



Counseling Services in Youth Homelessness Centers: A Comparative Analysis of Service Utilization and Recovery Outcomes in Lagos, Nigeria

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Abstract

Youth homelessness in Lagos, Nigeria presents a significant social challenge, with mental health disorders often underlying this issue. Qualitative comparative analysis of data from multiple youth homelessness centers across Lagos over one year. The proportion of homeless youths utilising counseling services varied significantly between centers (30-50%), with higher utilization linked to better recovery outcomes for mental health issues. Counseling services are crucial in addressing the mental health needs of youth homelessness, but there is room for improvement in service access and effectiveness across different centers. Enhanced coordination between government agencies and NGOs providing counseling services could improve coverage and efficacy. Youth Homelessness, Counseling Services, Mental Health Disorders, Comparative Study

Keywords: *Youth homelessness, Lagos, Nigeria, mental health disorders, qualitative comparative analysis, counseling services, service utilization, recovery outcomes*

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