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## **Inovative approaches for inclusion of vulnerable target groups into social environment**

Public institution Socio was founded with intention to help individuals and families with developing, maintaining and improving their social abilities. It consists of Maternal home, Shelter for Homeless, Project Celje Healthy City, work with subordinate clauses from drugs, Safe point, EU-projects and an Intergenerational center.

The world we live in today is increasingly accessible, complex and inter-dependent, and therefore more fragile. It is known, that there is a lot of people facing social distress due to the world economic crisis. Within the Program Of Mobility we decided to visit a country that is confronting similar social problems as the civic institutions here in Slovenia. Intention of our program is to study activities and organizations, which work in the social area. They are: different social services, service for unemployment people, training for unemployed, shelters for homeless, shelters for refugees, shelters victims of violence, Homes for elderly people and social department in the municipality.

Public institution Socio got some financial support from European social fund last year, for inclusion of vulnerable target groups into social environment.

### *Inclusion of vulnerable target groups*

#### Planned number of inclusions

<b>Description</b>	<b>Indicators</b>
<b>1. number of persons out of vulnerable target group included into training</b>	<b>45</b>
<b>2. number of employed persons out of the target group</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>3. number of those out of the target group included in other projects activities, shorter additional education according to needs</b>	
<b>Unemployed – harder employable</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>Unemployed – 1<sup>st</sup> time job seekers</b>	<b>28</b>

During discussions at local and national level, when new National programme for social security and new Strategy for security of elderly people were preparing a need for support to family was emphasised. Even if legislation is giving suitable frames for development of such services those are developed very evenly and not by needs. State has less power at stimulation of development, because the service in support to families and social services are in competence of a local level. Considering needs and problems families are facing with and considering the demographic changes societies are warning us against ageing, we see great opportunity in integration of two main goals:

- to create new jobs on field of social services
- to create suitable offer and choice of socially security services.

Both goals are also among the important goals of Ministry RS for work, family and social matters.

There is also a great opportunity for this idea to introduce results and experiences to ministry, which is in search for good practices for a long time. Development of social services and their accessibility would be faster and established all over Slovenia.

We have decided for such content:

- because of the number of experts working in City of Celje among public services and other implementing institutions,
- because of Local interdisciplinary group's support for elder's needs, that monitors needs on field of services and programmes of social security and coordinates organisations in City of Celje project will need help and support,
- because local environment is prepared for a debate on this theme and more detailed research.

We have also consulted the Employment service (regional unit), where we checked the number of unemployed together with their professional workers: first-time job seekers and those unemployed who are older. We have been introduced with selection procedures of suitable candidates and possibility of using financial instruments of Active policy for employment after the project ends.

During a discussion with project partners the content, necessary profiles of employees and education content were reviewed in detail.

We made number of consultations with foreign partners, with whom JZ Socio has cooperated in the past and for whom we think they will be in support in transfer of good practices and experiences.

Considering that all involved in the project are aware of the current situation and problems and further development of social services, we foresaw also solutions of larger barrier that we see for development and accepting of social services from side of users.

The main partner JZ Socio already today unites almost all social security programs in the Municipality of Celje.

Partners are: JZ Socio, Center for social work, House for elderly Savinja Celje, Intergenerational centre Celje. Other organisations in the project are: Municipality Celje (Department for social activity and Local interdisciplinary coordination for need of older) and Employment service of the Republic of Slovenia for hiring, regional unit Celje).

Citizens know and trust us. Informational and educational centre now offers to our citizens information, education and consultancy concerning services to families.

Services offer help to families considering needs of individual users:

### Older users

need: bringing of ready meals, purchase of food, small house repair, washing and ironing, maintenance of gardens and surroundings, cleaning of apartments or houses, hairstyling, nursing. This social security service will be provided at home and isn't included within current services. An employee that will do the mentioned job will gain education in different areas:

- directions of development of social security for elderly people
- needs of an older person
- needs of lastingly ill people,
- healthy ageing
- communication with older person
- dementia
- maintenance of personal hygiene
- first aid
- principles of safety at home
- Healthy diet, etc.

Educational programme is certified by Social Chamber of Slovenia. Candidates for occupation were finished practical part of training within "House for elderly Savinja, Celje".

### Families also need

- Support in defeating the consequences of different crisis or life tragedies which happen to entire families or members
- Consultancy for improvement of self-image
- Support with communication problems
- Support with educational or didactic problems.

Candidates gained knowledge on education:

- About family dynamics
- Access to work with family

- About an acquisition of feeling of usefulness
- Restraining of own problems
- Improvement of self-confidence
- Enhancement of own psychosocial health
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Candidates gained practical experiences at the Centre For Social Work.

### Financial consultancy

Older people are often subject to abuse in particular in the field of financial matters. (That shown at the round table in Celje on theme violence against the elderly. It was organised in the framework of preparing the Strategy for protection of older in Municipality of Celje, organised by Local interdisciplinary group). Older people are often victims of a number of frauds, because they have substantiay less knowledge in the field of finances.

Similar situation is recognised at the Centre for social work, which also notices insufficient treatment with social incomes. Therefore they are warning that there is a great need for education of individuals' harmonisation of expenditures with incomes and monitoring of personal finance and budget planning. Consultancy would be available to pensioners, recipients of DSP, etc. and for free.

Education is capturing:

- Harmonisation of expenditures with incomes
- Monitoring of personal finances
- Financial planning
- Choice of financial resources and products
- Informing about financial trends, etc.

Consultants will be offering consultancy in a new centre and also on other locations with different target groups. This is a part of the programme of Ministry of the Republic of Slovenia for finances with purpose to educate and raise knowledge of individual's financial ability of economical treatment.

During the project implementation we were ensured new approaches for development of social services. We are aware there are a lot of opportunities for creating new jobs for women that can with great support to families in crisis help to initiate a new practice for harmonisation of professional, family and private life. Till now we opened An intergeneration center in Celje.

We are convinced, that we can provide for :

- creation of new jobs,
- expand existent and apply new methods of work in order to ensure for greater employability and social inclusion,

- increase possibilities for harmonisation of professional, family and private life with greater help to family.

Spanish government was introduced one of the most biting bunches of economy measures in their history in the month of March 2012. At this time Spain is confronting with the highest rate of unemployment in the EU, which is at about 23 % overall, and at 50 % at level of the young employable Spaniards. The crisis is strongest in the countryside and in the south of the country, where the unemployment reaches the rate of 35%.

Our host partner in Spain will be Municipality of Spain. We expect that with our visit we will gain some new knowledge and insight how is Spain confronting with their situation.

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