

Initiatives of The National Board of Social Services

The National Board of Social Services has implemented a social financing project with focus on efforts that are aimed at adults with learning disabilities at permanent housing services. Other initiatives focus on the effort towards citizens with multiple disabilities without spoken language and families with children with disabilities.

Dorte From The National Board of Social Services

Project Effort aimed at adults with learning disabilities at permanent housing services and similar general disability housing

The National Board of Social Services has implemented the social financing Efforts aimed at adults with learning disabilities at permanent housing offers and similar general disability housing in the period of 2014-2018.

With basis in a rehabilitating approach, the project has put focus on strengthening the effort towards adults with learning disabilities, who live in housing offer or similar housing forms (the National Board of Social Services 2018c).

The project has the purpose to promote a support that is based on knowledge, like it must support the spread of (re)habilitating efforts, and must thus increase self-determination, independence and equality of people with learning disabilities. Additionally, it is the purpose of the project to increase knowledge about effects of efforts with a (re)habilitating aim and spread the use of methods with documented effect in housing service (The National Board of Social Services, 2018c).

In the project rehabilitating efforts are understood as efforts, whereby a person regains, develops or maintains their functionality to an extent that corresponds to the individual's own perception of an independent and meaningful life. And in the project there is focus on developing the functionality, so it as far as possible correspond to the current needs, opportunities and wishes, and the person achieves the greatest possible degree of self-reliance (The National Board of Social Services, 2018c).

Objectives of the project

The long-term objective with the project is that people with learning disabilities, resided in permanent housing service to a higher degree can live an independent life, where they use their opportunities for participation in the community life, and where they are less dependent on professional aid and support (The National Board of Social Services, 2018c).

In the medium term, the objective is that the target-group regains, develops and maintains their functionality, including their competence to mastering several areas of their life, and that the housing service supports opportunities of the target group to exercise their citizenship (The National Board of Social Services, 2018c).

The project has tested the integrated, socio-pedagogical concept Cognitive Resource focused and Acknowledging Pedagogic (KRAP) at adult with learning disabilities in permanent housing offers. KRAP is developed by the Psychology Centre (The National Board of Social Services, 2018c).

Method description

With basis in existing publications on KRAP, the Psychologist Centre, Rambøll and the National Board of Social Services has cooperated on preparing a method description for KRAP aimed at adults with learning disabilities in long-lasting housing service and similar housing forms that has been tested in connection with the project. Additionally, there is obtained contributions from an expert group in the work with the method description (The National Board of Social Services, 2018c).

For projects the National Board of Social Services has published the following three publications, which together form the method description of KRAP:

- An introduction to the method (The National Board of Social Services, 2018c)
- A method manual (The National Board of Social Services, 2018b)
- An implementation guide for the work with the method in the individual housing offer (The National Board, 2018a).

The purpose is to give housing offer to adults with learning disabilities a foundation to work structurally and systematically with KRAP. This means with basis in core elements and steps in the pedagogical work. The purpose is to ensure a uniform basis for the use of KRAP to adults with learning disabilities in housing offer (The National Board of Social Services, 2018c).

Evaluation of KRAP aimed at adults with learning disabilities in longer-term housing offers

The total test of KRAP has been evaluated with the purpose of creating increased knowledge about the effect, the implementation and the economic consequences in connection with implementing KRAP aimed at people with learning disabilities in housing offer or similar housing forms. In the evaluation, a readiness measurement on organisation level and pre- and post-measurement on citizen level is completed, just like there continuously has been followed-up on the progression for the individual person with learning disabilities, who participated in the project. Seven housing offers participated in the test of KRAP. At the same time there was a control group, consisting of seven housing offers that it did not participate in the test, but which are included in the evaluation. The control group continued its past practice in the project period (Rambøll, 2018).

Read the evaluation of KRAP aimed at people at people with learning disabilities in housing offers and similar forms

Pilot testing of the project

Prior to the test, the psychologist centre conducted a post-education course for managers, employees and authority people in the effort offer that participated in the project and which specifically tested KRAP in the project period.

In the period June 1. 2016-October 31. 2016 a pilot testing is completed, which had the purpose to test and possibly adjust the method description in praxis within the final test (The National Board of Social Services, 2018c).

