

BeTrAD

Better Treatment
for Ageing Drug User



Introduction

We are proud to tell you about one of our newest projects funded by the Erasmus + program: **BETRAD**.

Together with 6 different organizations, this project aims provide adult trainers and organizations with the tools needed to establish and improve the services for aging drug users.

Want to learn more?

Please check our website:
www.betrad.eu

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Project overview

Dependency on psychoactive substances are often associated with young people. But as the European population is aging overall, so is the population that uses drugs. Indeed, the total number and the proportion of older, chronic, problematic drug users in Europe have increased significantly over the last decades. Yet, the existing policies and services for aging drug users in Europe are limited and rare. This project intends to change that and provide the tools necessary to design better services for aging drug users.

More specifically, this project has three overarching goals:

1. Identify and assess the existing policies and services for aging drug users in Europe
2. Develop a toolbox and training for social service providers to better serve the needs of aging drug users
3. Disseminate these results on a European and national level.

What are we doing next?

Working together with six different organizations in Europe, we are undertaking the following actions to help the staff of drug addiction services, geriatric institutions and policy makers better serve the needs of older drug users:

- Creating a Good Practice Collection: this will provide social service providers, adult trainers, policy makers and higher education institutions with inspiring models of good practice. In addition, this collection will stimulate the development and implementation of inclusive services for aging drug users.
- Toolbox: this will provide all stake-holders with the tools and guidance necessary to develop, implement or improve services for aging drug users.
- Creating a training curriculum: the training curriculum will be developed on the outcomes of the good practice collection and the toolbox, and will include a broad range of topics, didactic exercises, links and resources. This curriculum can function as a model to be for national
- Providing training: the training will be designed in the form of a five day summer school. The audience will consist of staff of drug addiction services, geriatric institutions and policy makers. Aging drug users will also be invited to participate.



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