

SOCIAL SUPPORT FOR PARENTS OF CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

Olena O. Fayerman, graduate student in Subject Area 015: Professional Education (with specializations), Alfred Nobel University, Dnipro

E-mail: olenafayerman@yahoo.com

ORCID: <http://orcid.org/0000-0003-2487-4063>

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The article proves the urgency of the problem of social support for parents of children with special needs. Based on the analysis of scientific works, the concept of «support», «social support» is revealed. Emphasis is placed on the fact that social support is provided in the light of the concept of «self-help» as a social service that is necessary for individuals and families who cannot independently exercise their rights, perform functions, and bear responsibilities to prevent deepening crisis.

The author's approach to defining the essence of social support for parents of children with special needs is presented. It consists in development, meeting social and psychological needs, instilling confidence and learning to live with the problem. It is shown that with the socio-ecological approach the support of parents by relatives, specialists, forms a space of relationships in which their favorable social and mental development becomes possible. It is noted that with a socio-psychological approach, professionals who provide social support to parents of children with special needs should be aware of the consequences of losing attachment for the further development of both parents and the child's personality. The focus is on a family-oriented approach to social support. The author draws conclusions about the areas of social support, which is the key to improving the lives of families raising children with special needs.

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