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riunioni
di gruppo
familiare

family
group
conferences

Family Group Conferences in Piemonte – Italy

**EUROPEAN FAMILY GROUP CONFERENCE NETWORK MEETING
Bratislava, the Slovak Republic 9-11 October 2019**

BASIC INFO ON ORGANISATION

Cooperativa Animazione Valdocco ONLUS was founded in 1980 in Turin by a group of young youth workers active in the street work for young disadvantaged people in the outskirts of Turin, Italy. Cooperativa Animazione Valdocco is a social cooperative and a not-profit organization which operates in integration with other cooperatives, voluntary organizations and public institutions.

It aims to promote, plan and manage various health, educative and social services, targeted to prevent and reduce risks and effects of exclusion and social disadvantages. At the moment it evolves more than 2.000 workers realizing over 300 services and projects in several regions (Piemonte, Lombardia, Liguria, Valle d'Aosta, etc.).

Between January and February 2013 the first Family Group Conference in Piemonte Region has been held in Settimo Torinese, realized by our organization. Since 2012 Cooperativa Animazione Valdocco has continued experimentating the method in Piemonte area, involving 10 Agencies in the area and 15 FGCs has been realized for 17 beneficiaries (at least over 35 beneficiaries has been intercepted and over 150 people involved in the networks of the beneficiaries).

FOCUS AREAS FOR FGCs'S ACTIVITIES

Child protection, restorative practices for young offenders, "dopo di noi" projects (plans to help individuals that incur disabilities later in life when parents passed away or becomes no more able to take care of its relative).

EXPERIENCED RESTORATIVE PRACTICES

In every 5 FGCs runned for young offenders (Project of Restorative Justice with the Minister of Law and Justice) there's been several specific restorative practices that has been played:

- school recovery for young disabled students in the school subject to crime;
- free music lessons for poor children;
- voluntary work in a commercial shop that has been the subject of a crime.

In 9 child protection FGCs's restorative practices are connected to new involvements of parents, relatives and others network's members.

In FGC dedicated to adult disabled woman a new relative has been hardly engaged and she has coordinate the purchase of a new wheelchair, crucial for the lady's mobility.

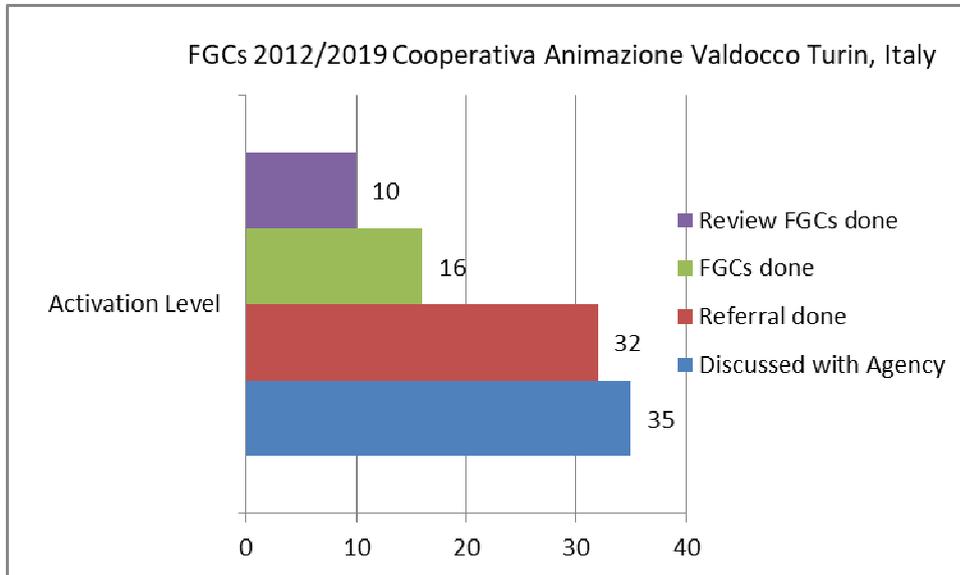
COORDINATORS PROFILE

We have 17 independent coordinators: they are educators who usually works in Cooperative's services, but they are activated on special projects to realize FGCs in contexts where they've never operate as professionals.

Coordinators are supervised during their activities by the FGCs Project Responsible, and two yearly meetings are runned to stand the most critic and formative issues.

The cost of coordinators are supported even directly by our organization or by Agencies who refer beneficiaries to FGCs project. A direct support has come by an independent funder during the years 2014/2015 – a bank foundation named Compagnia di San Paolo - .

OUTPUTS DURING THE YEARS



Two FGCs completed during 2019.

PR ACTIVITIES

Sure a level to improve, at the moment we're working on a new website and we've just edited our new logo.

BENEFITS/STRENGTHS OF THE FGC CAMPAIGNS

Not enough at the moment.

NEEDS FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF FGCs IN PIEMONTE - ITALY

Investment on promoting FGCs with Child Protection Agency and funders;

Investment on promoting FGCs with independent supporters;

Enforce national network based on common standards;

Connect FGCs with several solutions targeted to improve participation of people involved in public services in making decision processes on their life (for example advocacy, Child Protection Conference, World Cafè, etc.).

CONTACTS

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FURTHER DETAILS:

The procedural ways to implement FGCs is differente due to different contexts and Agency charged for Referral. In Piemonte we follow the following scheme:

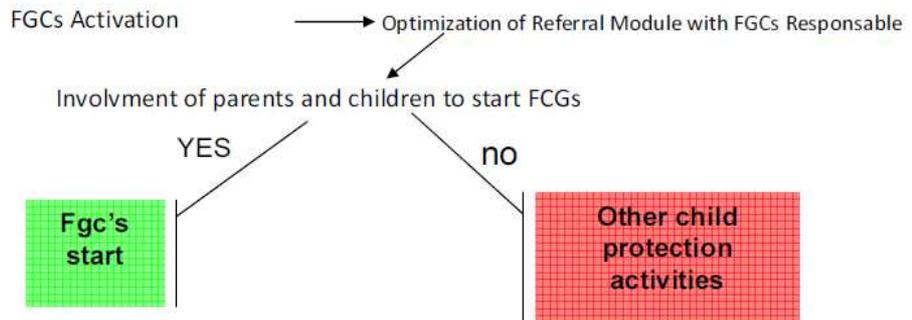
HOW IT WORKS ABOUT REFERRAL AND ASSESMENT

A child with child protection matters arrives to Social Services

Assesment by the Social Worker about needs and programs

Referral Set Up

Referral sending to FGCs Service



How it is legislatively treated - who finances them - the Ministry, self-governing authority, an NGO?

It's still not recognized on national and regional law, some Municipalities (f.e. Genova Municipality) has begna to mention FGCs between intervention options for child protection activities. Finance come form locala authorities on special projects or from donors.

Under which circumstances WHO can / must offer an FGC to the family or realize an FGC.

Child Protection Issues

Young Offenders involved in Youth Justice

Students

Vulnerable adults