

Methodology options of protected and half-way accommodations – Non-formal learning methods

5th International meeting and Workshop Booklet – Summary

The 5th Transnational project meeting was held in Subotica, Serbia and was hosted by Antropos Association. The Transnational Meeting focused on IO9 – Methodology options of protected and half-way accommodations – Non-formal learning methods.

Representatives of all partner organizations attended the meeting in person.

The target group of the IO9 is the marginalized group with high criminality risk of detainees, ex-detainees and addicts and professionals working with them. Elements of innovation in IO9 are basic starting points in the concept that increase opportunities for human dignity, and for an independent personality who is partly stuck (unresolved accommodation, crisis) but motivated for change and moving on. Thematic focuses: basic principles, service map, method and tools scope, house rules, procedure rules, possible problems and reactions, solutions.

Topics chosen by the partner organizations:

- **AMAKA:** Real-life stories of ex-prisoners and feedback from professionals including the description of EPANODOS' half-way program.

- **Váltó-sáv Alapítvány:** The Halfway House Complex Reintegration Programme and other halfway house programmes in Europe.

- **Antropos:** Tale therapy sessions that can facilitate reintegration for halfway house residents.

- **IGA:** Crash Course in Cooking for the young adult male residents of the Observed Home.

The Transnational project meeting also involved project discussions regarding administrative, financial tasks, multiplier events and the testing of IO5 and IO8 as well as further steps.

Furthermore, presentations were made by experts external to the project.

On the 29th of September, Boris Telečki, worker of Centar za socijalni rad grada Subotice presented the center and its service for perpetrators of violence within a relationship.

The Centers' program/service was created for male perpetrators of domestic violence and was based on the Norwegian ATV model which focuses on violent acts, responsibility and the consequences of violent acts while having a therapeutic and educational nature. The program was held on the premises of the family support and counseling center and consisted of 24 sessions, working on 8 topics over 6 months, 3 sessions are planned for each topic. These type of sessions are considered cheaper and more effective than imprisonment. The presentation was followed by an open discussion and questions.

The second presentation was held by Dragana Bošnjak which was titled "Do we even talk anymore?" She shared her experiences with Women's circles and the motivation that drove her to start her own Women's circle.

She attended the 3 hour long women's circle on a monthly basis. The meetings were held in a pleasant location where there were no distractions from the outside; rules were set at the beginning and the sessions were confidential.

This year in May, she finished her own women's circle (self-knowledge) facilitator training.

In her opinion the most difficult thing is getting started, forming a group. Why? Because, there are still stereotypes surrounding anything to do with seeking help, or achieving personal growth with the help of others.

Dragana also added that this form of art therapy can be a wonderful tool in achieving the IO6 goals of the UNLOCKED project. Working with the subjects or plots of folktales is based on imagination, personal associations, internal value system, it does not require previous knowledge of any kind, since the women in marginalized groups usually leave the education system early. They can contribute to developing a more positive self-image, boosting self-confidence, strengthen the sense of belonging in a group, a community.

On the 30th of September, Livia Joó Horti, psychologist held a presentation about Preparing children/young people and teachers for the prevention and recognition of domestic violence. We considered this presentation important because it was proven by researches that sex offenders themselves were victims of sexual and other forms of abuse. We wanted to contribute to the minimization of circle.

In the second half of the day participants visited the Furioso Adventure Park in Šupljak (<http://www.furioso.rs/index.php?lang=en>). During the horse carriage ride the owner of the adventure park presented the GreenZone project which started on 01/01/2022 and will end on 31/12/2022. The project is the partnership of two very different organizations (Váltó-sáv Alapítvány's activities include working with prisoners and the newly released, helping their reintegration process while Udruženje Građana Ostorka deals with eco-tourism) and aims at expanding cross-border, international contacts on the theme of sustainable development, where social reintegration and "reinvesting" (social inclusiveness) are also symbolically represented. The final target beneficiaries are prisoners and released persons. A methodological material on the subject has already been prepared through the joint work of the two organizations, and Váltó-sáv Alapítvány has created a curriculum on the subject of sustainability development for prisoners and released prisoners, which has already been tested with prisoners.

The program continued with a felting workshop, during which partners mastered the basics of soap felting by making a ball. The workshop is in connection with IO4 (Educating educators II.) Possibilities of using elements of folk techniques topic. The finished art works were given to the participants as a keepsake.

The transnational meeting ended with the evaluation and summarization of the past two days and the tasting of traditional sweet and savory strudels, the elderflower syrup drink and grape must (fermented grape juice).