

Analysis of the Effectiveness of the Government's Social Food Assistance Program in Medan City: Community Poverty Review Study

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Abstract

This research aims to analyze the effectiveness of the government's social food assistance program in Medan City using a community poverty review study. The data collection method used in this research is descriptive qualitative using secondary data obtained from the Central Statistics Agency (BPS). The data used for analysis in this research are 1) The number of families receiving benefits from the government's social food assistance program in Medan City. 2) Realization of the government's food social assistance program budget in Medan City. 3) The poverty level of the community in Medan City. The results of this research show that 1) The effectiveness of the government's social food assistance program in Medan City from 2019 to 2021 is still considered ineffective and inefficient. 2) This program can be said to be a program that is less effective and efficient because the program does not help the community in improving its economy.

1. Introduction

In overcoming economic disparities in community poverty, the government itself has created policies in the form of social assistance programs for people in need. Social assistance is a policy of providing assistance in the form of money/goods by a regional government to individuals, families, groups and communities which is provided non-continuously and is provided selectively with the aim of overcoming existing economic disparities. According to Minister of Finance Regulation Number 254/PMK.05/2015 concerning Social Assistance Expenditures at State Ministries/Institutions, social assistance is expenditure in the form of transfers of money, goods or services made by the government to be given to underprivileged communities in order to improve community welfare.

Social assistance is an important thing for several parties, including the government, to realize policy programs that must be carried out to improve the welfare of the community and for the community it can be useful for meeting the minimum standards of their needs. This social assistance has become a local government expenditure that attracts the attention of many parties. Therefore, it is very important for the government to be more open

and responsible in the process of managing expenditures in the social assistance program, starting from the budgeting process to the evaluation and monitoring stages which must be carried out in accordance with procedures and in an accountable manner, so that the public can know the form of use. social assistance spending that has been managed by the local regional government.

The Medan City Government itself has attempted a social assistance program which aims to improve community welfare by distributing various types of social food assistance programs to people in need on an ongoing basis in order to achieve the effectiveness of social assistance programs on community welfare. In implementing this program policy, of course the Medan City government must always pay attention to effectiveness in the process of implementing social assistance programs. This program also aims to alleviate poverty and improve the welfare of the people in the city of Medan. Poverty is a condition where an individual is unable to meet resources which results in an inability to fulfill their basic needs (Selviana, Akib & Risfaisal, 2016).

Poverty also describes a condition of low ownership and income, or in a broad sense,

poverty describes a condition where people's needs, including clothing, food and shelter, cannot be met. There are several definitions that describe poverty, one of which is the definition used by BPS, which states that poverty is a manifestation of an individual's inability to fulfill their needs to achieve a decent life (BPS and Ministry of Social Affairs, 2005), this is a strong reason for the government to create social assistance program policies. To be able to measure the effectiveness of the social food assistance program policy implemented by the Medan City government, this can be done using graphs or tables regarding data relevant to poverty.

Table 1
Realization of the Number of Beneficiary Families (KPM) of the Social Assistance Program

Year	Realization of Number of Beneficiary Families
2019	70,678
2020	79,742
2021	76,401

Source: North Sumatra Province Central Statistics Agency

The actual number of beneficiary families (KPM) describes how many families receive the Medan City food social assistance program. This assistance is of course distributed to families in need with the aim of meeting existing minimum standard needs. The Medan City Government has of course carried out selection of families who need the social food assistance program, so that the program can be distributed and can be used well by the beneficiary families (KPM).

Table 2
Realization of the Medan City Social Food Assistance Program Budget

Year	Realization of the Social Assistance Program Budget
2019	93,294,960,000
2020	15,948,400,000
2021	192,045,800,000

Source: North Sumatra Province Central Statistics Agency

The realization of the social assistance program budget is an illustration of the amount of expenditure incurred by the government in implementing the Medan City food social assistance program policy. This budget realization data also illustrates the changes made by the Medan City government in terms of spending on social assistance programs.

Table 3
Community Poverty Level

Year	Community Poverty Level (%)
2019	8.08
2020	8.01
2021	8.34

Source: North Sumatra Province Central Statistics Agency

Poverty Level is a percentage that describes the inability to meet minimum standards for basic needs, including the need for clothing, food and shelter. Poor people are people who live below a certain limit which is also called the poverty line. This index is an indicator that can measure the effectiveness of social assistance programs in Medan City.