After the pilot test, the test was initiated, which has the purpose to contribute that professionals get knowledge about implementation of the method, effect of the method and on economic implications.

You can read more about the project in the article of the theme on acknowledging pedagogy

On the website of the National Board of Social Services, you can find

- method description
- instruction manual
- implementation guide.

Mapping of target-group, efforts and methods for citizens with multiple learning disabilities without spoken language

The National Board of Social Services has in the period 2014-2016 implemented a mapping project which had the purpose to build systematic and valid knowledge on target-group, efforts and methods for citizens with multiple learning disabilities without spoken language. Mapping is first project of several that has the purpose to support and strengthen the praxis field with knowledge on effective social and communicative efforts to the benefit for citizens with multiple learning disabilities without spoken language (The National Board of Social Services, 2017).

You can find Mapping of target-group, offers and methods for citizens with multiple learning disabilities without spoken language on the website of the National Board of Social Services.

On the website of the National Board of Social Services, you can also read about a section of methods that can support the work with unravelling and developing the communication of people with multiple learning disabilities without spoken language, which the mapping identified.

More support to families with children with disabilities

Families with children with disabilities are midpoint in a new mastering program. The National Board of Social Services has in the period 2014-2017 developed and tested parent training programs and other support to parents of children with disabilities in the program. Mastering support to families of children with disability. In the period the parent training program Stepping Stones was among other things tested (Lyk-Jensen et al. 2018).

Stepping Stones

The National Board of Social Services broadens the parent training program Stepping Stones to parents of children with disability. The primary target-group for Stepping Stones is children with physical or mental learning disabilities in the age of 2-12 and their families (Lyk-Jensen et al., 2018).

Stepping Stones and the development- and the investment program for children

Stepping Stones disseminated as part of Development- and investment program of the National Board of Social Services on the child field (Children-UIP). The Development- and Investment program must help ensure that social efforts are going to make a real difference, for vulnerable children and youths and children and youths with disabilities get strengthened opportunities for personal development, health and an independent adult life. With the program it is wished that there is invested in developing and spread effective efforts for vulnerable children and youths and children and youths with disabilities and their families (The National Board of Social Services, 2019).

Also read Evaluation of three mastering efforts aimed at parents with children and disability from 2018 on Website of VIVE

Course in citizenship to adults with learning disabilities

In 2015, the National Board of Social Services published course in citizenship, which is an educational package, which can help that adults with learning disabilities get more knowledge and skills on citizenship and own rights (Rasmussen & Kjær, 2015).

The National Board of Social Service has in cooperation with 10 municipal socializing and activity offer in accordance with §§ 103 and 104 of the Social Service Act, developed Course in citizenship in the period 2014-2015. In 2015 the National Board of Social Services published the Educational package in citizenship to adults with learning disabilities (Rasmussen & Kjær, 2015).

The course is a further development of the Educational package in citizenship, which primarily was aimed at youths with cognitive functional impairments at STU (Particularly Organizes Youth Education), which was published by the National Board of Social Services in 2013 (Rasmussen & Kjær, 2015).

The purpose of the course is to give adult people with learning disabilities knowledge about citizenship and own rights and specific tools to exercise these rights in praxis. It can be in relation to making decisions about own life and participate and be participatory in the close communities and in the society in general (Rasmussen & Kjær, 2015).

Asults with learning disabilities can with the educational package achieve increased knowledge and skills on:

- The individual's rights and opportunities to make choices for themselves
- Communication and dialogue and opportunity to make decisions together with others
- Communities in society and opportunity for participation
- Democratic processes and opportunities for influence (Rasmussen & Kjær, 2015).

As a part of the project, an experience collection was made from the test of the material in the 10 participating municipal offers, with the purpose to ensure that the material is suitable for the target-group. The evaluation indicates that both educators and participants assess that the participants via the course has achieved increased knowledge and skills in citizenship and own fundamental rights. Additionally, the educators assess that the main part of the individual courses in the course material are useful and understandable to the participants (Rasmussen, 2016).

About course in citizenship

Course in citizenship consists of a four-week course process, which is structured in four themes:

- I decide
- We decide
- With the community
- Democracy and influence (Rasmussen & Kjær, 2015).

The course material, which consists of a course guide and a material collection can be found on Socialstyrelsen.dk:

- Course guide for course on citizenship
- Material collection for course on citizenship

Sources

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