

Working Groups

Equal opportunities for people with learning disabilities

Friday Morning, 15th of November, 9 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.

Whisper-translation English-Spanish

Introductory Notes:

Anne Ernst, Michael Langhanky: Summary of the Internet Discussion, (see programme)

Working groups in the National Partnerships: Discrimination and Exclusion in daily life in the countries

Questions:

- Which are the main aspects of discrimination and exclusion in your country that need to be combated (by Steps)?
Working out the main aspects of discrimination on the basis of two or three case studies.
- The case studies could be suggested (Which experiences would have to face an Arabic man with challenging behaviour or a woman with severest or multiple disabilities.)
- Focussing on 5 - 7 main aspects in your country

Aims:

- Clarification of the main aspects/central fields of discrimination
- Transparency of fields and conflicts regarding to discrimination and exclusion
- Deepening of the discussion about discrimination and exclusion in the national Partnerships. Well-known arguments could be replenished or questioned.

Friday Afternoon, 2 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Plenum: Short Presentation of the results (one hour)

Each country presents its main fields or aspects of discrimination, which people with learning disabilities are facing today (possibly along the case studies).

Aim:

- Steps towards a shared knowledge about discrimination and exclusion

'Mixed' working groups: Experiences in combating discrimination and exclusion

Questions:

- Which are remarkable differences between the countries?
- Which experiences in the different countries are suited to reduce discrimination and exclusion?
- Which are possible standards and which are the methods that help to achieve the aim of reducing inequality?
- How can equality and diversity be supported in services and communities?

Aims:

- Sharing experiences and knowledge
- and collecting best practices

Friday Evening, 5.30 p.m.

Presentation and Discussion: The local Projects

There is an interest among the partners to learn about the plans and activities of the local partnerships.

In the relaxed atmosphere of the PameijerKeerkring Restaurant the local projects would be asked to give a short introduction in the local projects. There will be time for discussion and questions.

Saturday Morning, 16th of November, 9.30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Translation English-Spanish-German (?)

Presentation: An Agenda for Change

open to the public

Individual views of the participants on the Friday discussions will hopefully advance the reflection on main aspects of discrimination and exclusion and ways to combat it effectively. Short statements will alternate with discussions in the Plenum. The members of the Steps network are invited to reflect and comment the discussion considering their special interests/questions.

- Call for statements! -

Corresponding we would like to ask members of the Steps network to prepare statements that sum up the Friday discussion on the background of a special approach.

Questions for the statements could be for example:

- Exclusion and Access to work (Bart)
- I want my own life - Future planing/Person centred planning (London/Lidingö)
- Development of community based services (Hamburg)
- Fulfilment of Human rights in daily life (Barcelona)

Four basic sociological dimensions of services might be in volved:

- Community structures
- Institutional structures
- Legal structures
- Cost Management, Financial structures

Main action fields that might be in the focus:

- Access to work
- Assistance/care, case management
- Advocacy
- Housing/Living
- Health/well being
- Family support

'General'/further questions that might be mentioned:

- Double/multiple discrimination on grounds of ethnic, age, gender

- Services for people with severe and multiple disabilities
- Challenging behaviour in the community
- Quality management/assurance
- Staff qualification/training
- Market management
- Joint team working
- Indicators and Standards for non-discriminative services
- Social Inclusion/Participation in Society
- Community development
- Ambivalence of risk and shelter

Aims:

- Statements to sum the Fridays discussion
- Sharing of the results and discussion for the public as a basis for the development of non-discriminative services.