Based on all the data that has been obtained from the Central Statistics Agency, it becomes the main hypothesis to find out how effective the social assistance program is on the poverty level of the people in Medan City. Then the data is accumulated and described using the research methods used to produce new knowledge about the research carried out.

2. Literature Review

2.1 Effectiveness

According to Sondang P. Siagian in Suchyowati (2017:12) Effectiveness is the conscious and predetermined use of resources, facilities and infrastructure in a certain amount to produce goods or services in a certain amount for an activity for which the action is carried out. Effectiveness shows success in terms of achieving or not achieving the goals that have been set. If the results of the activity are closer to the goal, the effectiveness will be greater.

According to Beni (2016: 69) Effectiveness is the relationship between results and objectives or can also be considered as a measure of the level of results, policies and procedures of an organization. Effectiveness is also related to the degree of success of an activity in the public sector, meaning that an activity can be said to be effective if it has a large impact on the ability to provide the community services for which it is intended.

According to Mardiasmo (2017: 134) Effectiveness is a measure of the success or failure of an organization in achieving its goals. If an organization achieves its goals, then the organization has operated effectively. Effectiveness indicators describe the extent to which the consequences and impacts (outcomes) of program products achieve program goals. The greater the contribution of the product produced to achieving the specified goals or targets, the more effective the work process of an organizational unit.

2.2 Social Assistance

Based on Minister of Finance Regulation Number 254/PMK.05/2015 concerning Social Assistance Expenditures at State Ministries/Institutions, it states that social assistance is expenditure in the form of transfers of money, goods or services provided by the government to poor or disadvantaged communities to protect the community from possible risks. social, to improve the economy and/or community welfare.

Social assistance is the provision of compensation in the form of donations or goods from a government or organization to individuals, families, communities and the general public apart from being permanent and selective with the aim of protecting against possible social threats (Sitanggang et al, 2014) According to Rahmansyah et al., (2020) explain that social assistance policy is a concrete manifestation of the government's responsibility, both central and regional, towards the conditions of underprivileged and neglected communities at the lowest level.

2.3 Poverty

According to (Safitri & Effendi: 2021) Poverty is the inability to fulfill the basic needs of life, including the need for clothing, shelter and shelter due to low income. This also includes limited social access to participate in community life and includes the loss of opportunities to obtain adequate education and adequate health services. According to Fombad (2018), poverty is considered a challenge faced by many countries and there is evidence that efforts to reduce poverty have not been successful. Therefore, this issue encourages the global community to fight poverty by encouraging every country to participate in the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). One of the keys to the success of this program is to become a poverty-free family.

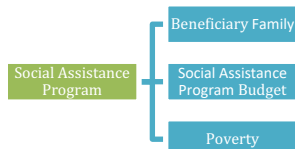
Poverty is a major problem for many countries in the world, especially in developing countries. Poverty is a condition where a person is unable to fulfill his basic needs such as clothing, food, medicine and shelter (Hardinandar, 2019). The existence of poverty itself is an economic and social condition for assessing the success of development of a government in a region (Oktaviana et al., 2021). Poverty is a condition of life that is filled with deficiencies felt by a person or family so that they cannot fulfill their minimum needs. These minimum needs include food needs, especially energy and calories, which humans must fulfill to be able to work and earn an income. According to the Central Statistics Agency, a person is said to be poor if the income of the head of the household is less than IDR 600,000 per month (Syafuddin, et al: 2021).

3. Research Methods

This research article uses descriptive qualitative research methods, namely by observing, analyzing and interpreting data using an economic graphic perspective and comparing poverty levels. The data collection technique in this research uses secondary methods obtained from data from the Central Statistics Agency (BPS) of North Sumatra Province. Descriptive analysis according to

(Narbuko & Ahmadi, 2015) states that descriptive research is research that aims to find answers to problems based on data obtained by the process of presenting the data and then analyzing and interpreting the data. This research uses qualitative methods and a literature review which aims to prioritize the quality of the data obtained and maximize the data analyzed for later description.

