

Grundtvig Learning Partnership - “Improving Parenting Skills”

2d Transnational Meeting

Reutlingen, 18th to 20th April 2012

Meeting report

Date and location

From 18th to 20th April 2012
 Volkshochschule Reutlingen GmbH
 Spendhausstr. 6,
 72764 Reutlingen,
 Germany

Participants

	TOTAL	Name/Function
CCAS de Carvin	3	Nathalie AUDEGOND, Administrator Christine FROGET, Family social worker Grégoire GUILLARD, European project officer
Volkshochschule Reutlingen GmbH	10	Susanne Biber, child care worker Thomas Becker, Head of the department of art, culture and general education Marion Deyhimi, child care worker Susann Herzog, social worker Hungerland, Gesine, pedagogical employee Klein, Nadja pedagogical employee Saile, Britta, social worker
YMCA Social Work in Denmark	4	Birgitte BJERRE – consultant / project officer Suzi Monica Green Trebbien – sous chef of “Kongelyset” Kindergarten Tine Rolsted Christensen – pedagogical assistant in “Kongelyset” Kindergarten Jakob Busch Andersen, parent – volunteer member of “Kongelyset” Kindergarten
Parents Association of Z Lakatamias Primary School	3	Stella Ioannou, member of board Maria Efrem, parent (simple member) Angelos Kokkinos, parent (simple member)

CEPA LLEVANT	2	Pilar MESQUIDA, adults education centre technic Mariapolonia GAYA, languages instructor
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Meeting Plan of activities

2012 Wednesday 18th April	
9am-12am	plenary session : Introduction of meeting + Sharing "best practices"
12.30am -1.30pm	Lunch time
1.45pm -3.45pm	study visit : "little vhs", a child care center managed by VHS specifically for children of immigrant families following courses in VHS
3.45pm-4pm	Way back to the main meeting location
4pm – 6.30pm	Following of morning: sharing best practices
6.30-...	Way back to the hotel, resting and free time
2012 Thursday 19th April	
9am-12am	plenary session - Following sharing best practices Working Groups according to participants main interest: exploring best practices in order to plan transfer between each other
12.15am-1.15pm	Lunch time
1.30pm-3.15pm	Steering committee / Sightseeing for parents
3.30 pm - 5 pm	Collective Cultural trip
5.45pm- 7.15 pm	Way back to the hotel, resting and free time
7.30pm - 11 pm	Gala dinner
2012 Friday 20th April morning	
9am-11am	Conclusion session Feedback and review of meeting conclusions Evaluation Attendance sheet Way forward to next meeting : first brainstorming
11 Am	Way back to home

Project meeting Report

Spanish and Danish partners came with late because of train delay. Programme had to be adjusted.

2012 Wednesday 18th April Morning

1. Introduction to best practices

Instructions

- Each partner introduces in detail **2 or 3** best practices (50min – 10min per partner) in order to enhance innovative aspects
- Questions/answers after each presentation (50 min – 10 min per practice)

Introduced best practices

- **CCAS de Carvin :**
 - Workshop Parents / Children “Discover your body and mobility”
 - Workshop Nurses / Children «body education through circus arts »
 - Open Meeting place for children and parents "Ilots Petit"
- **Volkshochschule Reutlingen GmbH :**
 - Project “FERDA”
- **YMCA Social Work in Denmark**
 - Family Café
- **Primary School Parents Association of Z Lakatamias**
 - See it's not difficult
 - Emotions
 - Life Skills
 - Back to Tradition
- **CEPA LLEVANT**
 - Cycle of interactive conferences
 - Books exchange

All those experiences have been or should be described on a template that CCAS already sent to partners. Each partner has been invited to complete with all operational details useful for partners that want to import it. Presentations can be completed by any other communication means useful for comprehension such as Video (CCAS), photos or interviews.

All this completed materials will be shared on electronic version among partners and on Teamlab project website.

2012 Wednesday 18th April Afternoon

1. Study visit

“little vhs”, a child care center that belongs to VHS organization. The child care workers will lead us around and make a presentation of their work and their pedagogical approach regarding children and parents. Little VHS is a childcare center dedicated to children from parents with immigrant backgrounds that take part to courses in VHS. It aims at fostering their participation to education.

