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EDSA WEBINAR



INTERNATIONAL GUIDELINES FOR THE EDUCATION OF LEARNERS WITH DOWN SYNDROME

Datum: **Wednesday, 18 Oktober 2023. 17.00 CET**

Speaker: **Associate Professor Rhonda Faragher, AO, PhD**, University of Queensland, Australia

Translation: Croatian, Czech, French, German, Turkish and Ukrainian

Registration: https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/6816959746610/WN_xNfQVCDA6CirNKeNw

Down Syndrome International has published **International Guidelines for the Education of Learners with Down Syndrome** to assist countries to meet their obligations under the United Nations Convention on the Rights of People with Disabilities. In this presentation, Dr Rhonda Faragher, leader of the writing team, will introduce participants to the guidelines and give suggestions for how organisations might use them to improve education outcomes for learners with Down syndrome in any setting.

BIOGRAPHY



their lives.

Rhonda Faragher (PhD) is an Associate Professor of Inclusive Education at the University of Queensland and Director of the Down Syndrome Research Program within the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences. As a secondary mathematics teacher by background, Rhonda has always had an interest in assisting everyone, including those with Down syndrome, to learn to love mathematics and to appreciate its power for

She is a trustee of Down Syndrome International, a Fellow of the International Association for the Scientific Study of Intellectual and Developmental Disability and a Senior Fellow of the Higher Education Academy. She has received a number of awards for her work including a Commonwealth of Australia Endeavour Executive Award, the Vice-Chancellor's medal for Mission Excellence and in 2020 she was the recipient of The University of Queensland Award for Excellence in Community, Diversity and Inclusion. In 2023, she was appointed an Officer of the Order of Australia.

Rhonda has an adult daughter with Down syndrome.

More Information:

[International Guidelines for the Education of Learners with Down Syndrome – DSI – July 2020 \(PDF\)](#)

NEWS FROM THE WORLD



Down Syndrome International – Celebrating 30 years

DSi was founded back in 1993

Three remarkable women, from different parts of the world, joined together in their determination to make the world a better place.

Jo Mills from Canada, Penny Robertson from Australia, and Sylvia Escamilla from Mexico, were all mothers of children with Down syndrome.

Through their personal and professional lives, they had witnessed the unacceptable exclusion of people with Down syndrome. They wanted to make a change in that world. And so, Down Syndrome International was founded with a mission to make the world more inclusive for people with Down syndrome.

Down Syndrome International today

Today, DSi is a network of 157 organisations, in 113 countries.

We are thousands of people with Down syndrome, and their families, from every part of the globe. Together we speak up for the human rights of people with Down syndrome around the world.

We share a vision of a better world where all people with Down syndrome are fully included in society.

Throughout October, we will be sharing examples of the work that the DSi Network is doing to advocate for the human rights of people with Down syndrome all around the world.

Celebrating 30 years of the DSi Network

We will be using the hashtag #DownSyndromeNetwork

We encourage you to share our posts, and your own, using this hashtag.

Physical Therapy, Occupational Therapy & Down Syndrome



Physical Therapy

Physical therapists (PTs) are health professionals who work with individuals with Down syndrome to develop their gross motor skills. Because of certain physical characteristics, which include hypotonia (low muscle tone), ligamentous laxity (looseness of the ligaments that causes increased flexibility in the joints), and decreased strength, individuals with Down syndrome don't always develop motor skills in the same way typically developing individuals do. They might find ways to compensate for the differences in their physical make-up, and some of the compensations can lead to long-term complications, such as pain in the feet or the development of an inefficient walking pattern.

The goal of physical therapy is to encourage the development of the best movement patterns. This means helping the person develop:

- Good posture
- Proper foot alignment
- An efficient walking pattern
- A physical foundation for exercise throughout life

[Read more](#)

NEWS FROM THE PROJECTS WITH EDSA MEMBERS IN THE CONSORTIUM



Co-funded by the
Erasmus+ Programme
of the European Union

ALI - ALL LIVING INDEPENDENTLY

Introduction

1 October 2023 was the starting date for a new Erasmus + project called **All living independently**. Since EDSA is a partner in this project, together with three of its members, AIPD Potenza from Italy, Down Syndrom Czech, Trisomie 21 Luxemburg we would like to report about it regularly.

But also for the reason that ALI is a so called **small-scale partnerships project**, especially created to show associations that have not dared to participate in an EU project until now, how such a project works.

The third reason why we are reporting regularly is, that in the course of the project we will ask for **your cooperation** by testing the product that will be created.

Small-scale partnerships – What does it mean?

Small-scale Partnerships are designed to widen access to the Erasmus +, the EU Programme for school education, adult education, vocational education and training, youth and sport.