4. Results and Discussion

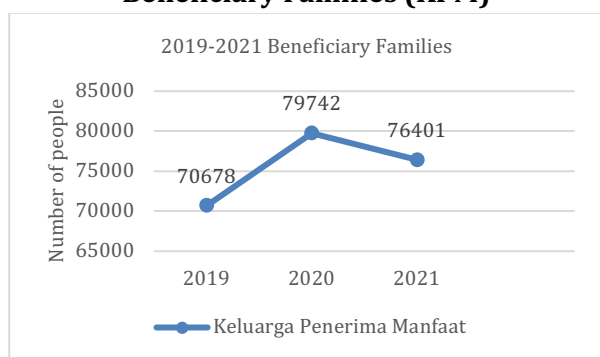


4.1 Beneficiary Family

Beneficiary families (KPM) in the food social assistance program are families designated as subjects designated by the ministry of social affairs as beneficiaries of the government's food social assistance program. Beneficiary families are also families who are in the lowest socio-economic conditions in an area, or to be precise in the research, people in the city of Medan. The food social assistance program carried out by the Medan City government aims to help all poor or underprivileged people meet their food needs.

Graph 1

Beneficiary Families (KPM)



Based on data obtained from the North Sumatra Central Statistics Agency, it can be clearly seen that the level of families receiving benefits from the government's food social assistance program always changes every year. Of course, this can be analyzed to find out how many families receive benefits which will then be analyzed together with other data to find out

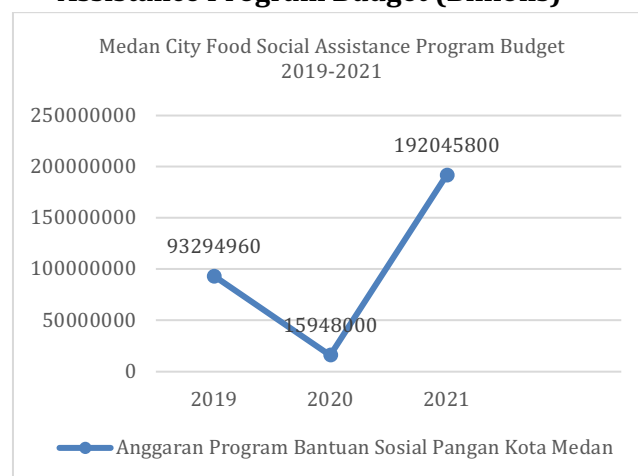
how much influence social food assistance has on poverty in Medan City. In the graph above, it can be seen that in 2019 the number of families receiving benefits from government social food assistance reached 70,678 families. Then in the following year, namely 2020, the number of beneficiary families (KPM) increased drastically to reach 79,742 families. Of course, it is well known that since 2019 the Covid-19 pandemic has been one of the reasons why the level of families receiving social assistance benefits has experienced changes and increases. Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, all people's income in the city of Medan has decreased and many employees have been laid off.

4.2 Realization of the Medan City Social Food Assistance Program Budget

The distribution of social food assistance programs is one of the efforts made by the Medan City government to fulfill food needs for underprivileged and needy people. This program aims to reduce the burden on society in spending to meet the food needs of families who are poor, underprivileged, or vulnerable to the risk of poverty.

Graph 2

Realization of Medan City Food Social Assistance Program Budget (Billions)



Based on the graphic data obtained from the North Sumatra Central Statistics Agency above, it can be seen that the budget spent by the Medan City government for the social food assistance program is classified as very high. If an individual analysis is carried out, it can be

seen that during the 3 years starting from 2019 to 2021 the social assistance program budget issued by the Medan City government has always experienced nominal changes. In 2019, the budget issued by the Medan City government reached IDR. 93,294,960,000.00.

Then in the following year, namely 2020, the social assistance program budget in Medan City experienced a drastic decrease to Rp. 15. 948,080,000.00. Furthermore, in the last year in 2021, the social assistance program budget issued by the Medan City government was inversely proportional to 2020 because in 2021, the social food assistance program budget again experienced a drastic increase to reach Rp. 192,045,800,000.00. From the graphical data analysis that has been carried out, it can be clearly seen that the largest social food assistance program budget issued by the Medan City government will occur in 2021.

