
Workshop on
**An ageing society and the
role of social workers in the
Welfare State**

**“GLOBAL SOCIETIES OF INCLUSION OR
EXCLUSION?”**

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Aim of the workshop

- **To bring together new ideas and thinking on social work interventions in an ageing world toward:**
 - **Successful ageing**
 - **Independent and active living**
 - **Competent social care**

Outline of the presentation

- **Overview of the Cyprus case (20 min.)**
- **Discussion #1 (30 min.)**
- **Discussion #2 (30 min.)**

Ageing in Cyprus

- **Population:** The population in the Cyprus Government controlled area is estimated at **803,200** at the end of 2009
- Cypriots older than 65 today: **105,700 (13%)**
- Cypriots older than 65 by 2051: **236,000 (28.7%)**

Social Welfare in Cyprus

■ Pre 1974 war:

- **State:** old age pensions (1960)
- **Family:** main responsibility
- **Neighborhood:** additional support

■ Post war:

- **Family:** not the main responsibility
- **State:** pensions, nursing homes
- **Private sector:** nursing homes

Overview of the Welfare State today

- **Social Insurance and old-age pensions**
- **Public Assistance**
 - Residential Care (nursing homes)
 - Home care support services
- **Community Senior Citizens centers**
- **Health care**

Social Insurance and Old-age Pensions

Dependents	Highest Pension - Lowest Pension	Supplementary Funding Highest - Lowest
None	€ 400.92 - € 340.78	€ 95.68 - € 128.15
One	€ 534.56 - € 454.38	€ 90.56 - € 119.60
Two	€ 601.38 - € 511.17	€ 82.01 - € 111.06
Three or more	€ 668.20 - € 567.97	€ 64.93 - € 102.52

An additional €65.50 so:

No pension below € 534.43

Social Pension (from age 65 to those with no contributions at all)

€ 324.75 + € 76,89 = €401.64

Public Assistance

- **Home-care service** (personal hygiene, house cleaning, washing of clothes, cooking, payment of bills, shopping, e.t.c..)
- **Community-care service** (personal hygiene, house cleaning, washing of clothes, cooking, payment of bills, shopping, e.t.c..)
- **Residential-care service:** governmental, community or privately owned Residential Homes or Nursing Homes.

Fees for older adults entitled for public assistance are partially covered through the public assistance law: ***{pension + public assistance = fees}***

Senior centers

- An expansion in senior centers the last decade (an indication of the shift from the family oriented culture)
- **Activities** include:
 - leisure,
 - educational,
 - physical,
 - spiritual,
 - meals provision,
 - transportation

Health care

- **Primary health care:** Community Health Care Centers
- **Secondary, tertiary health care:** District General Hospitals
- **Health care provision:**
 - Free for the majority of older people (free health care provision for individuals with annual income up to **€15,377.41** and for families with annual income less than **€30.754,83**).
 - Lack of specialized services for older people

Professionals and older adults

- **Social Workers:** need for gerontological social workers
- **Home and Residential care staff:** need for specialized training
- **Medical staff (Doctors, nurses):** limited task force with specialized training in geriatrics

The role of state and community

(to promote content, peaceful, active ageing within the frame of dignity and worth of person)


■ Discussion #1

- 1. Policy development for older people - pinpoint on actions and programs- (other than the ones already mentioned about Cyprus).**
- 2. Development of community-based programs to support older adult and prevent them from social exclusion.**
- 3. Family interventions to support elderly members.**

The role of social workers in an ageing world

■ Discussion #2

- 1. How an ageing society affects our interventions?**
- 2. What are the skills needed in working with elderly populations?**
- 3. What could be an effective policy plan for social services/programs for older people?**



The end!

Thank you for your contribution!