



2014 - TWENTIETH
ANNIVERSARY OF THE
INTERNATIONAL
YEAR OF THE FAMILY

European Expert Group Meeting
“Confronting family poverty and social exclusion; .
ensuring work-family balance;
advancing social integration and intergenerational solidarity
in Europe”

GOOD PRACTICES

1. Project Barnablick

Official name of the Organization

Stockholm City Mission (Stockholm Stadsmissionen).

Website of the Organization

<http://www.stadsmissionen.se/UngaStation> (in Swedish).

Name of the practice

Project Barnablick (Barnablick is a Swedish word that means “through the eyes of the child”).

Aim of the practice

The purpose of this project was to broaden the definition of child advocacy. To correctly carry a child’s voice into an adult world, to demand change and act as an important complement to what the state is offering to vulnerable children, requires a trusted relationship between child and worker, a relationship built over time with mutual honesty and open communication about expectations.

Target group of the practice
Hard to reach children and families.

Name of the person who will make the presentation
Martin Broby.

Position in the Organization
Project Manager/ Social Worker.

2. Welfare to work

Official name of the Organization
Cherish Ltd t/a One Family.

Website of the Organization
<http://www.onefamily.ie>.

Name of the practice
Welfare to Work: New Futures.

Aim of the practice
Raising skills and aspirations by helping participants to overcome the barriers that prevent them from fully participating in work, education and/or skill development: focused on building confidence and is underpinned by mentoring and key-working support.

Target group of the practice
Welfare to Work: New Futures provides an integrated response to the aspirations of lone parents who want to take steps to ensure their economic independence. The programme offers an innovative motivational, interagency progression programme designed specifically for lone parents. The model is based on international best practice for supporting groups most displaced from the labour market and incorporates proactive community-based recruitment, thorough needs-assessment, key-working and mentoring. New Futures is underpinned by specialist parenting and family support services..

Name of the person who will attend and make the presentation
Stuart Duffin.

Position in the Organization
Project Manager.

3. Veilig Thuis

Official name of the Organization
Municipality of Rotterdam.

Website of the Organization
<http://www.rotterdam.nl>.

Name of the practice
Veilig Thuis (Safe Home) - The Rotterdam Approach to Family Violence.

Aim of the practice

One of the main problems during this economic crisis families are confronted with due to the increase of (psychological) stress, unemployment, poverty and drug addiction is family violence. Recent research in the Netherlands (University of Utrecht, 2010) showed that 9 percent of the Dutch household are confronted with severe violence within the family. Family violence is the physical, psychological abuse committed by a family member, a relative or a care taker in the household. There are many types of violence within families, also referred as domestic violence, like partner, child and elder abuse, honour related violence, internal trafficking (lover boys), female mutilation and parent abuse. The main aim of the Rotterdam approach and its action programme 'Veilig Thuis' is to stop and prevent family violence by using a system approach. . The Rotterdam approach contains a chain from prevention, reporting, analysis & diagnosis (file completion), risk taxation & qualification, casemanagement & care provision to the follow up. There is a front office, the Advice and Report Centre (ASHG) and 13 local domestic violence teams (back office). In the local teams the police, the child advocacy centre, the social workers, the Centre for family and Youth and the probation service are working closely together in order to make 1 family plan for all the family members, including the perpetrators. Furthermore, Rotterdam has developed an early warning/detection tool: the Code of Conduct for Reporting family violence.

Target group of the practice

All family members, victims of family violence and (assistance to) abusers in order to make one integrated family plan.

Name of the person who will make the presentation
Antonios Polychronakis.

Position in the Organization
European Programme Manager.

4. Cash Transfers

Official name of the Organization

Nagycsaládosok Országos Egyesülete (Hungarian Association of Large Families).

Website of the Organization

<http://www.noe.hu>.

Name of the practice

Family support in taxation (and by financial contributions).

Aim of the practice

Combatting poverty of large families.

Target group of the practice

Large families in Hungary.

Name of the person who will make the presentation

Aniko Varga.

Position in the Organization

Expert and Member of the Board.

5. Family Friendly Certificate

Official name of the Organization

Fundación Más Familia (Spain).

Website of the Organization

[http:// www.masfamilia.org](http://www.masfamilia.org).

Name of the practice

Family Responsible Certificate for Corporations or Municipalities.

Aim of the practice

The Fundación Masfamilia is a private, independent, nonprofit-making and charitable organization, created and directed to seek innovative and highly professional solutions for the protection and support of the Family, and especially those with dependent members (children, the elderly, the disabled, etc.).

Target group of the practice

Corporations and Municipalities.

Name of the person who will make the presentation
Ignacio Socías.

Position in the Organization
Member of the Board of Trustees.

6. Audit

Official name of the Organization
Osservatorio Regionale Politiche Sociali (Regional Observatory for Social Policies - Veneto Region, Italy).

Website of the Organization
<http://www.osservatoripolitichesociali.veneto.it>.

Name of the practice
Audit - Work and Family.

Aim of the practice
Defining actions to improve the promotion of a family friendly working environment (conciliation), through a specific process implemented directly by the companies and firms and to be evaluated in 3 years time. After the state of the art analysis, the definition of the actions to be implemented and the signature of the agreement, the certificate "Audit Family&Work" is awarded. After the 3 year time plan, the appropriate Committee "Auditrat" (based on Veneto Region) evaluates its development and, if correctly completed, confirms the certificate.