2. Feedback on introduced best practices

Introduction : CCAS makes a review on concepts surrounding Parenting skills (from Council of Europe “Positive parenting” definition)

Among introduced practices, partners have identified seven as particularly interesting :

- FERDA : CEPA + YMCA
- Workshop for Parents and Children “Discover your body and mobility” : Lakatamias
- Open Meeting place for children and parents “Green House” : VHS
- Family Café : VHS
- See it's not difficult : VHS, CEPA, CCAS
- Emotions: VHS, CCAS
- Books exchange: Lakatamias, CCAS

Other practices that were not introduced in detail in this meeting held attention of partners

- Maternity groups (Denmark) : CCAS
- Music Garden (VHS) : Lakatamias

Partners expressed following justification:

VHS :

- See it's not difficult : exchange of role between parents and children; attractive title; Make parents closer to ICT / understanding of their children use
- Emotions : Help children expressing, understanding and regulating their feeling
- Green House: Anonymous; attract parents that normally dont come
- Circus arts workshop with children and day care mothers : Play with little toddlers

CEPA :

- Back to tradition : young do forget their own tradition. Parents and Grand parents « expertise » - increase link with children – « tradition » : games, art craft – playing with hands, manual activity / motrcity
- See it s not difficult : title, ICT learning
- FERDA : immigration in Spain, how to better integrate families

- Family Café : to be crossed with FERDA project

Lakatamias Parents association:

- Books exchange : attract parents / children to reading, diversity of choice, imitation,
- Motor skills workshop « discover your mobility »: promote healthy / gymnastics activity both for parents/ children, take them out from Home,
- Music Garden : to be described later

YMCA:

- FERDA : how to engage families that normally don't take part to Family café and other activities

CCAS :

- Emotions: expressing emotions through books, reading
- It's not difficult: exchange of knowledge, creating links together
- Books exchange: how to open to larger population ?
- Maternity groups in DK

2012 Thursday 19th April Morning

1. Exploring and further discussing around the best practices

Partners have decided to lead several informal bilateral or trilateral discussions around identified best practices they are each interested in, in order to plan a transfer in their territory

Partners split into different groups during approx. 30/45 min

1. YMCA (Family Café) + VHS (FERDA project)
2. CCAS /CEPA (books exchange) /Lakatamias (Emotions, See it's not difficult; back to traditions)
3. CCAS(Green House)/CEPA (Books exchange) /VHS (FERDA)
4. VHS/Lakatamias/YMCA

2. Discussion on project logo

Lakatamias partner organized in February/ March 2012 a competition among school pupils to design a project logo. 4 proposals have been selected among others that have been introduced in Reutlingen.

A detailed presentation, a reflection and discussion, then a vote have been led in order to select one of them. Proposal number 1 has been selected by a majority of partners as it reflects in a better way the project topic, in a positive and happy expression

An electronic version of it will be soon after the meeting sent by Lakatamias to other partners, in order to use it in all external communication tools;

2012 Thursday 19th April Afternoon : Steering committee

Nota : 2 of the 3 members of Danish delegation went to visit a water fall with a colleague from Gesine.

1. Project Development of activities: planning the next step (transfer best practices, design a common tool); next meeting in Denmark

Plan for transferring best practices within partners

Back home Each partner will identify its resources and means in order to test and transfer some aspects of one or more best practices

Deadline to inform about its plan : **End May** (Skype Conference to be set up)

Partners acknowledged that most of them won't be able to launch a test before beginning of September, because of closing time in summer holidays (most of partners institutions will close on beginning of June)

Inquiry to parents

Some partner will lead an inquiry toward parents in order to better identify their needs:

- Lakatamias (has drafted a template)
- VHS
- CCAS (to be confirmed)

They will namely base on LAKATAMIAS template. Other partners (CEPA, YMCA) do not feel able to lead such action.

Preparation for next project step and meeting in Denmark

Finally, partners reviewed together the next steps in project development and ambition for Danish programme. Next step 3 (September 2012 – June 2013) is, according to the application form, dedicated to designing and testing 1 or 2 new common tool/methodology in terms of parenting support.

