



s tructures
t owards
e mancipation
p articipation and
s oildarity

Newsletter No. 7

13th of October 2002

Dear Partners and Friends

Steps continues! In September the second phase of the EU-Project "Steps" has started. To be correct: The 'official' second phase has started: But the partners in steps have continued their cooperation during summer. A staff exchange between the Social Services in Lidingö and the foundation "Das Rauhe Haus" in Hamburg took place. Members of the Hamburg foundation Alsterdorf visited the London partnership this week. Participants have promised to report about it in a next Newsletter.

With this Newsletter we would like to inform you about the most important current activities. Please do forgive us in advance that we concentrate on the activities of the project management in Hamburg. We should be delighted about further news from the local partnerships to publish it in the Newsletter.

Whether you have any questions or comments please do not hesitate to contact us.

With best wishes

Dorothee, Anne, Michael

www.eu-project-steps.de

We proudly present the project in the world wide web, which is finally online!

At the web site you find basic information on the project and the partners, information on the current activities, interesting links and a discussion forum which is waiting for your comments.

Please have a look! And a special thanks to Klaus who has designed the site.

To extend the range of information we would like to ask you for texts or links referring to the activities in your countries and the local partnerships. There is capacity for local partnership pages as well as for links, reports and other contributions in your languages.

Particularly we would like to offer information for people with learning disabilities in different languages.

A second request: Could you please check the link to your institution? Perhaps you are interested in linking the STEPS-web site to your site?

Conference in Rotterdam, 14th - 16th November

First and foremost the Steps-Partners in Rotterdam are organising the II. Conference of the Project right now. The Conference will take place in the impressive building of the Hogeschool in Rotterdam, which has renamed itself in "InHolland".

At the II. Conferences "Equal opportunities for people with learning disabilities" the Steps Network intends to share the experiences and knowledge on discrimination between the involved countries. What leads to discrimination and exclusion? What increases exclusion? The main questions should be identified. Standards or indicators for non-discriminative services should be drafted. Intensive communication should revive and deepen the prior discussions.

Please find the Conference Programme at the Steps web site.

The discussion is just opened!

To stimulate the discussion about "Equal opportunities for people with learning disabilities" among the STEPS-Partners, we propose to establish a dialogue by e-mail. We would like to start the communication without long explanations: Your views, questions, proposals and comments would be appreciated.

Hector Medora from London kindly opened the communication process with the discussion paper 'Achieving equality and diversity in services to people with learning disabilities'.

Please send your contributions by mail to anne.ernst@eu-project-steps.de. All contributions will be shared by email and published on the Steps-web site (Discussion page).

Thanking you in advance for your interest and your contributions!

Meeting of the T-group of people with learning disabilities

As members of a T- or Trainings-group the people with learning disabilities are invited to evaluate the Steps-process. They are asked to monitor the outcome of the project from their perspectives.

Middle of November the first meeting of people with learning disabilities takes place.

About 15 persons have promised to participate. They are members in

- the users advisory-board of the Evangelische Stiftung Alsterdorf
- the users advisory-board of the Stiftung "Das Rauhe Haus"
- self-advocacy group "People first – the strong angels, Hamburg"

To prepare the Rotterdam-Conference we would like to ask them about their views, expectations and wishes referring the services for people with learning disabilities.

The results will be shared via Newsletter before the Rotterdam-Conference.

Anne Ernst

Steps – Structures towards emancipation, participation and solidarity

c/o University of Applied Sciences for Social Work
Horner Weg 21, D – 22111 Hamburg
www.eu-project-steps.de, anne.ernst@eu-project-steps.de