Evaluation on Agency Assessment Procedures

Grading: 100 points
Due: Week 4, Monday, 11:59 p.m. EST/EDT
Note: This is a CORE assignment used in CSWE Assessment

This assignment is designed to strengthen your ability to evaluate the effectiveness of social work practice at the individual, family, and organizational levels. In alignment with the social work profession's commitment to ongoing, evidence-informed improvement, you will examine how your agency assesses client needs and outcomes and provide recommendations for enhancing practice.

Through this process, you will draw on theories of human behavior and person-in-environment, utilize anti-racist and anti-oppressive perspectives, and apply qualitative and/or quantitative evaluation approaches. This critical reflection will guide you in identifying ways to improve client-centered, culturally responsive, and strengths-based services in real-world settings.

Part: 1

Part 1 should be approximately one (1) page in length.

Briefly describe the agency where you are doing your internship, including its mission, services provided, location and the specific role(s) that you play there. OR If you are not currently completing an internship, you may also use a current or previous employment setting that would fit this assignment. If neither of these options apply to you, please talk with your instructor about an alternative plan.

Part 2: Evaluation of the Content and Process

Evaluate both the content and the process of how your agency completes assessment. This critique is based on what you have learned through class discussion and assigned readings on social work assessment and the literature search you did relevant to the client issues you have identified in the earlier summary. Part II should be 4- to 5-pages and APA formatted.

A. Evaluation on the Content of the Assessment:

1. You should critique the extent to which the level and type of descriptive information gathered is appropriate and adequate given your agency's mission, the client's presenting issues, and your role in relation to:

a. The individual client(s) (e.g., personal characteristics, attributes, spirituality).
b. The family system (e.g., structure, roles, rules, history, life cycle).
c. The physical-socio-cultural environment.

2. Are factors related to diversity in terms of race, identity, and other cultural variables addressed?
3. Based on your critique, discuss what changes you would make with regard to the level and type of information gathered.

B. Evaluation on the Process of the Assessment:

1. In your writing discuss the adequacy of the process in which the information is gathered.
    a. How and from what source is the information gathered (e.g., observation, interviews, prior records, referrer, etc.)?
    b. What tools are used (e.g., agency's client in take form, standardized instruments, and visual tools such as genogram, ecomap, or culturagram)?
    c. What communication skills/approaches did you employ in the assessment process?
    d. How involved is the client in the information gathering process and how cooperative is he/she (which would affect or explain the reliability of the data)? Is the level of client involvement appropriate given your agency mission and the client's presenting situation?

Based on your critique, what changes would you recommend about the information gathering **process** and what is your rationale?