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### NEWS FROM EACEA

ERASMUS+ YOUTH FIELD: INCLUSION AND DIVERSITY STRATEGY LAUNCH EVENT 7 MAY

On 7 May, youth workers and representatives from Erasmus+ National Agencies met in Brussels for a day-long seminar as part of European Youth Week 2015 .

Under discussion was the new Inclusion and Diversity Strategy of Erasmus+.

Please follow this link to download it:

<https://www.salto-youth.net/downloads/4-17-3103/InclusionAndDiversityStrategy.pdf>

The new strategy aims to guarantee that young people from all backgrounds can benefit from the opportunities available through Erasmus+.

Additional information on the topics of inclusion and cultural diversity can be found at the websites for SALTO-Youth Inclusion Resource Centre and SALTO-Youth Cultural Diversity Resource Centre .

<https://www.salto-youth.net/rc/inclusion/>

<https://www.salto-youth.net/rc/cultural-diversity/>

### TOPIC OF THE MONTH

TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES FOR PEOPLE WITH DS



Erasmus Plus Ka1

MOBILITY PROJECT FOR VET LEARNERS AND STAFF

This activity is open to both apprentices and students in vocational training schools. These learners undertake a vocational training placement in another country. Learners are hosted either at a

workplace (in an enterprise or other relevant organisation) or at a VET school (with periods of work-based learning in an enterprise or other relevant organisation).

Erasmus plus Ka1

MOBILITY PROJECT FOR YOUNG PEOPLE AND YOUTH WORKERS

*Youth Exchanges:*

Youth Exchanges allow groups of young people from different countries to meet and live together for up to 21 days. During a Youth Exchange, participants jointly carry out a work programme (a mix of workshops, exercises, debates, role-plays, simulations, outdoor activities, etc.) designed and prepared by them before the Exchange. Youth Exchanges allow young people to: develop competences; become aware of socially relevant topics/thematic areas; discover new cultures, habits and life-styles, mainly through peer-learning; strengthen values like solidarity, democracy, friendship, etc. The learning process in Youth Exchanges is triggered by methods of non-formal education. Youth Exchanges are based on a transnational cooperation between two or more participating organisations from different countries within and outside the European Union.

*European Voluntary Service:*

This activity allows young people aged 17-30 to express their personal commitment through unpaid and full-time voluntary service for up to 12 months in another country within or outside the European Union. Young volunteers are given the opportunity to contribute to the daily work of organisations dealing with youth information and policies, young people's personal and socio-educational development, civic engagement, social care, inclusion of disadvantaged, environment, non-formal education programmes, ICTs and media literacy, culture and creativity, development cooperation, etc.

*Youth workers' training and networking:*

This activity supports the professional development of youth workers, through the implementation of activities such as transnational/international seminars, training courses, contact-making events, study visits, etc. or job shadowing/observation periods abroad in an organisation active in the youth field. All these activities are arranged by the organisations participating in the project.

All these actions of the Erasmus + programme are decentralised actions.

The decentralised actions are managed in each programme country by National Agencies that are appointed by their national authorities. If you are interested in one of these actions you can contact your National Agency

[http://ec.europa.eu/education/tools/national\\_agencies\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/education/tools/national_agencies_en.htm)

or read the Erasmus + Programme Guide

[http://ec.europa.eu/programmes/erasmus-plus/documents/erasmus-plus-programme-guide\\_en.pdf](http://ec.europa.eu/programmes/erasmus-plus/documents/erasmus-plus-programme-guide_en.pdf)

## NEWS FROM EDSA MEMBERS

### THE HUNGARIAN DOWN ASSOCIATION



DOWN Association was founded in 1998 by parents who had understood the importance of sharing information and their own experience with other Down families.

#### Main activities:

- Down Donation: donating to institutes which undertake the integration and early intervention.
- Down Nursemaid Program: taking part in this program, showing positive example in case a new-born Down baby is born.
- Down Shop: selling products through web shops made by mentally handicapped children, adults.
- Down Health Care Service: operating this assistance in cooperation with Jósa András Hospital, Nyíregyháza, where the necessary medical examination is done in one day, out of turn.

#### Main projects / results:

- “The Bell Rings for Everyone!” (2011) project, results and more information in the following link

[http://mindenkinekbecsengettek.hu/sites/default/files/ENG\\_publication.pdf](http://mindenkinekbecsengettek.hu/sites/default/files/ENG_publication.pdf)

- International World Syndrome Day 03.21, yearly since 2009
- 'Art Integrates Us' – contemporary artists and DS children
- Early Intervention Project - 'Csodavár' Early Intervention Centre, Nyíregyháza

Down Association runs an early intervention center, called 'Castle of Miracles'. 'Castle of Miracles' Early Intervention Centre, Nyíregyháza. It was established on 30th August 2011, 280 kilometres away from the capital, Budapest. In Hungary a minimum of 15, 000 families, with children with disabilities may need qualified assistance. In 2011 almost 50% of the children in need of intervention received support in Budapest. Thus there is a strong need for early intervention in regional areas. This fact lead to the idea of creating an early intervention center in the Eastern part of Hungary.

