into place to control this issue is taking shape since most community members have embraced the benefits of a non-violent community free from drugs (Banta-Green et al., 2019). Similarly, cognitive-behavioral, behavioral modification, and behavioral modeling strategies mainly focus on changing individuals' behaviors directly through this program. These strategies involve timely trailing an individual's specific behaviors over time and behavioral objectives, using response and negative or positive reinforcement to transform their conduct, thus disengaging addicts from using illegal substances (Nelsen et al., 2018).

### **Question 3**

The group members identify the main issue as a matter of great concern and closely hits home; thus, it should be mitigated within the shortest amount of time. This phenomenon results from the numerous lives, especially those of young individuals who have already witnessed being lost in the struggle to curb this issue. However, some community members are deeply submerged in this fiasco and believe that they are better off using drugs; thus, they do not identify with stopping drug use. The main reason they do not identify with this movement is because of peer pressure and the fake power they believe results from the use of these substances.

### **Question 4**

The implementation of community prevention programs on violence and addiction, and overdose within the community might assist in the following;

1. Having a healthy community.
2. Prevented expenditure on drug abuse treatment and drug abuse-related emergency room visits.

3. Improved job stability.
4. Increased wages.
5. Fewer unemployment episodes.
6. Decreased rates of violent crime.
7. Prevented driving under the influence related injuries to others.
8. Improved self-esteem and sense of well-being.
9. Better family and community interactions.
10. Reduced physical pain.

#### **Question 5**

In summary, the group's process of identifying a major issue from the knowledge I gathered in the community board meeting gathers information from numerous community members. It narrows it down to one recurrent factor. Secondly, they describe how the problem transpires, how serious the issue is, and the impact and consequences in the community, which aids in identifying gaps that might hinder the efforts of mitigation. Third, the group tries to comprehend everyone's interests, outlining different individuals' needs to satisfy suggested solutions. Listing the possible solutions that the group members have suggested comes in fourth. Lastly, selecting the most suitable approach to dealing with the problem is voted upon and follows together with contingency measures just if the initial plan fails.

To conclude, cultural diversity is essential because it assists in dispelling undesirable stereotypes and individual biases concerning diverse groups. Additionally, it helps us respect and distinguish other individual's ways that are not necessarily our own. Likewise, we can mutuality coexist and support a course that we all value and share in common for the benefit of society.

### References

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