

TACKLING STREET HOMELESSNESS: THE MAIN CHALLENGES

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CITY OF BERGAMO - SOME DATA

- City's inhabitants: 120.000
- Province's inhabitants: (around) 1.000.000
(seventh on 104 provinces in Italy)
- Unemployed rate (around) 1%
- 80% of rough sleepers belongs to this geographical area

EVERY YEAR

- 200 - 250 people = "new" street homeless coming from the city
- 300 - 350 people = "new" street homeless coming from the province
- All these numbers without illegal immigrant people

HOW TO SOLVE STREET HOMELESSNESS?

1. Hide the phenomenon (using services ad hoc)
2. Charitable aid
3. Re-access to citizenships (rights)

STAKEHOLDERS INVOLVED TO TACKLE STREET HOMELESSNESS

- a. People in needs (rough sleepers)
- b. “Common” people (citizens)
- c. Policy makers
- d. No profit sector, volunteers sector and public sectors promoting actions and services to social excluded people

WHOSE RESPONSABILITIES TO “COMMON” APPROACH?

- a. Policy makers
- b. No profit sector, volunteers sector and public sectors promoting actions and services to social excluded people

WHICH ARE THE MAIN RESPONSABILITIES OF NO PROFIT/VOLUNTEERS SECTOR?

- a. Absence of true and scientific knowledge about street homelessness
- b. Not (enough) professional people in the “no profit” service providers (volunteers people are the majority)

WHICH ARE THE MAIN RESPONSABILITIES OF POLICY MAKERS?

- a. Total delegation to charity (voluntary) sector and no profit sector (social cooperatives, associations, etc.)
- b. Saving public money as much as possible (no investments to tackle street homelessness)

KEY POINTS TO TAKLE STREET HOMELESSNESS AT LOCAL LEVEL

1. “citizenships rights first”
2. Recognize that adult people can be “frail” and need specific social support

KEY POINTS (2)

3. governance of local action plan means, as a priority, an empowerment process to improve:
 - quality of service providers
 - effective and strategic networking

4. need of local strategy action plan

KEY POINTS (3)

5. Targeted services to street homelessness
 - emergency services
 - support services
6. Need of strong network between targeted services and SSGI
7. Invest to tackle street homelessness means a (totally) reorganization / redesign of the structure of social services



Thank you

More information

www.fiopsd.org

www.nap.bg.it