#### The main targets of the Early Intervention Centre are the following:

- help parents
- increase abilities
- provide remedial Gymnastics/Physiotherapy support
- introduce a better future to children with disabilities

#### The Programs in the Early Intervention Centre are the following:

For children with special needs:

- Complex Aptitude Test
- Remedial Education Development
- Remedial Gymnastics/Physiotherapy
- Dévény Therapy

- Vojta Therapy
- Sensory Integration Therapy
- Speech Therapy
- Club for Parents/ School for Parents
- Informational and Counselor Centre

For preventive goals:

- Complex Aptitude Test
- Spec. Educ. Therapy/Individuals and Groups
- Sindelar Therapy
- Ayres Therapy

For Families:

- Treatments with Music
- Puppet Theatre
- Playhouse
- Film clubs

The Results in the Early Intervention Centre are as follows:

- Choosing appropriate and complex intervention for children with special educational needs, we base their future in mainstream schools.
- Since the opening, 50 children have received appropriate care in the Centre.
- 100 per cent of the children, who have been treated in the Centre, could start mainstream kinder garden schools.
- 60 per cent of the children, who have been treated in the Centre, could leave the status of 'child with special educational need'.

The Mission of the Early Intervention Centre also includes the following aims:

- Producing complex early childhood intervention.
- Creating inter-professional communication.
- Accumulating base knowledge.
- Creating and maintaining open forums for families with different backgrounds.
- Preparing for social inclusion.
- Shaping social attitude with reverse inclusion.

### ***DOW SYNDROME IRELAND***

Referendum 22nd May 2015

Down syndrome Ireland on the occasion of The Marriage and Age of Presidential Candidates Referendums has encouraged

its members to vote! To this end, they have been involved in the production of an accessible guide, this guide outlines the proposed amendment to the constitution in a language accessible format. Please click here to download the guide.

<http://www.downsyndrome.ie/wp-content/uploads/2015/05/Referendum-Guide.pdf>





### **DOWN ESPANA AND APPT21 (Portugal)**

DOWN SPAIN , APPT 21 AND SCHINDLER IBERIA JOIN FORCES TO PROMOTE THE EMPLOYMENT OF PEOPLE WITH DOWN SYNDROME.



DOWN ESPANA and APPT 21 have begun working with Schindler Iberia to develop a set of measures to combat the shortage of job opportunities for people with Ds in “ordinary” companies. The Schindler Group is one of the leading global suppliers of elevators and escalators, it has branches in over 100 countries throughout Europe, North & South America, Asia-Pacific, and Africa.

Read more:

<http://www.sindromedown.net/noticia/down-espana-appt-21-y-schindler-iberia-unen-fuerzas-para-promover-la-insercion-laboral-de-personas-con-sindrome-de-down/>

### **AIPD (Italy)**

THE ENERGY HANDBOOK - 10 tips to save energy in our houses

This handbook was created by Ascotrade in collaboration with AIPD Treviso’s branch, with the aim of spreading education in saving energy resources. A small project that helps to protect our planet through ten simple tips to apply every day in our houses. The originality of this book is the use of images in addition to recommendations. It was made with the help of an illustrator and has got as protagonists ten boys and girls



with Ds, actors for one day. The advice given in the handbook has been written using the European system for communication in high comprehensibility so as to make it easily readable for all. Please click here to download the handbook in Italian:

[http://blog.ascotrade.it/file.axd?file=2014%2f12%2fASCOTRADE\\_LIBRETTO\\_ENERGIA+definitivo.pdf](http://blog.ascotrade.it/file.axd?file=2014%2f12%2fASCOTRADE_LIBRETTO_ENERGIA+definitivo.pdf)

### **NEWS FROM EDSA BOARD**

Cora Halder - Deutsches Down-Syndrom InfoCenter (Germany) "I was in Kosovo from 16 to 20 may on invitation of DS Kosovo, together with Prof. Wilken, to take part in intensive workshops for parents and professionals, in order to provide more information on Down Syndrome. They took place first in Prizren, south Kosovo, close to the Albanian border, and then in the capital Pristina. About 120 people attended the workshops. There were also some participants from the Albanian DS-organization, who just applied for Edsa membership. The topics of the seminars were: Early intervention, kinder garden and school, puberty, sexuality and the transition to adult live and starting with work. We learned that the situation of people with DS in Kosovo is more difficult. For example, Kosovo has no public health assurance system. This means that all health (speech and physical therapy, surgery, medical help) have to be pay privately by the families. During the last years DS Kosovo is trying hard to make the situation better, through health care services for children, advice services for families and employment exchange for people between 20-30 years old. It was a nice experience and we have the chance within EDSA to get more information about DS in Kosovo and to share our knowledge and experience."

### **MAKE THIS NEWSLETTER REALLY YOURS!**

Have you got any news that we could publish in EDSA newsletter? Please send us any information you would like to announce and we shall be happy to disseminate it all over Europe!

### **CONTACTS**

phone: 0039 06 3723909

e-mail: [internazionale@aipd.it](mailto:internazionale@aipd.it)

### **THE STAFF**

Paola Vulterini

Carlotta Leonori

### **NEWSLETTER BY**



layout and design  
[www.kilabstudio.com](http://www.kilabstudio.com)