SOC-480: Program Evaluation Essay Checklist It is essential for social workers to be able to evaluate an existing program within a community in order to develop a proposal for an effective project/program that fills the needs of a community. Remember, you are looking for a gap in services provided and a project/program solution as to how your proposal will fill that gap. This assignment will help you learn this skill. Read chapter eleven in the textbook and use the Strategic Prevention Framework to guide you in evaluating the agency or program you select. Select a local agency/program that addresses your selected social issue. View the agency/program’s website and call or visit the agency/program and use the checklist below to interview the manager: Name of agency/program you contacted: What is the mission statement/vision the program/agency? What theory (theories) is the program based on? Describe the target population of the program. What are the stated goals and objectives of the program? How does the agency/program measure the current program outcomes according to the program’s existing evaluation practices? What are the data collection procedures? (Surveys, questionnaires, etc.) Explain if these procedures have been effective or not. What are the data analysis strategies that they use? Explain if these strategies have been effective or not. Who are the community stakeholders involved in the program? List some of the resources available to which clients (the target population) are referred: Are there any gaps in services/resources? If so, briefly explain how your proposed project/program can fill those gaps. If there are no gaps, propose some ways to raise stakeholder awareness. (50-75 words): If there are no obvious gaps in resources/services provided, explain how your proposed program/project could still reinforce or complement what this agency/program is doing to address the selected social issue (75-100 words): Describe the personnel structure of the program. Describe the leadership involved. What are the degrees required? Explain if a strategic plan for the program is apparent or not. Is the program designed with culturally competent policies in mind? (50-75 words) Explain the activities provided by the program. Is there a range of activities? How is this program funded? How is the funding sustained? What are the intended short, moderate, and long-term outcomes expected in the program? How are they measured or evaluated for effectiveness? Program Evaluation Essay After you have conducted the interview (via phone or in person), answer the following prompts in an essay (750-1,000 words), citing two to four scholarly sources to support your claims. 1. Briefly describe the program/agency you evaluated: a. Administration-education level b. Resources/services available to clients c. Program description 2. After completing your checklist evaluation, explain whether or not the program effectively meets the needs of your selected community, addresses the social issue you’ve selected, and if there were any gaps between needed services and those provided. 3. Lastly, explain how this program analysis will help you design your program to fill any gaps in services provided. How will your proposed program address the social issue you’ve selected by taking into consideration sound management, stakeholder involvement, and effective evaluation strategies? Prepare this assignment according to the guidelines found in the APA Style Guide, located in the Student Success Center. An abstract is not required. This assignment uses a rubric. Please review the rubric prior to beginning the assignment to become familiar with the expectations for successful completion. You are required to submit this assignment to LopesWrite. Please refer to the directions in the Student Success Center.