**Fifteen Field of Services mentioned in the Voluntary Social Welfare Agencies**

**(Registration & Control) Ordinance 1961**

According to Voluntary Social Welfare Agencies (Registration and Control) Ordinance, 1961 “Voluntary Social Welfare Agency” means an organization, association or undertaking established by persons of their own free will for the purpose of rendering welfare services in any one or more of the fields mentioned in the schedule.

According to the Voluntary Social Welfare Agencies (Registration & Control) Ordinance 1961, there are 15 fields upon which a voluntary social welfare agency can render its welfare services. There are numerous national and regional voluntary social welfare agencies are working in Pakistan, which are rendering services in any one or more of these 15 fields of services mentioned in the ordinance. Both fields of services and some of the examples of voluntary social welfare agencies rendering services on these fields are mentioned below:

1. **Child Welfare**

Child Welfare is a broad subject for rendering welfare services. In Pakistan voluntary social welfare agencies render welfare services on different aspects of child welfare. National and Regional welfare organizations in Pakistan are working on child abuse, child labor, run-away children, neo-natal child health care, on children’s education and abandoned children. Some of the NGOs rendering child welfare services are Edhi Foundation, TCF, Maternity and Child Welfare Association of Pakistan and Bunyad Foundation etc.

1. **Youth Welfare**

National and Regional welfare organizations in Pakistan are working on these main aspects of youth welfare:

Drug abuse, homeless and shelter less youth, health and education problems of youth, youth’s sports competitions, extra and co-curricular activities for youth, debate competition for youth. Some of the agencies working on youth welfare are as following; Youth Welfare Foundation, Youth Welfare Network etc.

1. **Women Welfare**

Numberless organizations are addressing the women problems on national and regional levels. They are focusing on violence against women, honor killing, acid victims, karo kari, vanni, sexual abuse, maternal health care, education for girls, women employment and gender equality etc. APWA, Edhi Foundation, AKRSP, NRSP, Aurat Foundation and Dar-ul-Amman are some of the NGOs working on these issues.

1. **Welfare of the Physically and Mentally Handicapped**

Physically and mentally handicapped are the deprived and neglected section of our society. They are dependent on other people for their survival. For the betterment of this vulnerable and marginalized group various NGOs are working such as;

Association of Physically Handicapped Adults (APHA), Pakistan Disable Foundation (PDF), Pakistan Association of Deaf (PAD).

1. **Family Planning**

Family institution is the basic institution for rearing and caring of children and other family members. Family Planning Association of Pakistan is promoting family planning, sexual & reproductive health as a basic human right. It is also providing sustainable and quality based reproductive health and family planning services to men and women. Some NGOs working on Population Welfare and family planning issues are MNCH, PHC & FP and Green Star etc.

1. **Recreational Programs Intended to keep People away from Anti-Social Activities**

In societies, where recreational facilities are rare and nominal where youth have maximum chances to indulge in anti-social activities like drug addiction, begging, crimes, robbery and dacoit’s etc. Welfare Organization arrange recreational programs for the society like sports tournament, athletics competition, arrangement of stalls and Meena Bazaar, flower exhibition, arts & crafts exhibition etc. Some of welfare organizations rendering services on recreation are Alaap (Ambassadors of Love, Arts and Peace, A Joka Theatre Organization etc.

1. **Social Education**

Social education that is, education of adults aimed at developing sense of civic responsibility. Literacy ratio of Pakistan is very low. Education is a back bone for the development and progress of any society. Especially the adult education ratio is alarming. Education brings the civic responsibility among people. For instance, CCE (Center for Civic Education Pakistan) is working on this problem.

1. **Welfare and Rehabilitation of Released Prisoners**

When a person indulge himself in a crime, his act is responsible for many reasons, nature and nurture both are responsible for personality make up of a person. Sociologists say that 25% nature and 75% nurture socialization are responsible for personality structure. A prisoner or criminal, who has been released by the jail, has basic human rights on equal footing with a common innocent man of a society. After release from imprisonment, it is a dire need to rehabilitate the released prisoner in a society’s vicious circle. For example, Ansar Burney Welfare Trust is taking fruitful steps to bring back released prisoners to the main stream of life.

1. **Welfare of Juvenile Delinquents**

In the words of Gillin and Gillin, “delinquents is one who is guilty of an act believed by a group that has power to enforce its belief, to be injurious to society and therefore prohibited.” In short, juvenile delinquents are those young persons who have been found indulging in destructive acts such as theft and car lifting etc. In Pakistan, we do not have any legal an administrative regulation defining the term “Juvenile Delinquency.” In a welfare spectrum, welfare organizations cover following aspects;

To eradicate the causes of juvenile delinquency.(e.g. Child labor, Child Abuse etc.)

Legal protection to juvenile delinquents.

Rehabilitation of juvenile delinquents etc.

For instance, Consortium for Street Children is a network of NGOs working of juvenile Justice in Pakistan.

1. **Welfare of Socially Handicapped**

The Socially Handicapped may include the old age, infirm, invalids, drugs addiction, crime, child abuse, disabled due to some accidents, widows, orphans, deserted women, etc. A majority of them have no organic defect nor suffer from chronic disease but they are incapable of doing work because of their age, loss of limbs or certain social difficulties. Aid for Refugees and Orphans, PIHRO (Pak International Human Rights Organizations etc. are some of the welfare organizations, providing services in this regard.

1. **Welfare of Beggars and Destitute**

For the well-being of beggars and destitute various welfare organizations have been working in Pakistan. These welfare organizations cover the following aspects of beggary and destitute;

Employment opportunities

Poverty alleciation

Legal and moral protection to street children

Women and child trafficking

Rehabilitation of drug addicts etc.

In Pakistan, Hidaya, ROAD (Rescuing Oppressed and Destitute) are some the NGOs, working for the welfare of beggars and destitute.

1. **Welfare and Rehabilitation of Patients**

Under the umbrella of social welfare services, Patient Welfare Societies are working at THQ and DHQ hospitals of Pakistan. Provision of free of cost medicines, temporary stay at hospital’s premises and clinical treatment are some of the tasks of these societies. In this context, Pakistan Red Crescent Society is working on a broad scale for the welfare medical care facilities to the patients. At the time of war and natural calamities IRC arranges medical care facilities to the patients sufferings from these disasters.

1. **Welfare of the Aged and Infirm**

Gerontology is the study of aged people and it is an especial field of Social Work which primarily deals with the problems of aged in the society. In Pakistan society number of old homes are in quantity, major reason is that the family bondage is strong in Pakistan as compared to western societies. Nevertheless, some old homes are providing personal care and residential services to old people who have been neglected by their family. Affiat and Edhi Welfare Home are some of the examples of these welfare organizations.

1. **Training in Social Work**

For the training of Social Workers, many governmental and non-governmental organizations are working in Pakistan and in international level. For instance, in international level “The International Federation of Social Workers and National Association of Social Workers are some of the example. Pakistan also has a strong collaboration with these organizations for the training of social workers. The International Federation of Social Workers is working on the following grounds;

To promotes the Social Work as a profession

To promotes the establishment of National Organization of Social Workers.

To promote the role of social workers in planning and formulation of policies.

1. **Coordination of Social Welfare Agencies**

International Federation of Social Workers and National Association of Social Workers etc. are working for the collaboration and coordination of different Social Welfare Agencies in Pakistan, These institution develop co-ordination on research, policy, planning, implementation and execution sectors of different organizations.