

## Country - report FGC

### Development and activities in Germany

- During last years the concept of FGC has developed to several definitions and terms, like Familiengruppenkonferenz – FamilienRat – Verwandtschaftsrat – Netzwerkkonferenz in different areas like Child and Youth services, juvenile court proceeding, Inclusion, senior citizen and more...  
Many projects are active with different agreements of term, a few of them are getting established to permanent proposals
- Social services of public and PRIVATE institutions are continuously in discussion and negotiation about agreements and collaboration, that are always connected directly on the basic question of who provides financing.  
Like a main issue during last year we were in contact with some key personalities with the idea of getting some multiplier to incorporate FGC to be bound by law, to act with FGC like a standard procedure, a citizen right.  
“Die Grünen” – The Green Party created a proposal paper for FGC
- Paradigm change in Youth welfare services and offices – awareness training for every department is necessary to announce and to establish philosophy of FGC like an instrument of empowerment and offer to people / groups and families to live in a self dependent way;
- Focusing on results and practice of FGC in cases of child protection in situations of high risk and emergency in child welfare. The more people are involved to the family circle by FGC the more protection of a child you will get.  
Suggestions:
  - shorter time frequency between first and following FGC in a case.
  - approval of the plan in between two people
  - to get involved judges of family law directly in the FGC
- Activities referred to networking between and in between local - civil– regional – federal and state level institutions.
- Role of coordinators, - different trainings with specific items  
“professional” coordinators -----“civil” coordinators  
All trainings are based on certain principles of “national standards” (from 30.09.2011)
  - “civil coordinators” are FGC knowledge multiplier to spread the philosophy of FGC.
  - Monitoring coordinators after the training during the whole process of FGC.
  - Importance of exchange between coordinators AFTER the initial training
  - Discussion concerning relation between declining numbers of FGCs being initiated and quality of their coordination

➤ **FGC - Evaluation of FHP Potsdam:**

**Dr. Frank Früchtel and students, POWERPOINT**

- A total number of 374 FGC have been evaluated since 2008,

Conclusions:

1. FGC works always, especially in very difficult situations.
  - 71 % are longknown-Cases, 29 % new families.
  - 67% german background, 33 % migration background
  - Every age
  - 48 % female , 52 % male (special focus, because in generally youthwelfare acts more with male individuum)
  - 45 % are multiproblem-families,
  - no significant difference between FGCs rural or urban regions
2. FGC follows the **intention** of the family
3. The family-network is getting bigger and consolidate performing FGC
4. FGC reduces dependence on support of the system and activates family network power= Empowerment

**Resulting questions:** How to include in the evaluation apart of the quantitative questions, background of qualitative questions.

- Self-efficacy: participation on the solutions and creation of PLAN benefits to be proud and to get accepted serious
- Part of the collective-problem: solidarity of family - network members
- Push – effect: the preoccupation between professionals and family produces the impulse of activity. Avoidance of isolation.

➤ **Several projects out of the practice in Germany**

**City of Berlin:** Number of FGCs are stagnand; movement of politicians and advocacy districts to get in an exchange of ideas and principles for the need of empowerment and recognition for the responsibility of families for their own situation with the idea of “crowding in”.

**“Person centered Planning”:** – Coordination of conferences of future for disabled people, young people who are getting to live for their own, but also in familys with young children who have disabilities. Methods: circle of friends, MAP- (Actionplanning) PATH-planning future with hope. Result: Plan of Action, Plan of Activities.

Further information of people who work actually in this field:

Stefan Doose, [www.personcentredplanning.eu](http://www.personcentredplanning.eu)  
[www.personcentredplanning.eu](http://www.personcentredplanning.eu)

### **Restorative justice-**

Prof. Dr. Otmar Hagemann

North of the country: \_ as a tendency some stagnation.

Reason: collaboration between youth welfare office and the restorative justice has to be re-pushed again.

### **City of Hamburg**

May 2013: we got the first official commitment- contract between public youth welfare institution and private institutions based on Zuwendung = endowment.

for two years, continued like a concret collaboration between district of Wandsbek (Hamburg) and FGC-office of **PFIFF**GmbH,

(the idea started in 2004 during the first meeting with EIGENKRACHT)

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