

Make the difference



Working together for children
in households with addiction
issues

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www.euronetprev.org/projects/makethedifference

Mission and Vision

Violence against children can take many forms. Besides physical and psychological violence directed against them, growing up in a household with addiction issues can lead to serious psychological problems.

Across partner countries, 8-14 % of all drug users are living with children (EMCDDA, 2012). Until today, initiatives have mainly focused on educating professionals and developing group programmes for affected children. However, without identifying those children in the first place, these measures cannot be effective.

Make the difference aims to prevent the endangerment to the welfare of children living in households with addiction issues.

Needs and Actions

Needs

Actions



Binding cooperation structures between youth welfare and addiction prevention at local level are needed for identifying children living in families with addiction issues and being able to offer them help.

A structured guide for a binding cooperation will be prepared and implemented by professionals of both help systems. Hereby, a successful cooperation between local help providers will be built up and actually lived.



A sustainable use of existing offers and systematic networking creates synergies, saves resources and promotes integrated care.

Already existing offers for the children will be embedded and supplemented by new ones based on actual local needs.



Knowledge about services and support in one's own region and basic knowledge about addiction prevention and pedagogical work are important cornerstones.

Addiction prevention professionals receive basic qualification in aspects relevant to youth welfare. On the other side, youth welfare professionals are qualified with basic knowledge of addiction prevention.

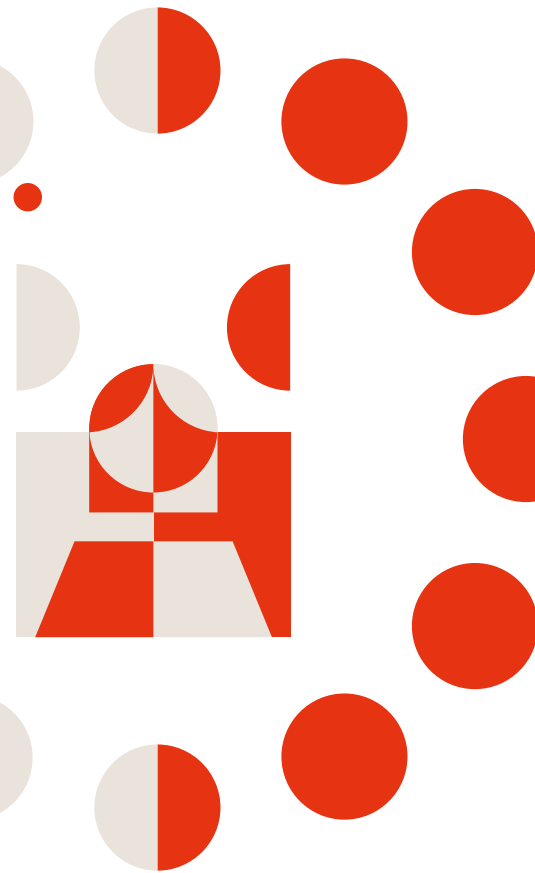


Families with addiction problems often shy away from going to youth welfare offices or counselling centres. Low-threshold services are needed to reach the target group in order to be able to offer help to the children.

A mentoring approach is implemented which offers positive relationships with stable adults to the children and thereby promotes the children's protective factors.

Make the difference...

- ... promotes early identification & provides early services for affected children
- ... encourages the interaction of different support systems
- ... promotes synergies and using existing resources efficiently
- ... increases capacities of both help systems
- ... prevents the development of mental health problems for children living in families with addiction issues



What makes Make the difference unique?

- Participatory approach across help systems
- Gained expertise and experience from all over Europe will be incorporated into a guide to facilitate the development of a cooperation agreement.
- Integrated concept: Building structures across help systems, implementing offers for the affected children and qualifying professionals
- Building on existing structures and offers
- Mentoring approach

Partners all over Europe



Belgium
ZORGGROEP ZIN

Spain
DEPARTAMENT DE SALUT –
GENERALITAT DE CATALUNYA

Italy
FORUM PRÄVENTION | PREVENZIONE
ONLUS

Netherlands
STICHTING TACTUS VERSLAVINGSZORG

Portugal
IREFREA – INSTITUTO EUROPEU DE
INVESTIGACAO DE FACTORES DE
RISCO DE CRIANCA E ADOLESCENTES

Slovakia
OBCIANSKIE ZDRUZENIE
PREVENCIA V&P

Czech Republic
NARODNI USTAV DUSEVNIHO ZDRAVI

Greece
KENTRO PROLIPSIS TON EKSARTISSEON
KE PROAGOGIS PSYCHOKINONIKIS YGIAS
ATHINA YGIA

Finland
EHKAISEVA PAIHDETYO EHYT RY
FOREBYGGANDE RUSMEDELSARBETE

Cyprus
KENTRO ENIMEROSIS KAI THERAPEIAS
EXARTIMENON ATOMON KENTHEA LIMITED

Slovenia
NACIONALNI INSTITUT ZA JAVNO ZDRAVJE

Germany
ARBEITERWOHLFAHRT KREISVERBAND
SIEGEN-WITTGENSTEIN/OLPE



Make the difference

Keywords

Families with addiction issues, child protection, addiction prevention, youth welfare, cooperation, mentoring approach, help systems, integral approach.

Consortium

13 partners from
12 European countries

Project Coordinator

LWL

Für die Menschen.
Für Westfalen-Lippe.

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