ADDICTION PROGRAMS AND FURTHER EDUCATION IN ADDICTION STUDIES

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Why addiction Programs

According to UNODC 2020 World Drug report

- In 2018- about 269 million people used drugs at least once in the previous year

- 35 million suffer from Substance Use Disorders

- Require treatment

- Similar statistics at regional and national levels

Impact

- Negative impact on
  - Health
  - Individual, family and community
- Draining of resources
- Upsurge in crime including violence and corruption
- disruption of social, economic , political and cultural structures

Why addiction Programs

- For who?-Service providers?
- To do what?-Service?
- Where?-Settings?
- With who?-Clients?
- With what ? Knowledge ,Skills Competencies, Attitudes, Values?

Drug demand reduction activities

- Supply reduction- production, sale, trafficking, distribution
- Demand reduction –Prevention,

  -Treatment,

  -Harm reduction

- Research
- Policy and advocacy etc

Type of activities /settings

- Prevention programs- outreach, awareness, education,
- Family and community wellness programs
- Schools
- Treatment- inpatient clinics,
  - outpatient clinics,
  - halfway houses,
  - prisons,
  - hospitals,
  - rehabilitation centers, among others.
- Policy and advocacy organizations
- Academia and Research organizations

Need to build capacity

- Need to build capacity to address the drug problem at
  - Global
  - Regional
  - National
  - Local levels
- Efforts by international organizations e.g. ISSUP,ICUDDR,COLOMBO PLAN,UNODC,OAS, etc

HOW?

- Equip with Knowledge, Skills, Competencies, Attitudes and Values to address the drug demand reduction goals
- Through capacity building initiatives
- Short term and long term initiatives

Capacity building programs

Includes

- Short term training programs- Short courses such as
  - Universal Treatment Curriculum(UTC)
  - Universal Prevention Curriculum (UPC)
- University based academic programs in related disciplines
- University based academic programs in addiction studies

University based academic programs in related disciplines

- Addiction courses are anchored in related disciplines
  - As a unit/ course within a program
  - As a group of units/ courses forming a concentration/ specialization
- Examples of such programs are Psychology, Counseling, Medicine, Pharmacy, Social work, Public health

As stand alone academic programs in addiction studies

Found in:

- Universities
- Tertiary/ middle level institutions

Focus of programs

- Prevention

- Treatment

- Harm reduction

- Policy and advocacy   etc

- Combination of all

Nature of programs

Most have:

- Course work

- Research component including project for some

- Practicum/ internship

Some Names of Programs

- Addiction Medicine

- Addictology

- Addiction Science

- Addiction Studies

- Addiction Counseling, etc

    - Program name could depend on focus, emphasis

Sources of students

- Draw students from diverse fields / disciplines
  - Medicine
  - Psychology
  - Sociology and social work
  - Pharmacy
  - Public health
  - Law
    - Etc

Levels

Range from

- Pre –Bachelors- certificates, diplomas
- Bachelors
- Postgraduate diploma
- Masters
- Doctorate

Duration

- Depend on program level

- May vary across countries/ regions

- Examples:
  - Bachelors- 3 to 4 years
  - Masters 2 years
  - Doctoral 3 and above

Entry criteria

- Diverse entry criteria
- Depends on:
  - Program level
  - Uniqueness of program
  - Institutional and country policies

Mode of delivery/study

- Flexibility
  - Full time
  - Part time
  - Face to face
  - Virtual- Synchronous and Asynchronous
  - Blended mode

Time for decisions- Interested in advancing?

- Personal goals
- Academic qualifications
- Financial resources
- Time resource
- Admission criteria
- Availability of programs- with virtual learning- increased access

Available options

- Short courses

- Pre -bachelors programs-certificates, diplomas

- Bachelors

- Post graduate diplomas

- Masters

- Doctoral programs

Spoilt for choice !!!

-END-

THANK -YOU