

4th INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE OF THE JARŠE YOUTH HOME

CONTEMPORARY CHALLENGES OF WORKING WITH AT-RISK YOUTH

7th – 9th of June 2024

Radenci, Slovenia

INFOPACK



scmladinski dom jarše



Co-funded by the
Erasmus+ Programme
of the European Union

Welcome letter



Dear participant,

We are very glad to announce that you are invited to join the 4th international conference organised by JARŠE YOUTH HOME and co-founded by the Erasmus+ programme of the European Union.

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The official program will take place between the 7th and 9th of June 2024 in Radenci, Slovenia, but we would be delighted if you could arrive one day earlier, on Thursday 6th, as we will organise pre-conference activities.

In this Information-Pack you will find everything you need to know beforehand. If you have further questions or any concerns, do not hesitate to get in touch with the coordinator.

Looking forward to meeting you in Slovenia!

Yours faithfully,

Tomi Martinjak, Urška Opeka, Peter Steničnik, Borut Velušček, Damjan Habe, Dominika Pajnik, Tjaša Steiner, Vida Kokelj, David Žnidaršič, Miha Stele, Marko Ocvirk and Ina Kreft Toman (The organizing committee)

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Introduction



Introduction



Jarše youth home is a public institution for children and adolescents. We cater to the needs of children and adolescents who have been victims of violence, neglect, abuse and inappropriate upbringing methods which have resulted in disruptive behaviour and/or emotional problems. The primary focus of the conference will therefore be youth at-risk.

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This year's meeting is also intended for professionals in the field of working with young people from vulnerable groups in both the governmental and non-governmental sectors, domestic and foreign practitioners and academics or researchers, and ultimately users - young people from vulnerable groups. It is customary to talk and discuss the latter a lot, but we don't give them enough of a say to be able to speak about themselves as experts from experience. The ethics of participation dictates that the user participates in the problem and solution as a competent interlocutor, and in accordance with this paradigm, we subtitled this year's

"WITH YOUTH ABOUT YOUTH!"

In addition to the novelty of the "living library", the conference will emphasize current challenges and the search for new knowledge, guidelines, approaches, examples of good practices and ideas, as well as the mutual exchange of opinions and experiences, networking and the establishment of new professional (international) partnerships and support.

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Aim and objectives



Aim and objectives



Overall aim

The overall aim of the conference is to exchange approaches and practices among professionals, present examples of good methods, learn about new approaches, and of course, deepen the expertise on various topics. We are also looking forward to exchange informal views on education and related topics.

Objectives

The basis of the conference is the question of programs and/or approaches which can provide at-risk youth with the support that is tailored to their needs, develop their competencies that will enable them a greater degree of social inclusion and autonomy, and empower them to overcome personal hardships and challenges.

The international conference will follow the latest guidelines on understanding at-risk youth, the challenges they face and examples of good practice that successfully respond to the needs of young people to be able to overcome the challenges posed by the social conditions of the 21st century.

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The conference



The conference



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The program of the conference consists of a plenary module in the beginning of each day - 2 key speakers from different countries will present within thematic section their views of working with young people with behavioural and emotional challenges. After the plenary session there will be presentations by 30 selected professionals every day who will present various 25 minutes contributions on topics related to the four topics of the conference. From 90 contributions in total, you will be able to choose the ones that interest you and attend only in the hall where the chosen topic or presentation will take place. You will be able to pass between the halls as you wish. The first day of the conference will be dedicated to networking for possible new partnerships in various international cooperation projects within the Erasmus+ programs. The official program of the conference starts on Friday 7th June at 11h45 and will finish on Sunday 9th at 17h30.

However, we would like to ask to the foreigner participants to arrive to Slovenia one day earlier as we have an activity prepared on Thursday evening for all of you, a sparkling wine cellar tour and tasting. If you can't arrive that day please inform coordinator and we will try to find some individual solution or you will have to come by your own to the venue.

When you book your trip, please make sure you arrive at Radenci before 18:00 h on Thursday 6th of June to join the visit to the wine cellar.

Thank you for respecting this request.

The conference



Languages

The official languages of the conference are Slovenian, Serbian, Croatian and English.

All contributions will be simultaneously translated to English via the ZOOM link, which you can access on your phone or special device and follow the lecture.

