

THE RESULTS OF THE TRAINING EVENT OF *FRANCA AND FRANCO BASAGLIA* INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

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In October and November 2012, two international events of great impact for the promotion of the reform process of psychiatric care have been realized in the framework of the activities of the WHO Collaborating Centre in Trieste, in collaboration with the WHO Geneva and Copenhagen central Offices and with the support of the Autonomous Region of Friuli Venezia Giulia, the Province and the Municipality of Trieste,

The 2010 - 2014 work plan of the WHO Collaborating Centre in Trieste foresees the support to the reform processes and to the development of the services in the Balkans, Central Europe, Eastern Europe and Latin America. In particular, in 2012, intense exchanges have been made with Turkey,

which intends to close asylums within two years and to develop mental health centres inspired by the Trieste experience; with the Czech Republic, where the WHO Collaborating Centre of Trieste participated in the inauguration of the mental health services reform by the Ministry of Health; with Australia and New Zealand, where the experience of Trieste is seen as a landmark by the respective Ministries of Health, the Mental Health Commissions and the universities; with Denmark, which sent a delegation of parliamentarians to visit the mental health services in Trieste; with Romania, Albania, Argentina and Brazil, where new laws for Mental Health have been launched and experiences for the start of territorial services are ongoing.

The WHO Collaborating Centre of Trieste allowed extending and structuring the wide international recognition of the territorial mental health system adopted by the Mental Health Department. Operators and governmental representatives from different countries travel every year to Trieste to make scientific and operational exchanges and study visits. In particular, from September 2011 to September 2012, 630 professionals and other stakeholders from 21 countries (Argentina, Australia, Austria, Brasil, California, Canada, Denmark, France, Japan, Greece, UK, Iran, Italy, Netherlands, Czech Republic, Serbia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey) came to Trieste Mental Health Services and were involved in study visits and seminars. In this framework, the second training Module of the International School has been realized, such as the European Meeting of the WHO Collaborating Centres.

On September 2010, the World Health Organization has designated the Mental Health Department of Trieste, as a WHO Collaborating Centre for Research and Training in Mental Health. The designation is effective for a period of four years. For more information about the WHO Collaborating Centre for Research and Training in Mental Health of Trieste, [visit the website](#).

The training course of *Franca and Franco Basaglia* International School

From 22 to 27 October 2012, in collaboration with WHO Geneva and Copenhagen Offices and the International Mental Health Collaborating Network (IMHCN), the second Module of the International School named Franca and Franco Basaglia was held at the Directorate of the Department of Mental Health of Trieste. The first experimental module was realized in September 2011, on the issue of the closing of mental hospitals, as advocated by WHO.

The Module was attended by 42 people (directors, managers, WHO experts, consultants of ministries from 16 countries - Italy, Albania, Slovenia, United Kingdom, Greece, Romania, Czech Republic, Netherlands, Spain, Montenegro, Turkey, Pakistan, Palestine, Japan, China, New Zealand, Australia, Argentina - all involved in the processes of change in mental health. Participants had started in the past collaboration with Trieste, with the support of WHO. Trainers came from services, universities and institutes in Australia, Italy, Czech Republic, Ireland, the United Kingdom, France, New Zealand, Greece and Palestine.

This second Module, entitled "Services to meet the needs. The rationale for building a system of integrated

and people-centered care", was dedicated to the construction of mental health services and to territorial work planning, towards a global approach to people's lives. In the first 4 days of the theoretical-practical course "Global mental health services. Learning practices" issues have been addressed such as: de-institutionalization and the development of territorial mental health services; the development of multidisciplinary teams; crisis management; the process of recovery, continuity of care, rehabilitation, training and job placement; assisted housing; socialization and early intervention programs; work with families and the different components of a modern territorial service according to WHO recommendations.



The course was divided into a theoretical part, held in the classroom, and into another one, with visits to services, as well as working groups on various topics. Participants, divided into small groups, visited not only the local services (the 4 CSM, the Diagnosis and Treatment Service, Club Zyp, the women's house and other residences, the Aurisina Day Centre), but also participated in meetings of the services. They also accompanied operators in their daily work. The training event allowed operators from different countries in the field of mental health to meet and share knowledge and skills to build and organize integrated community services. The educational value of the initiative consists in taking into account the specificity of the implementation contexts, but also of models, programs and experiences validated by both established practices and scientific evidence.



The course ended with the conference "The reason for the change. Creativity and innovation in the development of mental health" open to other Italian and foreign operators, to discuss policies and practices for mental health in the world. It was attended by a total of 152 persons from the mentioned countries, by users and their families.

Comparing innovations and difficulties faced by many countries, the International School allowed examining issues related to the enhancement of the services and to the

development of strategies to improve the condition of people with mental health problems, on an international scale. In all these proposals, the School, which is promoted by the Trieste WHO Collaborating Centre, frames its activities in the directions of the organization's health policy.

A third training module of the International School, scheduled for May 2013, will be dedicated to practices and programs for social inclusion and job placement, and to the work with users and their families.

The European Meeting of WHO Collaborating Centres

WHO is working on the preparation of the document "Global Mental Health Strategy", which also includes a section on Europe, drawn up with the participation of the Collaborating Centre of Trieste. From 6 to 7 November 2012, the Mental Health Department of Trieste hosted the European Meeting of the WHO Collaborating Centers, in order to discuss the new strategic document on mental health that will be submitted to the European Governments and approved in September 2013. The meeting was attended by the directors of WHO, the Directors of the other European Collaborating Centers representing the most relevant scientific institutions in the field of mental health, and by international experts invited by the WHO. In the framework of these activities, the Centre of Trieste, recognized since 2004 as WHO Lead Collaborating Centre on mental health issues, due to its efforts in supporting the reform experiences in many European countries, will be in charge on behalf of WHO to produce the document with the guidelines on the closure of asylums. This work will be carried out on the basis of data collected through a questionnaire sent to many experts in this field coming from very relevant experiences.

To know more

[Programme of the International School](#)

[Trieste WHO Collaborating Center Report](#)

[Brochure on Trieste territorial mental health services](#)