

Meaning in work and emerging work identities of housing support workers: A quest for a comprehensible plot.

[Download Here](#)

IOS
Press

IOS Press Content Library

[Help](#) [About us](#) [Contact us](#)

Menu

Search

Search

Published between:

YYYY

and

YYYY

[Search syntax help](#)

Meaning in work and emerging work identities of housing support workers: A quest for a comprehensible plot

Article type: Research Article

Authors: [Ericsson, Ulf*](#) | [Ehliasson, Kent](#) | [Bengtsson Tops, Anita](#)

Affiliations: School of Health and Society, Kristianstad University, Kristianstad, Sweden

Correspondence: [*] Address for correspondence: Ulf Ericsson, School of Health and Society, Kristianstad University, SE-291 88 Kristianstad, Sweden. Tel.: +46 44 203294; E-mail: ulf.ericsson@hkr.se.

Abstract: BACKGROUND: Work and employees are often marginalized in studies on community-based psychiatric care and support systems. This paper highlights the role of the worker at congregated supported housing for people with severe mental illness (SMI). Housing support workers (HSW) are a fairly new professional role and have developed as a result of major changes in Swedish mental health care and services. The development of new roles is not unproblematic and raises intriguing questions. OBJECTIVE: The purpose of this article is to describe housing support workers' experiences of meaning in their work, and in addition illuminate how the work identity of HSWs can be negotiated and constructed. METHODS: Four focus group interviews were conducted with a total of 25 participants. Additionally, three follow up sessions were conducted with the same participants. The material

consists of employees from four different sites. The interpretation of the material was inspired by a constructionist approach. RESULTS: The analysis generated three themes: to do a good job, everyday needs and the formal role. The work identity for HSWs is complex and not easily interpreted. CONCLUSIONS: The experience of an unclear assignment affects the description of what is meaningful and important—the work identity and significant affiliations for HSWs. In the long run, this fragmented world can have negative implications for the HSW.

Keywords: Housing support workers, mental health and illness, narratives, professionals, Sweden, work identity

DOI: 10.3233/WOR-152151

Journal: [Work](#), vol. 53, no. 2, pp. 367-376, 2016

Received 9 September 2013 | **Accepted** 1 December 2014 | **Published:** 18 February 2016

Price: EUR 27.50

[Add to cart](#)

[Log in or register to view or purchase instant access](#)

Share this:



[Volume Pre-press](#)

[Volume 60](#)

[Volume 59](#)

[Volume 58](#)

[Volume 57](#)

[Volume 56](#)

[Volume 55](#)

[Volume 54](#)

[Volume 53](#)

[Issue 4](#)

[Issue 3](#)

Issue 2

Issue 1

[Show more](#)

Sign up for journal newsletters



Get journal news
delivered to
your inbox

[Click for details!](#)

We recommend

Woman-to-woman rape and sexual assault, and its impact upon the occupation of work: Victim/survivors' life roles of worker or student as disruptive and preservative

Twinley et al., Work

Disability management and organizational culture in Australia and Canada

Buys, Nicholas et al., Work

Employers' views of the impact of mental health problems on the ability to work

Jansson, Inger et al., Work

A process evaluation of a return-to-work intervention to improve Cooperation between Sick-listed employees and their Supervisors (COSS)


Hoefsmit, Nicole et al., Work

Policy on professional support in return-to-work: Occupational health professionals' experiences in a Canadian setting


Maiwald, Karin et al., Work

Interviewing Well 

IEEE Pulse

Your Phone Can Diagnose What's Wrong With You. But Should You Trust It? 

360Dx

Making the most of your transferable skills 

Adam J Poole et al., The BMJ

Cardiometabolic Disease and Diabetes 

Practice Update

Imaging Findings of Hereditary Renal Tumors, a Review of What the Radiologist Should Know 

Practice Update

Powered by **TREND MD**



[Administrator log in](#)

[Shibboleth log in](#)

[Journals](#)

[Help](#)

[About us](#)

[Contact us](#)

Terms & conditions

Privacy policy

Copyright © 2018 IOS Press All rights reserved.

Join our network:



Twitter



Facebook



LinkedIn



RSS feed

North America

IOS Press, Inc.
6751 Tepper Drive
Clifton, VA 20124
USA

Tel: +1 703 830 6300
Fax: +1 703 830 2300
sales@iospress.com

For editorial issues, like the status of your submitted paper or proposals, write to
editorial@iospress.nl

Europe

IOS Press
Nieuwe Hemweg 6B
1013 BG Amsterdam
The Netherlands

Tel: +31 20 688 3355
Fax: +31 20 687 0091
info@iospress.nl

For editorial issues, permissions, book requests, submissions and proceedings, contact the Amsterdam office info@iospress.nl

Asia

Inspirees International (China Office)
Ciyunsi Beili 207(CapitaLand), Bld 1, 7-901
100025, Beijing
China

Free service line: 400 661 8717

