

Búsqueda de socios para proyecto social

El EDIC Pau Pays de l'Adour, en colaboración con "L'Association des Usagers à la Pépinière", una organización no gubernamental, reconocida por su servicio público, que trabaja en temas relacionados con la juventud, actividades con ancianos y diversas formas de ayudas parentales.

Durante más de 25 años, La Pépinière ha adquirido una amplia experiencia sobre las necesidades específicas de las familias en orden a continuar proporcionando servicios vitales a la comunidad. En particular, han desarrollado proyectos específicos destinados a proporcionar diversas formas de cuidados sociales para madres solteras y mujeres a la cabeza de las familias, que viven con los mínimos beneficios sociales.

Con el objetivo de desarrollar estas experiencias, La Pépinière está buscando socios europeos, que trabajen en estas materias (integración social y profesional de familiar monoparentales) para implementar un proyecto (Erasmus+ k2, por ejemplo) que les permite encontrar/experimentar nuevas iniciativas que afronten apropiadamente los problemas relacionados con la monoparentalidad.

Para alcanzar este objetivo, sería especialmente interesante si diferentes perfiles pudieran participar (tales como investigadores, trabajadores sociales, asociaciones, familias monoparentales, etc.)

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Más información en el PDF adjunto.

Aiding single parent households

1. L'Association des Usagers de la Pépinière

« L'Association des Usagers de La Pépinière » (community centre) is a non-governmental organization, recognized for its public service. The association is based in Pau, in the Nouvelle Aquitaine region of France, and works out of a neighborhood called Dufau Tourasse.

Having centered our mission around families in need, we focus our attention on topics related to youth, activities with seniors and various forms of parental aid. We currently employ 27 people (social workers, youth workers, and administrative staff...).

For more than 25 years, we have led a special project entitled "Accompagnement des Familles Monoparentales" (Aiding Single Parent Households) which provides various forms of social care for single mothers and women at the head of the family, who live with minimum social benefits.

The AUP's main partner is the Pyrénées-Atlantiques Family Allowance Fund (CAF 64). Indeed, the CAF 64 takes a leading role in managing the Social Center La Pépinière, its premises and the projects of which the AUP shares.

2. Our action

a) Research identifies single parent households as an issue in our jurisdiction.

The emergence of single-parent families, 85% of which are led by women, represents the major evolution in the structure of families over the last thirty years. In a context where familial and social ties have become more distorted, single-parent women are particularly vulnerable.

The lack of support from a second parent can therefore generate stress and expose women to physical or mental strain, as the chance of economic precarity is significantly higher than for those living in two-parent households. This is a situation which places the education of children at stake, as it decreases the ability of the single parent to effectively manage their household and can also lead to the creation of barriers to societal or communal integration.

Observations have been made by a number of research institutes for the past two decades that the single parent households can face difficulties in accessing employment opportunities and housing, barriers to learning the local language, detrimental impacts on mental and physical health, the

breakdown of societal and familial ties, social isolation and difficulty accessing childcare, which may have a negative impact on the life of the single parent.

The removal of these obstacles is of paramount importance in the mission to help single parents gain access to employment and to the creation of a healthier and happier familial life. It is also vital in order to help parents in the retention of and fulfillment of their professional goals.

Aiding men and women in single-parent households is therefore a social issue, which is not insignificant in the neighborhood of the Social Centre “La Pépinière” where there is an overrepresentation of the number of single-parent families (20%).

The AFM now relies on its 27 years of experience addressing the specific needs expressed by families in order to continue providing vital services in the community. The organization has evolved by adapting itself to the evolution of public policies, the needs identified by professionals in the field and shared within networks of partners (institutional and associative).

b) The target audience for the support of single parent families

The people aided by the AFM service are mostly women in single households and beneficiaries of social security.

In 2017, 92 women were welcomed into the AFM service who were mostly inhabitants of Pau and its agglomeration, the majority of whom live in the area of the social center. 62% are under 40 years old and 90% of the women who enroll in the AFM course are recipients of RSA (minimum welfare), or unemployment benefit and the remaining 10% are recipients of other specific welfare benefits or none of them.

The AFM is a preventative program which confronts parental loneliness and situations of personal exhaustion head-on. It is important here to note the secondary beneficiaries of the project, namely the children.

c) The objectives of the project

Overall objective: To participate in removing the barriers to the social and professional integration of single-parent families in precarious situations.

Specifics objectives:

- To encourage the development of an individual project through the dynamics of group work
- To develop the autonomy and the personal empowerment of the beneficiaries
- To promote the status of women through the exercise of citizenship.

d) The specificities of the support to be implemented

5 collective programs of 6 weeks are put in place during the year according to the school calendar. During these 6 weeks, the participants work through workshops and modules, supported by the two social workers of the service or by partners in action. The workshops involve five particular themes:

- Health and wellbeing,
- Femininity, conjugality, parenthood,
- Everyday life,
- Status of women and citizenship,
- Professional life.

These different workshop and group dynamics should allow them to develop their "life project", which can be a form of re-training or a professional, family or personal project.

The participants are then individually supported over the course of 12 months by the social workers of the service for the duration of their project and its implementation.

The workshops, individual support services and mobilizations are carried out throughout the year by the AFM service team.

3. Our project

Due to our extensive field experience, we find that the issues related to single parenthood are not subject to proper public policy. Thus, they are little examined by the state and few initiatives like ours are proposed.

Our aim would therefore be to meet potential partners, to meet structures working on these specific issues, evaluate our system and work on accommodating the needs of these families. To achieve this mission, it would be particularly interesting if different profiles could participate (such as researchers, social workers, managers of associations, single-parent families etc...).

The European dimension of this project is particularly important because the increasing number of single parent families is a reality throughout Europe. It would be particularly interesting if the project partners could explain the treatment of these issues in their home country and the specific programs taken in response to them.

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