

Psycho-Social Support for Home-based Elderly Career in Guangzhou, China

Rebecca Wang

Social Work Education and Research Center

SUN Yat-Sen University, Guangzhou



中山大學
SUN YAT-SEN UNIVERSITY

Background

- Home-based Elderly Care Service begun in 2006
- Limitation of Government Input
- Lead to poor paid of Career
- Lead to the limitation of service



Aims

- To describe the situation of Home-Based Elderly Careers from one center's experience
- To explain why psycho-social support to Careers is important
- To share what we have done



The Situation of Home-Based Elderly Career

- Elderly Career are required to be:
- People without work because of the reform of government or collective organized enterprises , (Xia Gang)
- 40s-50s years old
- Government's intention: A policy to increase employment to compensate the reform's victims



The Situation of Home-Based Elderly Career

Gender:

- 7 women

Age:

- average 47.3, 42-58

Education level:

- 1 less than primary school, can't write and read
- 4 junior school
- 2 high school

Marriage:

- 5 Married, 2 Husband dead left children to raise up

Family:

- 2 domestic violence victims, 2 husbands have stroke, 2 husbands don't work or have been retired, 3 benefit from lowest income compensation, 3 have more than one child



The Situation of Home-Based Elderly Career

Income counted by service hours

- 10.6 RMB/h, the lowest salary per hour in Guangzhou
- Time spent on way don't pay

Average income:

- 1015 RMB/month



The Situation of Home-Based Elderly Career

Come from poor family, have to work to raise husband, children, parents

With poor relationship with husband or children

Face a great pressure both from family and work, both economical and psychosocial



Relationship between Elderly and Career



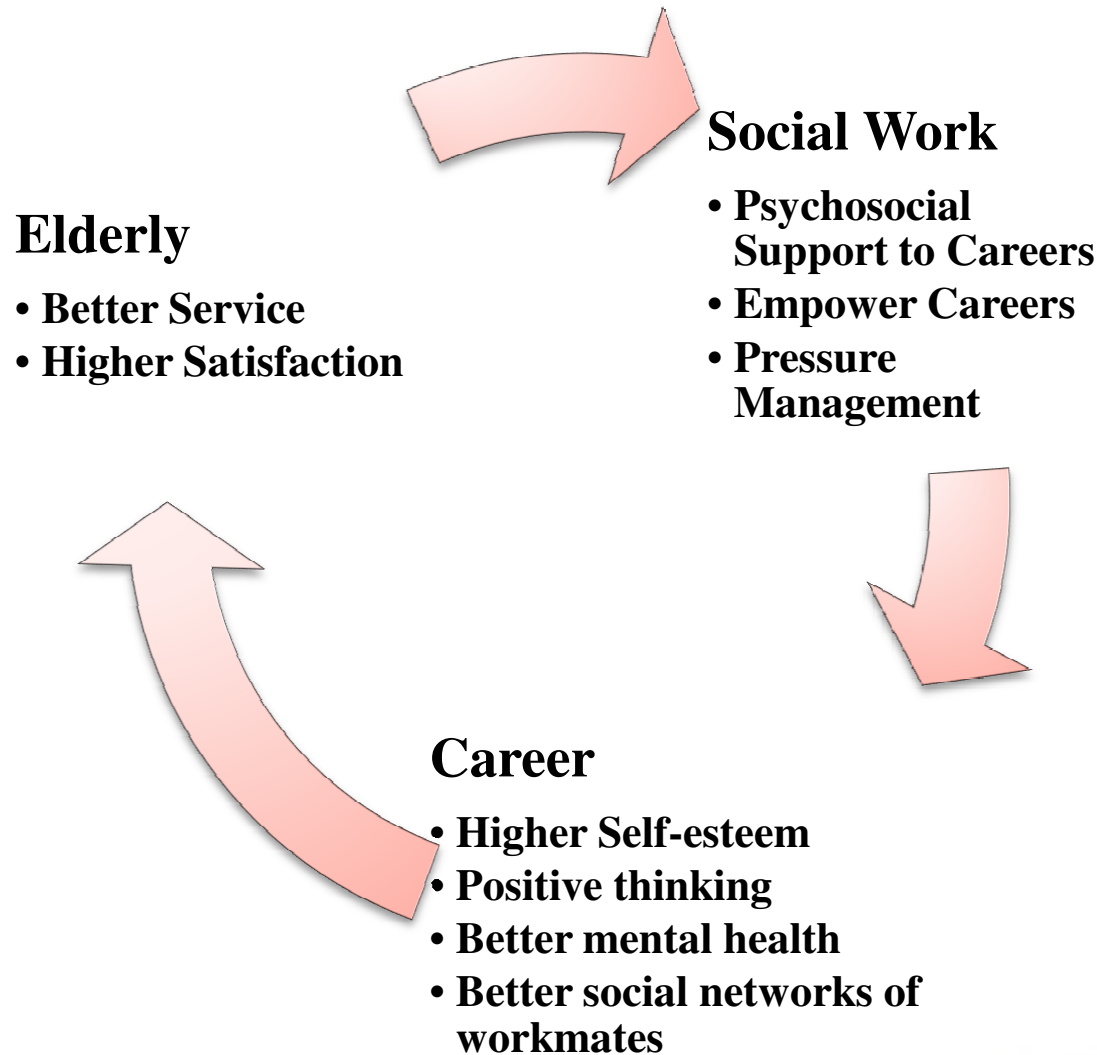
Poor, unhappy,
women,
Careers

Poor, lonely,
weak, elderly,
Clients



中山大學
SUN YAT-SEN UNIVERSITY

Why Psychosocial Support to Careers?



Intervention Methods

- Providing more chance for sharing experience and meet workmates, so as to increase peer support



Intervention Methods

- Train them some skills to communicate with elderly; so as to decrease work pressure and increase self-confidence;



Intervention Methods

- Show concern to themselves individually, to increase belongingness and to make sure career take good care of themselves;



Intervention Methods

- Provide case work to difficult elderly to release career from pressure. After intervention, careers shows greater work satisfaction, elders' feedback shows they are more satisfied with the careers.