Work development for this step will be launched with the Meeting in Denmark (End August 2012).

Up to this meeting, Birgitte BJERRE suggest 2 options for location

- Either having a meeting in the neighbourhood of Copenhagen, with possibility to make a trip to other YMCA centers in Denmark, to visit a Family Café. Include to travel with bus (2 hours)

- Or having directly a meeting in Middelfart's center (Fyn Island). More complex in terms of accessibility for partners coming from Cyprus and Spain.

More generally, Brigitte/Malene, with support from Grégoire (CCAS), will define a convenient programme, in order to address the meeting topic. The main ambition of this meeting will be to organize a brainstorming on the design of a new tool / methodology to support parenting skill. YMCA has expertise in using innovative meeting animation methodologies, in order to foster creativity.

2. Project Management : Teamlab website presentation, mid term project report to National Agencies

Internal Communication within partners

Partners acknowledged following resolutions :

- Too much emails is making Partners confused about the tasks and information. Emails will be reduced, better summarized
- Teamlab project management web portal : CCAS introduces in short the main menus that could be used by partners. Teamlab should be the main project website for partners to share documents, contact and project information

Mid term project report

CCAS remind all partners that they should complete and send up to End of next June a mid term report to their own national Agency.

They should ask their national Agency for the official formular. This formular is however based on a common European template : CCAS will therefore draft a common version that each partner will be able to use for its own report. Anyway, each partner will have to complete this common template through description of local activities.

3. Project Communication: Project Logo, drafting 2d newsletter, website update, updating European Website "European Shared Treasure"

Project logo has already been discussed before.

Project Website

- Lakatamias suggests to call for an external assistance in order to design a website for project
- Partners acknowledged they should better use free website possibilities (Google, blogspot, wordpress...)
- However, Lakatamias do not feel easy with website management.
- Another partner(VHS,CCAS?) will have therefore to be in charge in designing and managing a simple free website (decision to be made up to end April)

2d Newsletter:

- CCAS introduces back again the partners to the 1st version that they already received. CCAS Reminds all partners to transfer it to useful networks, translate it for local communication

- 2d Newsletter- selection of topics
 - o Reutlingen Report meeting (contributor : CCAS / Gesine)
 - o Short presentation of best practices (contributor : each partner)
 - o Invitation to the next meeting in Denmark
 - o Interview from Gesine

Partners finally discussed on complementary aspects between Website and Newsletter

4. Project Evaluation: evaluation tools and plan = evaluating the meeting, the other activities

Project evaluation will be led by VHS. CEPA will lead the final conference.

A detailed project evaluation plan will be drafted by VHS in the coming weeks.

Meeting evaluation will be led through the questionnaire that CCAS already drafted for the first meeting in Carvin.

2012 Friday 20th April morning

Attendance sheet and meeting evaluation

Partners finally received a signed and stamped attendance sheet

They were required to fill in a meeting evaluation sheet.

Short discussion on priority topic for Denmark meeting

Partners finally led a short discussion on major topics that should be highlighted in the next project development step (designing one or more common innovative tools)

- Support to young and single mothers : breaking down isolation, enhancing community solidarity

- Improving methodologies to better reach out and engage the parents into support activities; to raise awareness about parenting issues and challenges

- Parenting and disability, inclusion of disabled children

- Role and involvement of fathers into parenting

- Role and involvement of grand parents into parenting

- Enhance links and exchange between day care mothers and parents

- Parenting issues regarding parents from immigrant backgrounds

- Parenting and teenagers

For each topic, partners will have to detail the issues and challenges to be addressed by a potential new tool or methodology. For instance, partners discussed around the topic “Improving methodologies to better reach out and engage the parents into support activities”. This topic may be linked to following issues :

- Motivation of parents: Understanding and comprehension of parenting issues (adapted pedagogy on parenting issues, support to literacy and language comprehension for families with immigrant background)
- Geographical mobility of parents (helping them to go to the activity place : taxi service, support to use of public transport, children care provision when they attend to activities...)
- Development of peer to peer education model (parents learn to other parents)

Next meeting to be held in Denmark on 29th, 30th and 31th August 2012.