

## Minutes

# JOINT RESEARCH FORUM "COMMUNITY PLANNING AND INCLUSIVE SERVICES – PERSPECTIVES FOR EUROPEAN RESEARCH ACTIVITIES"

**11 April 2017**

*Venue: North Rhine-Westphalia State Representation, Rue Montoyer 47, 1000 Brussels*

### **Welcoming Address**

Mr. James Crowe, President of the European Association of Services Providers for Persons with Disabilities (EASPD), and Prof. Dr. Johannes Schaedler, Centre for Planning and Evaluation of Social Services (ZPE), University of Siegen, have welcomed forum participants.

### **Key areas and questions for research on disability services - results of an internal EASPD survey on European service providers**

Ms. Asel Kadyrbaeva, EASPD presented the results of the EASPD report '[EASPD Research Agenda in Disability Services](#)' (See presentation in attachment)

### **Feedback on the EASPD Research agenda from forum participants**

- There is a need for a systematic review of what is done on deinstitutionalization (DI), including outside of Europe
- In-depth look should be taken into access to traineeships and apprenticeships. Examples of transitions from education into employment are important. Intervention should take place in young age already and a life-cycle approach should be taken.
- Barriers in education that carry on to the labour market are very important. But there are also other barriers such as ethnicity and gender. We often find those joint barriers are even more influential.
- There is a need to incorporate lived experience in research more and more. The importance of families and social networks there is the importance of peer support that puts persons with disabilities in the driving seat. Informal support is other very important topics There is a need to address stigma and self-stigma of people with disabilities.
- In organisational transformation, the focus should be on creating the environment rather than services. We focus on how to create services but we should think about the environment, making it accessible and using universal design.
- Focus on inclusive services and societies is beneficial for all: Accessible society is good for everyone, especially as we age.
- There is a lot of research on community care but there is still a need for more. But we should reflect why there is still a need for more research when there is already so much. We need a theory; we need to review what have been the effects from past research. There is obviously an issue of transition, how do we overcome the past-models to introduce new modern models?
- One thing that is missing from this paper is the topic of infrastructure. The modern services and accessibility is also about accessibility of transport and environment.
- The focus of the future cooperation should be on sharing research outcomes and making them available.
- On 14 July 2018, A IASSIDD conference will be held in Athens. That could be used as an occasion for a follow-up meeting on the Research Platform.

### **Situation and current developments in European research activities in the disability field and beyond**

Presentation by Prof. Dr. Johannes Schädler and Mr. Martin Reichstein, ZPE – See attachment

**Discussion:**

- Identifying research priorities is much stronger when you combine this approach with DPOs. Research priorities have been identified with internal surveys within organisations, but there is a gap between service providers who are not aware of this. A new category for DPOs could be made in the survey presented by Martin.
- Having in place a formal European Research platform would facilitate the sharing of practices in different European countries. But networks only work when people feel they can profit from them and invest in them.
- The questionnaire could be made more simple.
- Is the translation of the survey into EU languages possible?
- Possibility to address DPOs, service providers, local governments and administration in the survey.

#### **Feedback from Case-based Discussions: Possibilities and benefits of cooperation through a Research network** (See presentations in attachment)

- The proposed platform could take a form of a website. Organisations and participants who want to be on that platform would have to register and create their profiles with descriptions of their expertise and interests.
- The platform could play a role of a matchmaker and contribute to improving the visibility of the disability sector.
- Research in disability sector is highly needed and it is essential to try to put disability in the wider research agenda (e.g. Horizon 2020).
- The platform could allow sharing ideas on research needs, from organisations of persons with disabilities, service providers, local and regional authorities and researchers. It should be a tool for organisations such as universities etc. rather than individuals.
- There are two sides that need to be taken into consideration in the platform. One of the ways to include special interest groups by using EASPD agenda. It could also be a platform to share information, perhaps even developing our own journal. But to start with special interest groups and a database.
- Resources and expertise are needed for setting up and running the platform professionally
- Active and ongoing promotion and facilitation needed until critical mass is reached to make the platform a success

#### **Wrap-up and conclusions by Mr. Luk Zelderloo, EASPD Secretary General**

- For EASPD and its members it is important to bring the research world closer to the world of service providers, in line with the convention. And EASPD is committed to this.
- We should clarify that the research platform will not be in competition but in cooperation with ANED, an academic network of researchers that is financed by the EU. Our platform will be more practice based.
- The survey on the current situation and developments in European research activities in the disability field will be modified and followed up on.
- EASPD will circulate a common letter calling for a disability friendly framework for post Horizon2020. Including disability on the agenda would be a push that is much needed to strengthen research in disability sector. Participants can comment on it and co-sign it.

#### **Next Steps**

- Explore options for hosting an online platform; Set up a meeting with providers of such services, find out about prices and technical possibilities.
- Contact DPOs for a formal letter in response to invitation to participate in the platform
- Explore possibility of holding an event on the Research Forum as part of the IASSID Conference in July 2018, in Athens.
- Prepare the second Research Forum in March 2018, in Brussels.
- Explore external funding opportunities to develop the Platform.

#### **Meeting participants:**

<b>Last name</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Institute</b>
Barow	Thomas	University of Gothenburg
Beyer	Stephen	Cardiff University
Bratovcic	Vesna	University of Tuzla, BIH
Broderick	Andrea	University of Maastricht
Crowe	Jim	EASPD
Cudd	Peter	University of Sheffield
Dieckmann	Friedrich	University of Applied Studies, Münster
Ferraina	Sabrina	EASPD
García-Santesmases	Andrea	University of Oberta de Catalunya
Garrido	Marco	University of Seville
Hilber	Veronika	Global Programme Department CBM International
Kadyrbaeva	Asel	EASPD
Konola	Kirsi	EASPD
Mavrou	Katerina	European University Cyprus
Reichstein	Martin	University of Siegen
Schädler	Johannes	University of Siegen
Schippers	Alice P.	VU University medical centre Amsterdam
van Loon	Jos	University of Gent
Verdugo	Miguel Angel	University of Salamanca
Waddington	Lisa	University of Maastricht
Wissenbach	Lars	University of Siegen
Zelderloo	Luk	EASPD