Profile of participants

The profile of conference participants and lecturers will be very diverse:

- youth workers, social workers,
- primary and secondary school teachers,
- faculty lecturers,
- project leaders and educators involved in youth work,
- judges, psychiatric workers, others.

Timetable

<https://konferenca.mdj.si/en/programme/>

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Thematic sections of the conference



Thematic sections of the conference

1

INNOVATIVE FORMS OF
APPROACHES IN THE FIELD OF
SPORT AND ART IN EDUCATION
AND EDUCATION

2

THE PATH TO IDENTITY

3

YOUNG PEOPLE'S MENTAL HEALTH

4

COOPERATION WITH
PARENTS - METHODS,
APPROACHES, TECHNIQUES

Thematic sections of the conference

1. INNOVATIVE FORMS OF APPROACHES IN THE FIELD OF SPORT AND ART IN EDUCATION AND EDUCATION

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In educational work with children and adolescents with emotional and behavioural challenges, a variety of sports, arts and cultural activities, which is why we maintain the content strand dedicated to them.

The focus of the contributions should be on innovation and effectiveness of approaches to sport and arts activities in which we as professionals recognise the important contribution to the well-being of the populations we are working with at the conference.

For young people, who are more vulnerable due to their characteristics and lifestyles, education, both formal and non-formal, is of the utmost importance, even though it is often more difficult to access. Non-formal forms of education as well as adaptation and creativity in formal education offer young people the opportunity to discover life's opportunities, learn social skills, develop potential, strengthen weak areas and orient them towards creative leisure activities linked to their interests.

This theme seeks contributions related to arts, culture and sport. We will be interested in new, up-to-date forms and methods of teaching and education, involving the use of various didactic aids, media and adaptations in the education system. This theme also includes non-formal forms of work in the field of arts and sport, presentations on different project-based forms of education and specialised programmes and approaches in organisations to address the educational challenges of young people from vulnerable groups.

Thematic sections of the conference

2. THE PATH TO IDENTITY

13 Adolescence is the period that separates adulthood from childhood; it is a time of intense development during which not only a young person's body is shaped, but also their personality matures. The qualities, abilities and weaknesses that they carry within themselves are linked to what happens in the family, which offers early life experiences. External influences can foster the development, but when an individual comes out of childhood too vulnerable and insufficiently resilient, the demands and pressures of adolescence can be too much of a challenge. In the process of identity formation, the adolescent is expected to become independent of parents and significant others, while facing a number of challenges.

Even today, adolescents' identity forms reflect their social, value, expressive and activist beliefs and preferences. Even for professionals, newer and less well-known identity forms among young people emerge in the field of sexual orientation, gender identities and even different entities (e.g. furies) and challenge understanding in several areas. Among adolescents with mental health challenges, self-harm behaviour and other forms of deviant behaviour, we observe the emergence of a distinct subcultural field and related identification. All forms of adolescent identity are co-shaped by social networks, which in their own way change and expand the space of possible identities.

Thematic sections of the conference

2. THE PATH TO IDENTITY

In this thematic strand, we expect to see a variety of content that reveals how we deal with young people's identities in our practical work and engagement with them, in our counselling work and in other forms of work. Contributions should describe how and to what end professionals address these topics with young people, and what are the effective tools, approaches and ways to ensure that young people's identity exploration is not undermined by potentially risky behaviours. Contributions should include ways of helping young people, suggestions for a systemic approach, identify the role of public services and different forms of help and support.

Thematic sections of the conference

3. YOUNG PEOPLE'S MENTAL HEALTH

Adolescence has always been a period marked by change and important decisions that affect a young person's future life. In recent years, the topic of mental health has been raised more and more in relation to young people. Particular attention has been paid to the mental health of young people with emotional and behavioural challenges, as they do not have the same conditions and coping capacities as their peers in the process of becoming independent, which is influenced by their experiences, inappropriate educational approaches and dysfunctional family patterns. The powerlessness of schools, institutions and gaps in systemic support for individuals (e.g. unresponsiveness of CSDs, (in)accessibility of counselling services) are also increasingly influencing the development and progression of emotional, behavioural and, in some cases, mental health challenges. We are also still witnessing the effects of the isolation and closure of schools during the epidemic of C19. Social networks are having an increasing impact on young people's mental health, often linked to online violence and various forms of abuse.

