

AFTER CARE GUARANTEE

*After Care Guarantee : April '15 – March '16
A project funded by Erasmus+ Youth in Action*



Young people from residential care facilities often lack a strong family or social network to fall back on. Studies show a considerable number of homeless people have spent time in a youth care institution. They remain faced with 'structural homelessness' and unemployment. More often than not the roots to these lifelong challenges lie in ineffective guidance in the transition from youth care to young adulthood. For many vulnerable youngsters the gap after youth care is just too big.

Objectives of the project

Ineffective guidance in the transition from youth care to young adulthood often leaves young people structurally vulnerable. There is **a strong need for after care mechanisms**. This project wants to:

- Understand the “after care” concept at EU level and in EU member states.
- Define what needs to be done in order to support young people leaving youth care.
- Identify and test possible solutions (like “personal budget schemes”).
- Involve and increase awareness at all levels (from policy to youth work and young people themselves).
- Activate this process by hearing the youngsters and their accompanying staff.

Activities

- Collection and analysis of policies and practices concerning After Care Mechanisms.
- Organization of focus groups with young people (who left care or who are still in care) and with experts (professionals and government officials).
- Pilot on personal budget schemes.
- Development of the After Care Guarantee Model.

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Output

The output of this project will be an **After Care Guarantee Model** comprised of practical and policy guidelines which will include:

- Analysis of the Youth Guarantee scheme and its problematic accessibility for the target group.
- Overview of schemes and policies currently under development or already implemented.
- Policy recommendations.
- Roadmap for the future targeted to all relevant stakeholders at the policy making levels (local, regional and national), youth care agencies and youth workers, EU Commission, EU consultative bodies (CoR, EESC).

Partners of this project

- Flemish Agency for Youth Welfare - Belgium (Coordinator)
- Feantsa, European Federation of National Organisations working with the Homeless
- ENSA, European Network of Social Authorities
- Regional government of Carinthia – Austria
- Azienda Speciale Consortile Ovest – Italy
- Ministry of Health, Welfare and Sport - The Netherlands
- Knowledge Center Social Europe - Belgium (Project management)



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