

ABSTRACT

The thesis focuses on innovative forms of housing for the elderly. The aim of the thesis is to find out how innovative forms of housing for the elderly are evaluated both by the residents of these homes, i.e. seniors and young people, and by their staff, especially social workers. At the same time, the aim of this work is to formulate recommendations for the possible further expansion of these innovative models of housing for the elderly in the Czech Republic.

The first part of the thesis is devoted to the theoretical definition of the concepts of old age, social and health residential services for the elderly, the concept of innovative forms of housing for the elderly and specific innovative housing for the elderly in the Czech Republic and abroad. The second part of the thesis is devoted to the actual research.

In order to achieve the aim of the thesis, qualitative research was used in the form of semi-structured interviews with seniors as residents of these innovative forms of housing, social workers and the management of these innovative projects. In the case of intergenerational housing projects, interviews were also conducted with students as residents of these innovative forms of housing.

A total of 38 respondents were involved in the analysis. The data collected was analysed using content analysis. The research identified that seniors living in innovative forms of housing perceive this housing positively, especially appreciating the affordability, accessibility, and social aspect of this housing. The research also identified the benefits for seniors, which are mutual assistance and spending time together, this led to a reduction in feelings of loneliness. On the other hand, the research identified a negative aspect of innovative forms of housing for the elderly, namely that they cannot remain in their current housing if their health deteriorates. Students who lived with seniors particularly valued affordability and community living, although some expressed concerns about setting boundaries in their relationships with seniors. Staff also valued innovative forms of housing for seniors, particularly in terms of engaging seniors in the community and reducing feelings of loneliness.

Keywords

Seniors, Innovative form of housing, Intergenerational housing, Community housing, Flat sharing for seniors