

Finding Resources for Clients

I am assigned to work with a client who is physically disabled with his left arm paralyzed. He is Sudanese. He came to the United States in 2000. His wife came a year later to the United States. 3 years later she separated and moved to Arizona.

He got injured in the meat factory in 2009. He has no income and he cannot work. He just received Food Stamp, but no cash assistance from the Department of Health and Human Services. Lutheran Family Services, International Center of the Heartland help him filled out application for housing authority assistance. His application was approved for assistance. The housing authority is paying \$370.00 and he is responsible to pay \$50.00 out of his pocket. He has nowhere to find money and pay the other portion of his bill. Lutheran Family Services, International Center of the Heartland has been helping to connect him with agencies that can provide cash assistance like Lutheran Ministries.

Lutheran Family Services, International Center of the Heartland paid for the deposit and the month of October. He moved in to his apartment on September 30th, 2010. A month later he notified us that he is receiving November bill that has not been paid. Last week my assistance director Carol called Lutheran Ministries to help him pay for November. They agreed to pay \$50 so I took him to the office to pick up the check. When we got there we found that the lady had already prepared a check for \$50 and I mentioned that we are almost to the month of December. So if you pay for November he still needs assistance to pay for December. She said that she will pay \$25 half of December. I felt that it was great that his bill for December is half paid.

Now, we are asking agencies that can help us pay for the \$25 of December. We are trying our best because he has no other mean to support himself. I think I gained experience of being a community server. It is important to help people who cannot support themselves or people who

do not have strengths and courage to find their needs. I am happy we are in a society where people are helping other people. In doing so, we are creating an environment and a community of caring for its people.

The skills I used to find resources for this client pay his bill is interactive and effective communication skills. I was very open to talk to this lady at Lutheran Ministries to help us pay \$25 on top what she agreed to help us. I was very approachable and communicative with people I met at Lutheran Ministries. I was able to build a relationship to working together and have partnership to refer clients who may need help in the future. I was fortunate to know this agency that we can ask for help. Ultimately, I have seen there is a reason to establish this agency.

We need to have agencies where we can communicate and talk to them for help. Open dialogue helps us to get to know one another as we are in real life. This will help us to share a similar interest and willing to form a society where people help themselves. In this way people are connected by living as friends, families and gives opportunities to build and pursue their dreams in their community. People with similar characteristics within the community can talk to one another and have almost the same interactions in their lives.