

## **SOCIAL WORKERS IN THE MODERNIZATION OF THE PUBLIC CONSCIOUSNESS**

**Summary.** The article discusses the need for continuing education of social workers in the framework of the program article of the President of the Republic of Kazakhstan N. A. Nazarbayev «Course towards the future: modernization of Kazakhstan's identity» and his 2018 Address «New opportunities under the fourth industrial revolution».

**Keywords:** social workers, education, retraining, further training.

**Аннотация.** В статье рассматривается необходимость непрерывного образования социальных работников в рамках программной статьи Президента Республики Казахстан Н. А. Назарбаева «Взгляд в будущее: модернизация общественного сознания» и его Послания 2018 года «Новые возможности развития в условиях четвертой промышленной революции».

**Ключевые слова:** социальные работники, образование, переподготовка, повышение квалификации.

President of the Republic of Kazakhstan N.A. Nazarbayev in his article «Course towards the future: modernization of Kazakhstan's identity» stressed... it is the competitiveness of people, not the availability of mineral resources, that becomes a factor of success of the nation. «Therefore, any citizen of Kazakhstan, as well as the nation as a whole, must have a set of qualities worthy of the XXI century» [1]. We will have a chance to succeed only by developing our competitiveness.

25 years have passed since the introduction of the profession «Social work» in Kazakhstan. During this time, science has made a huge breakthrough, especially in the social sphere. Approaches to helping people are changing qualitatively. The number of qualified specialists in this field is growing. But not every graduate who received the profession of a specialist in social work, found himself in this area. There is a phenomenal situation: a person armed with knowledge of sociology, medicine, culture, law, economics, psychology, who has the skills to work with different categories of populations is not able to apply a huge amount of knowledge in practice.

After obtaining the diploma of the specialist in social work, graduates expect some tests. In my opinion, this is due to the unwillingness of social services employees, their clients, the state and society as a whole to recognize the necessity of functioning of these specialists. Having received in universities enormous tools for work, it becomes absolutely unclaimed young specialist in the labor market.

Also disappointment of graduates can be caused by a professional assessment of «old-timers» of social services. They have formed a stereotype about customers as «freeloaders», the dependents of the state; about work as on the provision of social services for older people. Bureaucracy in the design of assistance to people, the lack of local professional and methodological information, the attitude of customers to social workers as «nomenclature, seeking to Rob honest citizens» imperfection of the legislation, connivance of officials-all this initially leads new professionals to the state of frustration, which is accompanied by disappointment, tension, anxiety, there is a sense of hopelessness and despair. All this takes place against the background of the progress of social and psychological sciences, two-stage state education in the direction of «Specialist in social work», the development of unions and associations of social orientation.

What is the reason? We can start with the fact that the social sphere is an area where the bulk of specialists does not have specialized education. Specialists with economic, legal, pedagogical, medical and even psychological education work in the sphere of social protection of the population. This can be explained by the absence a few years earlier of a profession specifically created for professional activity in the social sphere. And how do you explain this now?

In PSU to recruit students to the specialty «Social work» began only in 2006, i.e. the labour market of Pavlodar region since 2010, gets qualified specialists in the field of social work, however, despite the fact that social institutions in the region abound, graduates are not able to find a job.

So, today we have two problems. First: what to do with specialists without special education. We can't deprive such specialists of the workplace because they have big experience of work. And the second: how to train future specialists in social work in order to that they can find a job by their specialty.

Today, employers in the social sphere face a serious problem: «we need specialists with specialized education. We can't lose the whole staff because of the lack of special education. As a result it is impossible to hire new specialists, because these jobs are occupied by specialists who do not have specialized education». And then there is a need to create a program of retraining and further training of social workers in modern conditions, it means a program of retraining of social workers who do not have special education, taking into account the requirements of the employer and the program of further training of practical social workers. Since the above opinion of specialists of social services is associated with ignorance of the peculiarities of social work as a profession, as a practical activity, its history, methods and technologies of work.

To do this, we work with the heads of social institutions, in which we identify those requirements that, according to the employer of the social sphere, are necessary for a specialist in social work. And first of all, these are skills to work with different categories of the population, because, for example, specialists with economic education, do not possess such skills. In addition, employers want a graduate school, getting to work, had already mastered the basics of social law.

Our President in the program article «Course towards the future: modernization of Kazakhstan's identity» noted that «the desire for education has always been characteristic of our people» [1]. Much has been done during the years of Independence. Focusing on the developed countries, social work appeared in the list of professions in 1992. Now it changes its

professional appearance. Today it is very difficult for Kazakh social workers, because people who do not have specialized education mainly work in social work. In such conditions, only a highly educated person can live successfully, who can change his profession relatively easily thanks to a high level of education. And we have tried and tested positive results of the solution of retraining and further training of social workers. Every citizen of Kazakhstan, including a social worker, should understand that education is the most fundamental factor of success in the future. If education becomes the main value in the system of values, our nation will be successful.

The meaning of Modernization of public consciousness confirms the seventh paragraph of the Address of the President of the Republic of Kazakhstan N.A. Nazarbayev 2018: the basis of any modernization – human capital [2]. And here we are talking about a new quality of education. Social work is a relatively new profession for our country. Therefore, the training of social workers at the present stage is not characterized by the presence of sufficiently developed educational standards that would be expressed in the formulation of pedagogical goals, in the content, technologies of the educational process. The experience accumulated by the pedagogy of vocational education needs additional understanding and adjustment, as social work has a specific system of professional values (orientation to the needs of the client, priority of personal and professional growth, etc.) and puts forward special requirements for personal qualities necessary for professional social work. And if we can properly form personal and professional competencies in the process of retraining and further training of social workers, the result will be people who will become the main guides of the principles of modernization of consciousness – openness, pragmatism and competitiveness.

## References

1. Article of The Head of state «Course towards the future: modernization of Kazakhstan's identity» : N. A. Nazarbayev, – 2017 : [Electronic resource].
2. Address of the President of the Republic of Kazakhstan N. A. Nazarbayev to the people of Kazakhstan “New opportunities under the fourth industrial revolution” : N. A. Nazarbayev, – 2018 : [Electronic resource].