

EUROPEAN FAMILY GROUP CONFERENCE NETWORK

WORKSHOP NOVEMBER 2004

1. Time and venue of the workshop

Date : Friday 19 and Saturday 20 November 2004

Venue: Bremberg, Haasrode (close by Leuven), Belgium

Cost: € 110

Accommodation: € 75 per night (single room, breakfast included)
€ 85 per night (double room, breakfast included)

After the successful workshop of last November in London, we are glad to invite you to our second two days meeting in Leuven.

The venue, Bremberg, is located at 10 kilometres from centre Leuven, surrounded by pastures and woods. Accommodation is at the same spot (we have reserved 28 rooms), and offers all modern hotel comfort. Transport from and to the train station of Leuven will be provided.

We will fill up the rooms on a first come, first served basis. If all rooms are taken, or if you wish to stay in the centre of Leuven, you can book your own room. The website of the city offers update information on all accommodation-options (www.leuven.be). The price we have been offered by Bremberg is rather cheap.

The cost includes lunch and coffee service all day, but not the Friday night dinner in a restaurant in the very lively centre of Leuven.

2. Content of the workshop

The workshop is, like the first one, conceived as an open space for informal discussion in plenary and in sub groups. It is meant to deepen our discussions of last year, and to raise some issues that came out of the discussions. Special, but not exclusive themes are:

- **Conferencing in crime and delinquency matters compared to conferencing in welfare, educational and other social matters.**
To which degree and on what topics are they the same, where are they different? Both are driven by a participatory philosophy, but treatment and welfare concerns may be more important in the one, whereas reparative issues may prevail in the other. They also take place in a different context, with different mandates. What are the consequences thereof?
- **Developing a conferencing methodology.**
The way conferencing is conducted is crucial for its outcomes. Not only the intrinsic personal quality of the facilitator matters, but also methodological options like home visits, scripted sessions or not, including private time or not, assuring adequate follow up of the agreements,... There is probably not one good solution, but each option has its implications.
- **Conferencing and 'the system'.**
The participatory position of conferencing is not always well accepted by judges, directors and other leading position holders. Their concerns are closer to short term public safety and/or management principles. Conferencing takes its time, and the outcomes are less predictable. How to deal with these possible contradictions? How to find (legally) assured acceptance of conferencing?

- **Research and evaluation issues.**

The relation between research and practice is not always evident. Is participatory observation allowed? How to ask participants whether they are willing to take part in the research? How to deal with anonymity? How can research results be incorporated in practice?

- **Limits of conferencing.**

Conferencing may have some limits, such as the inclusion of pedagogical elements in delinquency-conferences, non-attendance of support people, non-attendance of victims, psychiatric issues, issues of public safety,

3. Programme

Day One – Friday 19th November

9.45 Registration

10.00 Welcome, introduction, setting the context

10.45 International round up

12.30 Lunch

13.30 Workshops A

15.00 Tea refreshment

15.30 Workshops B

17.00 Plenary session

17.30 End

19.00 Dinner in the Centre of Leuven

Day Two – Saturday 20th November

9.30 Workshops C

11.00 Tea Refreshments

11.30 Workshops D

13.00 Lunch

14.00 Plenary

15.00 End

4. Practical arrangements

The workshop will start at 10.00 am on Friday 19 November and finish at 3.00 pm on Saturday 20 November.

28 rooms have been reserved at the conference location. Rooms can be shared.

Please fill out the registration form below and send it to your country contact person. Only five participants per country can attend this workshop.

Country contact persons will send the names and addresses of their country to:

Andrea ONS
Hooverplein 10
3000 Leuven
Belgium
Tel. (32) 16 32 53 00
Fax: (32) 16 32 54 63
andrea.ons@law.kuleuven.ac.be
cc: robvanpagee@eigen-kracht.nl
cc: inge.vanfraechem@law.kuleuven.ac.be

Name:
Organisation:
Address:
.....
.....
Tel.:
Fax:
Email:

Will attend the meeting of the European Network on Family Group Conferencing

- He/she would like to book a single/double room at the Bremberg (75/85 Euro/room, breakfast included).
- He/she will book his/her own room in the centre of Leuven www.leuven.be

5. Concluding remarks

Please fill out the form as soon as possible, so we can arrange all practical matters. We would like to receive your confirmation of participation at the latest by October 31st.

We look forward to meeting you in our beautiful town and look forward to a fruitful meeting!

Inge Vanfraechem
Rob van Pagée
Lode Walgrave