

National PEP- meeting Sweden 171011



As a fundamental part of the preparation of the PEP-meeting at the european level EAPN-Sweden together with The European social fond project "Network Diocese of Lund" and other NGO:s arranged a national meeting.

On the 11/10 about 60 delegates met 5 MP:s. For more than a year people experiencing poverty and exclusion prepared proposals for political changes. For the meeting the delegates elected 18 proposals that were presented to the MPs.

It is important for us that the excluded people themselves select the proposals and that the selected themes represent all proposals that we recieved.

We had four themes during the meeting:

- Refugee issues
- Social security
- Drug abuse treatment
- Access to jobs



Amir - one of the politicians

The participants had various backgrounds:

Refugees, long term unemployed, people on long term sick leave, people hiding without residence permit etc.

Each proposal started with a presentation of a personal experience. Then followed an analyze of the causes and consequences of the problem, and finally the proposal was presented. An interesting dialogue in the groups followed between the politician and the

delegates.

The day after the meeting members of the norwegian, finish, danish and swedish delegations for the European PEP-meeting met to prepare the european meeting. Among other things we diskussed the definition of working poor. The finish and norwegian delegation members defined working poor as those who are employed with a low salary. The danish and swedish definition was a person who loses her/his income if not working/ participating in activation.

This presentation ends with a proposal of one of the delegates of the national Pep- meeting.

Theme: Access to jobs

Introduction: Emils experience

For the time being I do work training in the Lutheran parish in H. I will do this until I get my medication. It is hard to get a doctor on a more permanent basis. It is very exhausting to repeat the same story over and over again to a new doctor. I have done that now for three years. Since three years I am also homeless. I can not afford to rent an apartment, so I live for a shorter time with my mother or with friends. I get no help from the social security. My income is at the moment 6500 sek a month (about 650 Euro). It is very important for me to get a job. I am divorced, and I have a little daughter. She is 3 years old. She lives with her mother, and stays with me every second week end. It is difficult for me to have a place to stay with her where we can have some privacy

I am very frustrated because I have to wait for a solution. It is difficult for me to sleep and I suffer from anxiety. I start to think a lot and I suffer from anxiety from the toes to the head. I feel like I am not worth anything because I don't get any help. You are happy at the outside, but deep inside it is different. I thought of committing suicide since I don't receive any help. It is my daughter that keeps me alive.

The problem

I have been offered a job with the condition that I start taking my medicine before starting. The problem is that it until now has been impossible to get a permanent contact with a psychiatrist or a doctor. Over and over again I have been forced to start from the beginning with a new doctor. For almost three years I have waited now to get my medication.

The causes

It is difficult to get a permanent contact with a doctor.

Consequences

It is hard to get my medication. Without it I have greater difficulties to concentrate on the work.

Proposal

- It should be easier to get a permanent contact with a doctor.
- More doctors.
- Easier to get a prescription of medicine you had before.

- Shorter waiting times in order to get adequate help.

For the Swedish delegation

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