



# Research on the Problem of Religious Participation in Home-based Care Services under the Background of Aging

—A case study of X nonprofit organization in Guiyang

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## ABSTRACT

Under the background of population aging, religious participation in pension services has been carried out in most parts of the country. This paper analyzes the problem of religious participation in home-based care services. Research shows : The main factors affecting the service of home care services are the needs of pension services, service object's subjective intention, religious concept of charity, material resources supply and policy support. However, this endowment way is still in the exploratory stage, in the acquisition of land, financing, institutional management, service content and other aspects of the problem. Religious participation in home-based care services is a beneficial exploration of the social care service development and the way of pension innovation. But it requires from three aspects of government, society and its own starting to further support and regulate the religious participation in home-based care services.

**Keywords:** aging; religion; home-based care services

## 1. Introduction

### 1.1 Background

To cope with an aging population, should first solve is the sense of security. Providing for the aged is the common responsibility and obligation of the family, society and government. With the change of population structure, the miniaturization and the core of the family size, the

traditional way of family support for the aged in China has been greatly impacted. Therefore, the diversification of the main security for the elderly will be development inevitable trend, the State encourages and support of all sectors of society to actively participate in old-age service. Among them, the religious community is one of the participants cannot be ignored. In 2012, the countries Bureau of religious affairs, the national development and Reform Commission, Ministry of civil affairs and other relevant departments jointly issued the "Opinions on encouraging and engaging in charitable activities" (National religion [2012]6) pointed out to the pension business as the focus of the work of religious charities to carry out, which in a certain extent, clear the party and the government for religious organizations to participate in charity support attitude and participation form and field. To encourage

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and regulate religious institutions engaged in charitable activities is under the new situation of religious work basic principle, guide the religion and society to adapt to the inevitable requirement, is played by religious figures and religious masses positive role in an important way, but also to promote the beneficial supplement of China's public charity. However, the China's current policy for religious organizations engaged in social charity, participate in the provisions of the pension service is not perfect and comprehensive, which will directly affect the religion in the normal operation of the pension, to limit the play the role of religious and social support. Therefore, to explore the problems and causes of religious participation in home care will be conducive to the development of religion and social development requirements and relieve the pressure of the elderly.

### *1.2 Connotation of religious participation in home care service*

Religious participation in home care services need to understand from the following aspects[1]:

First, Religious participation in home care is part of the religious charity, but also to meet the needs of social development.

Second, the religious participation in home care is the main body of China's social pension supplement does not deny and exclude the role of other pensions.

Third, Religious participate in the practice of home care for the elderly to cover life care, emotional care to the full of spiritual comfort in the field of care.

## **2. The current situation and characteristics of X non profit organizations in Guiyang**

### *2.1 The status quo of X non profit organizations in Guiyang*

In 2014, X no-profit organization in Guiyang set up by Lee , chairman of a group of 72 year old president Chen, Mr.Li, Mr.Zhong 5 launched jointly with the local community.The site is provided by the community, a one-time can accommodate 180 people dining at the same time. The survey shows that the number of people dining at different times will change, but the daily basic maintains at around 300 people, of which more than 95% of the elderly. The average daily number of volunteers keep in more than 20 people, the maximum around up to 40 people. At present, the number of volunteers in the agency reported up to 900 people, mostly in the elderly, the oldest of which is 83 years of age. According to the investigation, more than 90% of the volunteers believe in Buddhism. They follow the Buddhist "infinite compassion and mercy" thought, he service is more show love.

Different age groups demand of the mind is objective

existence, and the empty nest elderly demand of emotional care and spiritual comfort is more prominent[2]. Survey showed that the elderly come to eat, the majority of women, accounting for more than 90%, aged between 70-80 years old mostly, showing aging. These old people or the death of his wife, or children not in the side, enter the empty nest and lonely period and 80 percent of older adults with varying degrees of with age-related diseases or depressive illness, the demand of spiritual comfort is more urgent. s

### *2.2 Main features*

#### *2.2.1 Service nature: nonprofit public service organization*

Sources of funding, Guiyang city X nonprofit organizations and sources of funding for non-government channels, from in voluntary work, diners and social love people donated.In terms of service, volunteer is an important resource for the X non-profit organization's pension service. The organization's pension services are all provided by the volunteers. In summary, From the aspects of management and management, material sources and service providers, the pension service organization of Guiyang X non-profit organization is a non-profit charitable organization.

#### *2.2.2 Service object: no eligibility restrictions on home care services*

According to the survey, Guiyang city X non-profit institutions have no qualification for service object. First, although at the beginning of the establishment of objective is for the institution where the community and the nearby old people provide home care services, however, is not a denial of other age diners; secondly, whether the elderly body whether health, life is able to take care of oneself, whether ones according to the daily life materials can to provide free lunch and other pension services. Finally, although the agency sponsors with Buddhist background, but the service object is not strictly religious beliefs requirements.