With **lower grant amounts** awarded to organisations, **shorter duration** and **simpler administrative requirements** compared to the Cooperation Partnerships, this action aims at reaching out to grassroots organisations, less experienced organisations and newcomers to the Programme, reducing entry barriers to the programme for organisations with smaller organisational capacity.

In our project the DS associations from Czech Republic, Luxemburg, AIPD Potenza and EDSA will work together – all more or less newcomers to the programme.

What is ALI about?

ALI means All living independently.

It includes the design, the development, the test and the diffusion of a training course on independent living of people with Down syndrome. This is to be carried out by the partners in the project.

The starting date is 1st October 2023 and the project end is 31st January 2025

The financial budget of the ALI project is 60.000 Euro.

The output of the project: A course on independent living

By the end of the ALI-project there will be an online training course on Independent living of people with DS. The course will be

- Completely delivered online;
- Open to access by anyone without cost, entry qualifications or other restrictions.

The content of the ALI-course:

- Basic principles of independent living (main concepts, methods, actors, usual difficulties)
- Personal autonomy (washing, dressing, eating), management of spaces and things. Social rules.
- External autonomy (moving, using money, communicating, shopping). The role of parents and of professionals.

Each module will contain:

1 ppt presentation of max 30 slides.

At least 2 videos

1 assessment questionnaire

1 simulation game and/or worksheet.

Who benefits from the ALI Project?

1. Families. Independent Living is a "compulsory" dimension for the education of any person with DS, in different levels and modalities according to the age and personal features of the individual . Independent Living is also a necessary pre-requirement for job inclusion of people with DS.

2. VET professionals Because for the role they play, they are expected to carefully evaluate and guide would be workers with DS.

3. Young people with Down Syndrome, who follow the course. Because both personal and external autonomy are necessary – many job placements of people with DS fail because of a lack of Independent Living skills. The course will exactly deal with these topics.

After the project this special designed material for young people with DS can be used by all EDSA members! As there is little learning material available for teaching young people, the ALI material will be a great help.

In the next article we will give more detailed information about the exact procedure, the way of testing the material, when and how other EDSA members can join in for testing.

Article by Cora Halder

OPPORTUNITIES FOR EDSA MEMBERS

17th International art contest Be an artist



Mest
Ljubl

Dear partner,

As a part of the **International festival year "Play with me"** we organise a traditional art contest **Be an artist - 17th International Art contest "Play with me"**. Be an artist is part of the our year-round activities, which include the International Art contest "Play with me", the International Cultural and Art event "Play with me" and the International travelling exhibitions "Play with me". After the contest we will proceed to the **opening exhibition**. Afterwards the submitted artworks will be presented in various locations in Slovenia.

We welcome you to join us and participate by submitting your pupils' artworks. The main topics this year are: **"PLAY WITH ME"** and **"BE AN ARTIST*"**

Application forms for Be an artist - 17th International art contest "Play with me" are available only online on our website www.igrajsezmano.eu. Application may be submitted until **December 1st, 2023**.

For additional information please contact us on

- phone number 00386 31 459 600 (Every week from Monday to Friday between 12.00 and 2.00 pm)
- bodiumetnik@igrajsezmano.si

Link to the file and application form:

[Invitation with details and the contest guidelines](#)

[Application for art contest](#)

Application deadline: December 1st, 2023.

We look forward to your cooperation!

Center Janeza Levca Ljubljana - Oddelek za projektne dejavnosti

www.centerjanezalevca.si | www.igrajsezmano.eu

Društvo za kulturo inkluzije

www.drustvozakulturoinkluzije.eu

PRIVATE FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

RODDENBERRY FOUNDATION



Big, Bold Ideas for a Better Future

The Catalyst Fund makes grants between \$2,500–\$15,000 to anyone, anywhere in the world who has an early-stage idea or project that addresses pressing global challenge

The Catalyst Fund

Early Stage

The Catalyst Fund is geared towards small and/or early-stage ideas and projects that need a capital infusion to launch or prove viability. Catalyst awardees are typically piloting a program, venturing into new territory, on the cusp of launching, or pivoting in a new direction.

Big Ideas

The Catalyst Fund supports big ideas or projects that depart from the status quo and require us to look at a problem and its solution in a new light. These big ideas have a high potential for impact across an entire community, city, or country. They tend to leverage existing infrastructure, build on partnerships (public and private), and improve on what's already out there. Big ideas push boundaries and challenge convention.

Bold Vision

The Catalyst Fund supports individuals whose vision for change is audacious. Catalyst awardees seek significant, long-term impact and have a vision for how to get there and what needs to get done. They are able to articulate how they plan to make the world better and why. Their vision inspires others and offers a glimpse of a better future.

[Read more](#)

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!

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