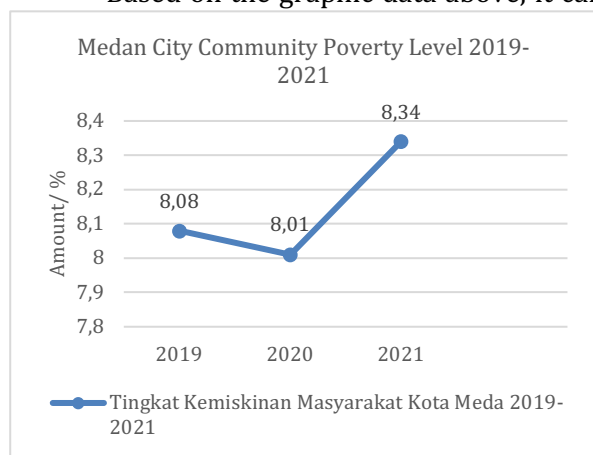
4.3 Poverty

Poverty is a problem that is still faced by Indonesia, one of which is the city of Medan. Poverty describes a condition in which individuals or groups of people fulfill their daily needs both physically and economically. Poverty is generally caused by many factors, one of which is inadequate human resources to date.

Graph 3

Medan City Community Poverty Level 2019-2021

Based on the graphic data above, it can



be seen that the poverty level of Medan city residents is quite high. If analyzed individually, it can be seen that the poverty level of Medan

city residents always experiences changes, increasing and decreasing every year. In 2019, the poverty rate for Medan city residents was 8.08%. Then in the following year, namely 2020, the poverty level of the people of Medan City decreased slightly to 8.08%. Then in 2021 the poverty level of the people of Medan City will be inversely proportional to the changes in 2020.

This is because in the previous year the poverty level of the people of Medan City has decreased, but in 2021 the poverty level of the people of Medan City has increased drastically to reach 8.34%. By analyzing this graph, it can be seen that the highest poverty level for the people of Medan City occurred in 2020. As a large city in North Sumatra, Medan City should be able to overcome existing poverty problems as best as possible. However, in reality the problem of poverty in the city of Medan is still a quite serious problem to this day. It can be seen in the graph above that in 2021 the poverty rate in Medan City will reach 8.34%.

This is of course a very serious problem and must be a concern for the Medan City government so that it can overcome it. Not only that, the poverty that occurs in the city of Medan itself also results in the emergence of social problems that are very dangerous for the community, one of which is white collar crime which often occurs, burglary and theft. One of the things that causes the poverty level of the people in Medan City is the unequal infrastructure development between the central area of Medan City and the North Medan area.

One example is in the Medan Deli and Medan Marelan areas, these two areas seem to be often ignored by the Medan City government because the infrastructure in these two areas is still inadequate and flooding often occurs. Therefore, the Medan City government should be wiser in paying attention to all areas in Medan City in fighting the problem of poverty. The Covid-19 pandemic is also one of the problems that has resulted in the problem of poverty in the city of Medan. This is because the Covid-19 pandemic has caused a decrease in people's income, resulting in many workers

being laid off, which then causes an increase in unemployment.

5. Closing

5.1 Conclusion

After conducting research and based on the entire data and discussion, the researcher can draw several conclusions in answering the problems raised in the research based on data over a 3 year period, namely:

1. The effectiveness of the social food assistance program carried out by the Medan City government from 2019 to 2021 is still considered ineffective and inefficient, this can be seen based on graphic data on beneficiary families, budget realization, and the poverty level of the people of Medan City. In the graph we can see that the three data are inversely proportional to each other and of course this has no effect on one another. Where if we look at 2021, the realization of the social assistance program budget issued by the government and the community's poverty level have both increased drastically. This of course explains that the increase in the social food assistance program has no effect on reducing poverty levels, therefore this is the reason the social assistance program can be said to be less effective and efficient.
2. The impact of the social food assistance program carried out by the Medan City government which aims to improve welfare and alleviate existing poverty is a program that is considered to be less effective and efficient because the program does not help the community in improving its economy. This is of course not without reason, but because there are some people who use social food assistance, both non-cash and cash, not for the long term, but people tend to use it for the short term. Therefore, in the end the community becomes dependent on government social assistance because the community always continues to expect assistance from the government.

5.2 Suggestions

The suggestions that can be given by researchers based on the research that has been carried out are:

1. It is hoped that for further research, researchers can add other variables related to effectiveness and use more diverse research methods.
2. For the Medan City government, it is hoped that they will pay more attention to recipients of social food assistance programs in Medan City so that they are right on target and provide training and mentoring programs for social assistance beneficiaries so that they can plan their respective economies in the long term.

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