In this thematic set, we will discuss the most common protective and risk factors for mental health challenges in young people and what coping strategies are most commonly used; how the systems we live in affect our well-being and why; which mental health challenges and disorders are most common among young people and why; what is the state of support programmes at national level and their strengths and weaknesses; what young people miss when seeking help; what are the new and innovative approaches and methods of work that are proving effective in helping young people in need. We invite contributions from practitioners and researchers in the field.

Thematic sections of the conference

4. COOPERATION WITH PARENTS – METHODS, APPROACHES, TECHNIQUES

Vulnerable young people often come from families with a variety of dysfunctional patterns in relationships that significantly shape the environment in which they grow up. As each family is unique, it is important to understand the uniqueness of the relationships between family members and that the family itself is a source of help to improve the situation and can provide the well – being of each and everyone involved in the family ecosystem.

Cooperation between parents (guardians, foster carers) and professionals is important to achieve changes that allow for the optimal development of children, adolescents and their families, not only for development, but also for correction, compensation and empowerment in the process of treatment and work with the individual.

For professionals, dealing with the family is a challenge and often a source of uncertainty: how to design the helping process to reach and empower the family, without making them more vulnerable. The family, as the basic building block of society, is not only confronted with educational dilemmas, but is also faced with multiple tasks and responsibilities in the social environment, which is why the profession needs to continuously identify and monitor how society influences families and where and how it can find new and effective places of support and solutions to bring about change.

Thematic sections of the conference

4. COOPERATION WITH PARENTS – METHODS, APPROACHES, TECHNIQUES

In this section you are invited to share with us contributions or experiences that show innovative forms and methods of working with parents and other family members, including possible adaptations and possible didactic aids and media. This theme also includes informal forms of working with parents and families, presentations of different programmes, specialised programmes and approaches taken by organisations and institutions in working with professionals and parents. We also welcome contributions that address the question of how to take a systemic and holistic approach to supporting families and young people's significant others, what the role of public services is, and what can be done with different forms of help and support for the well-being of the young person.

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Travel information



Location

Radenci, Slovenia

The conference will take place in Radenci, a small town in northeastern Slovenia, in a region of thermal and mineral springs and vineyards.

It is a well-known spa town from 1833, when a new source of mineral water was discovered and the town developed into a popular health resort.

Nowadays, Radenci welcomes many visitors attracted by its favourable climate and, of course, the natural spring water.



Hotel info

Venue

Participants will be hosted in Hotel Radin****.

It is one of the four hotels that are a part of the Spa & Health Resort Zdravilišče Radenci, Slovenia.

<https://www.sava-hotels-resorts.com/en/zdravilisce-radenci>



Hotel info

Accommodation

Participants will share a room with another person of the same gender. Every room has a private bath or shower. Towels, linens and basic toiletries will be provided by the hotel.

Participants will have access to some of the hotel's facilities: fitness room, swimming pool and sauna (beauty or health treatments are not included).

The hotel has free WIFI.

Meals

Full board (breakfast, lunch and dinner) will be included, plus coffee breaks.

Breakfast, lunch and dinner will take place in the restaurant of the hotel (buffet service).

In case of any special dietary needs or allergies please contact the coordinator.

Thank you.



How? When?



Participants are responsible for booking their own trip.

Nearby airports are:

GRZ - Graz, Austria (60 km)

ZAG - Zagreb, Croatia (100 km)

LJU - Ljubljana, Slovenia (130 km)

TRS - Trieste, Italy (290 km)

-From Ljubljana

On 6th of June, a private bus from Ljubljana to the venue will be available (20€ both ways).

Bus will pick up participants at Ljubljana airport at 16h00 and in Ljubljana bus and train station at 16h30.

If you would like to join the bus, please make sure you arrive on time and let us know.

On 9th of June, there will be also a bus from Radenci to Ljubljana airport and to Ljubljana bus and train station. In order to join the bus, make sure your flight/train/bus back home from Ljubljana is not BEFORE 20h00.

- From other airports

You can check transportation companies as [GoOpti www.goopti.com](http://www.goopti.com) (if you travel with colleagues it will be cheaper if you make the reservation together).

**Please arrive to Radenci
on 6th June
before 18h00.**

Thank you!

