The Role and Actions of Social Entrepreneurs during the Forming Process of NPOs (Non Profit Organization) for Community Work:
A qualitative analysis of interviews with NPO founders

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ABSTRACT

Recently, NPOs for community work are attracting attention as service supply organizations and a receptacle of public activities. Up to now, much research on NPOs for community work has focused on the social services that these NPOs supply. However, there is little research that clarifies how NPOs for community work have been planned and formed with the involvement of citizens and residents.

The aim of this study is to make clear through qualitative research the role of their founders (social entrepreneurs) and how they acted in the process in which NPOs for community work become service supply organizations.

Three cases were chosen and semi-structured interviews were conducted. As a result of a content analysis of the data, the organization forming process could be classified into five stages, and the founders roles are “Motivator”, “Networker”, “Mission Articulator”, “Facilitator”, “Presentator”, “Coordinator”, and “Supporter”. Also, the progressive life cycle model of NPOs for community work is presented.

Key Words: social entrepreneur, forming process, non-profit organization for community work.