Objectives:

- to foster the culture for a better work-life balance through concrete actions encouraging a new cultural model of enterprise.
- to start up a process for constant improvement: human resources more motivated, satisfied and reliable are a benefit for the enterprises / institution.
- to develop a good shared communication plan in order to consolidate team work and management of emergencies.

Target group of the practice

- a) Public Institution at National / Regional level (potential owner of the methodology).
- b) Private Companies and Firms (willing to test and follow the AUDIT label path).
- c) Training / Guidance centers (willing to train the auditors).
- d) Workers, both male and female (the final beneficiaries of the AUDIT process).

Name of the person who will make the presentation
Alberto Ferri.

Position in the Organization

Responsible for EU project planning and management.

7. Parler Bambin

Official name of the Organization

Centre Communal d'Action Sociale (CCAS) de la ville de Grenoble (France).

Website of the Organization

<http://www.grenoble.fr/8-solidarites.htm>.

Name of the practice

Parler Bambin (speaking toddlers): enhance early conversation with toddlers to improve future learnings.

Aim of the practice

We know that there is a strong link between the family's low social background and the learning difficulties of children that don't have enough words and language skill, because of a lack of parent's stimulation. The program was developed with Dr Zorman, specialist in cognitive development and researcher in science of Education: it is an early prevention of that kind of deficiency that can lead to school failure. .

In the program, the early childhood educators are trained to develop the language skills for toddlers and use all means to incite all day long an interactive conversation with each child to stimulate them. When a child arrives in the day-care, the educators and the parents evaluate the level of his language development thanks to a questionnaire. If he is identified as a "late talker", the educator invite him twice a week to small workshops with 2 other children.

Target group of the practice

All the children from 0 to 3 years-old welcomed in day-care facilities and especially the children identified as "late talkers" (test based on a scientific scale of language development). Around 3.000 children from 0 to 3 welcomed by year in the 27 day-care facilities of the city of Grenoble.

Name of the person who will make the presentation

Marie-Automne Thepot.

Position in the Organization

Deputy Director of the CCAS, in charge of social innovation.

8. Belgian Time Credit System

Official name of the Organization
Knowledge Centre WVG.

Website of the Organization
<http://www.kenniscentrumwvg.be/>.

Name of the practice
Time Credit System.

Aim of the practice
Although it was first labeled as “career break system” and designed to tackle raising unemployment levels it rapidly developed over the years into a valuable tool for work-family balance. It got an increasing take up rate and was ‘successful’ among young mothers as it was far ahead the EU Directive on Parental Leave. It was also made more flexible and became more focused as a tool to better combine work and care responsibilities.

Target group of the practice
Several periods in the development of the career break system can be distinguished. First, various modifications were introduced which gradually improved the system from the perspective of the employees (1986-1991). Second, there was some retrenchment followed by some progress as a collective agreement was negotiated between the employers and trade unions in the National Labor Council (1991-1999). Third, the career break system received a further impetus (2000-2011) as the basic entitlement was expanded, e.g. more flexible options, becoming a right for employees in the private sector.

Name of the person who will make the presentation
Fred Deven.

Position in the Organization
Scientific Director.

9. IFFD Courses

Official name of the Organization
Šeimų Universitetas (Families University).

Website of the Organization
<http://www.seimu.lt/>.

Name of the practice

IFFD Programmes.

Aim of the practice

IFFD courses for parents are designed to suit the different stages of child development. All courses are structured on the participant-based case study method and use cases involving real situations. Cases are first analyzed by small teams formed by few couples, and then discussed in larger groups at general sessions moderated by experts in Family Development.

The current courses and relevant ages of children discussed therein are as follows:

- First Steps: A program for parents with children from birth to 3 years old, or for young couples planning to become parents.
- First Letters: A program for parents with children from 4 to 8 years old.
- First Decisions: A program for parents with children from 8 to 10 years old.
- Pre-adolescents: A program for parents with children from 10 to 13 years old.
- Adolescents: A program for parents with children from 13 to 17 years old.

Target group of the practice

Our mission is to help families around the world to build stronger and happier relationships, through strengthening the role of fathers and mothers when they attend our courses.

Name of the person who will make the presentation

Paulius Gebrauskas.

Position in the Organization

Director.

10. European Alliance For Families (Evaluation framework for best practices)

Official name of the Organization

European Union, European Alliance For Families.

Website of the Organization

http://ec.europa.eu/employment_social/emplweb/families/index.cfm.

Name of the practice

European Alliance For Families.

Aim of the practice

The European Alliance for Families is a portal devoted to family policies in the European Union. It aims to create impulses for more family-friendly policies through exchanges of ideas and experience in the various Member States.

The European Alliance for Families was founded in 2007 by the Council of Europe with a view to improving the living conditions of Europeans who have children or would like to start a family. It also focuses in child poverty and on equal opportunities for women in the workplace.

The Alliance website serves as a medium for exchanging good practice, ideas and experience among the different Member States. It is available in English, French and German.

Target group of the practice

The Alliance website serves as a medium for exchanging good practice, ideas and experience among the different Member States. It is available in English, French and German.

Name of the person who will make the presentation

Emanuela Tassa.

Position in the Organization

Socio-economic analyst at the European Commission, DG Employment, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities.