



# **The relevance of the problems of social work at the present stage of development of American society**

The presentation was prepared by the 2nd year student of the Faculty of Management and Psychology Mikhail Firstov

## History development of social work in USA

- + The system of social work in the United States began to take shape at the end of the 19th century, when the first charitable societies began to appear in the country





## The first charitable societies of the USA

- + The first charitable societies in the USA were the Guild of Neighbors, established in 1886 in New York and a charitable organization in Buffalo, created by the type of Organized Charity Society in 1887

# Periodization of the history of the development of social work in the USA

- + I period: 1900-1930, when social assistance operated at the level of local governments, state governments and local private institutions organized under the auspices of the Public Foundation.
- + II period: 1930-1968, when the Federal Government took important initiatives in the field of social security. For example, the law on social insurance established, adopted in 1935.
- + **III period:** since 1968, when the movement towards the "welfare state" was replaced by a policy of conservatism. A course has been taken to reduce social spending, and priority in federal funding is given to military spending and ensuring economic growth through tax cuts.

# The main features of social work in the USA

- + I. A distinctive feature of social work in the USA is its decentralization. There are various social programs in the country both at the state level, at the state level, and at the level of a single city.
- + II. A special place in the American social work system is occupied by solving the problems of racial and ethnic minorities. In this regard, the so-called "dual approach" has recently been implemented. It presupposes the adaptation of common values, views and behavioral characteristics of people to the ethnic characteristics of certain racial and ethnic minorities.
- + III. Social insurance and State assistance are the main forms of the State social security system. The main difference between them is the different sources of funding. Insurance funds are formed at the expense of taxes from workers, entrepreneurs and persons of liberal professions, and state assistance – at the expense of allocations from the state budget, state and local government budgets.



## The issue of the protection of indigenous population

- + One of the important problems of American society remains the problem of social protection of the indigenous population. This includes people occupying the lowest levels of social life American Indians, Alaska natives. Poverty and unemployment, which are most common among the indigenous population, have the most adverse impact on the structure of families. The breakdown of families, the stress caused by unemployment, give impetus to such negative phenomena as alcoholism, mental disorders, suicide, flight, homelessness of children, teenage pregnancy, prostitution, etc.

# The problem of social inequality

- + The United States completes the list of developed countries on the index of economic inequality. The twenty richest people in America own more than 152 million poor Americans. The average family has about \$16,000 in debt, and 41% of the population cannot pay medical bills.



# Racial conflicts

- + Racial conflicts have always existed in the United States — this problem is still widespread today. In words, absolute equality is declared, but in practice this is not observed, so the authorities are trying, if not to eliminate, then at least to mask inequality.







## The migration problem

- + The problem of US development is migration. Amid the protests of ordinary citizens, the government is increasingly thinking about the need to impose restrictions on entry. This is especially true for refugees from Muslim countries. Throughout almost the entire history of the States, migrants have been repeatedly harassed.



# Crime

- + The problems of the US economy are crimes against the background of economic and social ill-being. Crime is mainly concentrated in the ghetto. In the southern states, the problem is the concentration of a large number of Latinos, who are often in the country on illegal grounds. There are 33 thousand gangs in the country, which include almost 1.5 million people, according to official FBI data.

# Other socio-economic problems

- + **Lack of social guarantees.** A serious social problem in the USA is the lack of guarantees for citizens at the federal level.
- + **Problems in education.** Education in the USA is one of the most expensive in the world, but the overall level of education remains very low. The current education system in the United States is aimed at serving the consumer society. For many Americans, the only way to get a higher education is to participate in a loan program and education becomes an unbearable burden for young people financially.
- + **Deterioration of citizens' health.** Medical insurance in the USA is very expensive, and it is extremely difficult to get basic general medical care without a card. This is a serious problem of the United States against the background of the general deterioration of the national health. Obesity and mental disorders are common.

# Solving the problem of preserving ethnic minorities

- + Issues of protecting the rights and interests of minorities in the United States have been dealt with relatively recently. Several centuries earlier, most of these groups faced many difficulties, including at the legislative level. Currently, American legislation provides equal rights for all its citizens, without assigning any special rights to representatives of a particular ethnic group. Despite all the measures taken in this direction, ethnic cultures to this day continue to be in the position of marginal.

# Social support programs for the population

- + Recently, several preferential social programs have been developed in the United States to support the population:
- + **Medicare и Medicaid** - programs aimed at providing medical care to the population. Medicine in the USA is quite expensive, and medical services are not available to many citizens. These programs are designed to make them more accessible, offsetting some costs.
- + **SNAP** - a program for the purchase of preferential products, which allows unprotected categories of citizens to purchase food. US citizens who have too low an income can receive special cards containing the amount that can be spent on food at retail outlets with a special mark "EBT".
- + **Worker's compensation** - is compensation for occupational injuries, injuries and disability during the performance of their official duties. The program works in several directions at once and effects not only people affected at work, but also their children.

## Fighting crime.

- + July 25, 2011 U.S. President B. Obama signed a decree and a number of orders providing for the introduction of new sanctions against international crime, as well as aimed at protecting the national security of the United States. The main provisions of the "Strategy of Struggle" were brought to the attention of the public combating transnational organized crime"

Thanks for your attention!!!