#### *2.2.3 Service content: Comprehensive service characterized by spiritual comfort*

The elderly is a special social group, especially empty nest elderly, left-behind elderly, the widowed elderly etc. They live alone and have less time to communicate with others, so resulting in psychology and spirit is empty state, the demand for emotional care and spiritual comfort for the enhancement non-profit organizations on the one hand to watch the video in the form of interpretation of good and evil, life and death, the contradiction between the cause and effect, to provide a psychological and spiritual sustenance for the elderly. At the same time, in the form of lectures which serves for the spread of the concept of

a healthy diet, encourage and guide the elderly get rid of bad eating and living habits, and debugging through self-cultivation of health activities, so as to achieve the effect of prolonging life[3]. On the other hand, X organization for old people provides a platform that can and their age, the situation is similar to that of group interaction, the widowed elderly people have to pour out the object, in a certain extent can ease the depression mood.

#### *2.2.4 Service mode: the way of home care based on X mechanism*

Home care service refers to the family as the core, the community as the basis, to provide for the elderly to solve the problem of daily life for the main service content of the social pension form[4]. In this paper, the object of study of Guiyang city X nonprofit organization mainly to provide outdoor pension services as the main content, such as for the elderly provide free lunch, for partial disability elderly pack takeaway meals, regularly organize lectures on health and other. Therefore, the family is still the main pension for the elderly; the agency is the lack of capacity of the family pension supplement. For the economic capacity is not high and the lack of family pension services for the elderly group, the public welfare home care service is particularly important.

### **3. The dilemma of the religious participation of the X non profit organizations in Guiyang**

#### *3.1 Site problem*

The biggest difficulty is the X organization in Guiyang city site. Due to the reasons for the municipal planning of Guiyang City, the site before the end of May 2016 the site will be demolished. This site is removed, will face two problems: one is to find a new site right; two is after the relocation of the original community elderly will fall into the pension plight. According to the survey, the agency initiated the site after receiving the notice of removal, and actively called on the community to help seeking new venues, causing public attention to the public and the public. Therefore, whether to find a suitable new location before the demolition is still unknown.

#### *3.2 Financing problems*

Shortage of funds is a prominent problem facing X non-profit organizations. First, the main purpose of this organization is to provide service for widows and Empty Nestor, with charitable nature. Income from all sources is to rely on the volunteer services and social donations of caring people, financing channels for a single. And these donations are very limited, only able to support the daily operation of the normal service institutions. Second, for the agency, the current state of service is in short supply.

However, due to the lack of sustainable development of financial resources, and then put into the expansion faced difficulties. Site size is small and the service condition is limited.

#### *3.3 Low level of specialization*

X non-profit organizations in Guiyang city are the founder of the service with the enthusiasm of the founding of the community. But due to lack of management experience and professional knowledge, resulting in limited service level and the development of relatively backward. In order to reduce operating costs, the agency service staff is composed of the unemployed and retirees of the volunteer team. Although this is largely reduced labor costs, but the volunteer team has not been specialized training, lack of knowledge of the pension services, it is difficult to meet the diverse needs of the elderly pension.

#### *3.4 Single service content*

The survey found that Guiyang city x institutions for the elderly to provide daily service mainly includes three aspects of content: vegetarian lunch is provided free of charge for the old man, at the same time as the part is capable to provide packaged takeaway service; the second is learning the old Chinese culture and traditional cultural knowledge every day; the third is the spiritual comfort and emotional care services. So, pension services provided by the agency is extremely limited, service content single, related social services not mature, the needs of the elderly daily care services and health care services.

#### *3.5 The existence of religious influence*

X institutions are established by people with religious background, most of the volunteers have religious beliefs. Although the agency is the public oriented, deal carefully with the relationship between believers and non-believers in and to the service object without qualification limit. But certain religious behavior and religious thought are inevitable. Such as: the agency a month will be volunteers, service object and other to make contribution to the roster rushed to a temple to do "dedication " blessing; by watching the Buddhist nature of the video, the opening of the meal before the blessing and other activities are with a certain religious color.

### **4. Countermeasures and suggestions**

#### *4.1 Government aspect*

First, to strengthen the religious participation pension regulation and guidance and promote religious participation in the pension for the orderly development, need to refine the religious groups to establish endowment career related policies and regulations; Secondly, give relevant policies and incentives to encourage social forces to actively invest in the pension. At the same time, to

expand the financial investment appropriately and perfect the fund raising preferential policies; finally, it is clear that the missionary boundary, and formulate reasonable and legal norms and treatment measures, so that the religious development of charity in the right direction.

#### 4.2 Social aspect

On the one hand, to make positive publicity, clear religious institutions and in home pension services essential difference, certainly religious organization of society to make contribution, improve the public pension awareness of religious participation, encourage social forces to establish the cause of old-age pension. On the other hand, in the promotion process, adhere to the principle, control and screening the propaganda content, take proper publicity.

#### 4.3 Religious organizations

First of all, we need to change the concept of management, from the traditional experience management to standardization, professional management transformation; secondly, the volunteers and volunteers to be selective; Again, to achieve the transformation from service for elderly people basic necessities of life to provide daily care, home care, rehabilitation care, health care, emotional

care is a comprehensive service; finally, draw the religious activities and pension service activities to avoid religious boundaries, avoid the existence of religious influence.

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