

# VALUE OF SOCIAL SERVICES FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE STATE SOCIAL GUARANTEES AND COMMITMENTS TO OLDER PERSONS IN UKRAINE

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This article is devoted to the issues of social services for elderly people in Ukraine. The urgency of the topic is due to the fact that the people of old age are the most numerous category of the recipients of social services in Ukraine, which is related both to the peculiarities of the period of their lives and to the increasing of the number of persons aged 65 years and over in the general structure of the population of Ukraine. The role and place occupied by social services among the state social guarantees and commitments for the older persons are outlined by the article. According to the legislation of Ukraine, the segment of state social services provided to the elderly people includes such services as: domestic services, medical services, psychological services, legal services, material aid (socio-economic services), other services related to social adaptation and rehabilitation.

The author determinates that the state social guarantees and commitments that are accorded to the people of old age can be conditionally divided into the social insurance (which is represented by pensions), the social aids or payments and social benefits, the social services. In addition, the publication contains an analysis of the current state and specifics of the network of state institutions providing social services for the elderly persons. Ukraine has an extensive network of social services for the

older persons, providing a range of diverse social services that cover all major aspects of the life of such people. The coordination of this network is carried out by the Ministry of Social Policy of Ukraine and the Ministry of Health of Ukraine. It was established that a significant problem for Ukraine in the context of providing state social guarantees and obligations for the elderly is the lack of institutions for social and domestic services and hospices. This problem is especially acute in rural areas due to the disadvantages of social and transport infrastructure. Partially this problem can be solved with the help of a locally localized social cluster, which should include health care institutions and institutions that provide social services.

Another important issue for the successful implementation of state social guarantees and commitments for the elderly persons is the provision of adequate quality of social services. Today Ukraine has adopted the legislative acts regulating the procedures for determining the needs of the population in social services, monitoring and evaluating of social services and also has adopted the state standards of some social services with the corresponding requirements to their quality. However, this work can not be considered as completed, and it continues to improve the quality of social services for the people of old age.