ABSTRACT

This thesis focuses on the topic of care planning in field-based social services for the elderly. This topic is relevant for social workers and social care assistants, who are responsible for care planning in their social service.

The goal of this thesis was to identify the characteristics of a high-quality care plan in field-based social services with the elderly target group, and to find out whether social workers in these services are missing resources for the creation of care plans. The theoretical part of this thesis describes the theoretical background of care planning in general, and with the specific target group of elderly people, and identifies gaps in practical resources for care planning.

The goal of the research was to find out how social workers in home care work with the topic of care planning, which resources they use, and which parts of care planning they find challenging. The research was conducted using qualitative content analysis on the sample of nine interviews with social workers employed by home care services. The analysis of the research then confirms the dependency of social workers on the internal resources of their organizations. Furthermore, this thesis shows how social workers create care plans in practice, which goals their care plans contain, and how their organizations approach quality management.

The output of this thesis is a set of recommendations for the creation of high-quality care plans, which can serve as a resource for the creation of care plans for social workers who have inadequate methodical support for care planning in their organizations.

Key words: care plan, social work with the elderly, field-based social services, home care, social care