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EUROPEAN COLLOQUIUM: The Homeless Person First

EMERGENCY SERVICES and REHABILITATION SUPPORTS promoting
accessibility - improving equality - strengthening networks



Wednesday 17th April 2024

European Economic and Social Committee
Rue Belliard/Belliardstraat 99-101, 1040 Brussels

With the support of the
Erasmus+ Programme
of the European Union



- 09:00** Welcome and registration
09:30 Person First Project
 - Background and introduction
Luigi Leonori, President Smes Europa
 - Key findings from the Person First project
Ides Nicaise, Eveline Teppers, HIVA – KULeuven

10:40 Coffee break

Thematic Sessions:

11:00 Social Assistance and services

12:10 Health and mental health

13:20 Lunch

14:30 Home and housing

15:40 Coffee break

16:00 From assistance to participation

Each thematic session will start with a 'keynote' followed by Q&A and discussion on recommendations

17:10 Final comments

The project aims at creating a strategic partnership for vocational education and training of professionals working with homeless and refugees, with a special focus on the most deprived and severely mentally ill.

It will try to identify pathways that improve professionals' abilities to listen to - and understand - their voice and needs, and to design and propose more adequate responses that foster their physical and mental wellbeing as well as their dignity and access to rights.

FROM ASSISTANCE TO PARTICIPATION

To identify models and good practices to facilitate access of homeless people to services and to enable social and health workers of public and private services to meet homeless people wherever they are.

The project PERSON FIRST targets in particular those workers who are working with people living on the margins, with complex social and health problems and needs.

Homelessness is a symptom of structural dysfunction in society. When a person has lost everything, there is no more than the body to cry and the street to get lost.

Homeless people live in conditions of severe chronic social, physical and mental precariousness. Their predicament calls into question our democracy when so many citizens are denied their fundamental rights. Homelessness is a provocation and a challenge, not only for those who work directly with homeless people but all layers of society.



[Click here to access the registration form](#) or scan the QR Code