Travel costs

- Accommodation with full board, conference participation fee, visa cost (if needed) and travel cost (according to distance calculator) will be provided and reimbursed by Erasmus+.

Travels costs (plane, train, bus, car) will be calculated in accordance with the distance calculator provided by European Commission and reimbursed up to the maximums detailed.

- The organizers will reimburse all your travel costs from your home city to the venue and back, showed in original boarding passes, tickets and invoices, according to the rules of Erasmus+ program, as mentioned above. In case of lower travel costs participant will only be **reimbursed for the exact amount of the travel cost**.

- All participants must keep and send to coordinator original tickets, invoices and visas.

- Participants using the private bus from Ljubljana to Radenci on the 6th of June and from Radenci to Ljubljana on the 9th will have 20€ deducted from the reimbursement.

Reimbursement

The reimbursement will be made by bank transfer directly to the participant or partner organization after the conference once:

1- Jarše youth home coordinator has received the travel tickets, receipts and related documents.

2- Online final evaluation is filled out by the participant.



Please remember to keep and send to coordinator all tickets and invoices for reimbursement.

Travel costs



Distance calculator

Distance Calculator

Get an estimate of the grant amount for people taking part in the Erasmus+ programme through your organisation.

Erasmus+

Travel distance	Green travel	Non-Green travel
10 – 99 km	56 EUR	28 EUR
100 – 499 km	285 EUR	211 EUR
500 – 1999 km	417 EUR	309 EUR
2000 – 2999 km	535 EUR	395 EUR
3000 – 3999 km	785 EUR	580 EUR
4000 – 7999 km	1188 EUR	1188 EUR

<https://erasmus-plus.ec.europa.eu/resources-and-tools/distance-calculator>

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Other information



Other information



- If you arrive early to Ljubljana and would like to visit the city, there is a shuttle bus from airport to the city centre. <https://www.lju-airport.si/en/transport/shuttle-services/>. Here you can find more information about what to see in Ljubljana <https://www.visitljubljana.com/en/visitors/>

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- If you are planning to stay in Slovenia outside the conference dates, organizers' approval is required beforehand as travel tickets with different dates from the official travel days purchased without organizers' approval **may not be reimbursed**.

- **Currency** in Slovenia is EURO.

- **Weather** will be around 25 degrees. We recommend you bring clothes considered comfortable for these temperatures. Weather forecast can be checked here: www.accuweather.com/en/si/ljubljana/299198/june-weather/299198

COVID and Safety

At this moment Slovenia does not have any regulations regarding covid, for example, the use of masks is not mandatory. There are no restrictions for entering Slovenia. Participants are responsible for their own health and for acting responsibly.

Having a health travel insurance and the European Health Card is highly recommended.

Other information



Get-together in the evenings

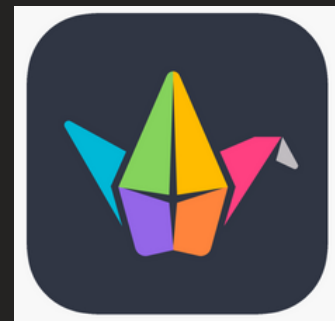
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On Thursday evening we are planning a visit to a wine cellar, where you will be introduced to a taste of Slovene culture and customs. On Friday and Saturday, we will organize **international evenings**, where you will have the opportunity to present delicacies of **your choice (typical national dishes/drinks/products)** from your country, and to present your organization and country. Keep in mind that the presentation time will be limited to a maximum of 3 minutes/country, as there will be aprox. 26 different countries at the conference. 13 countries will present themselves on Friday and 13 countries on Saturday. We will send you the schedule of presentations later. On Saturday after the international evening, we will organize an introductory evening with traditional Slovenian dance and music in a nearby village. We hope that you will also join us at other informal gatherings.

Social media

Join us on social media and stay in the know!

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and final tips



Da

Yes

Ne

No

Živjo

Hi!

Dober dan

Good day

Hvala

Thank you

Lahko noč

Good night

Dobro jutro

Good morning

Adijo

Bye

Malo

A little

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Contact

us



Contact us



Please feel free to contact our coordinator for any questions or concerns you may have.

Let us know of any changes that might be relevant in attending the conference as soon as possible, such as:

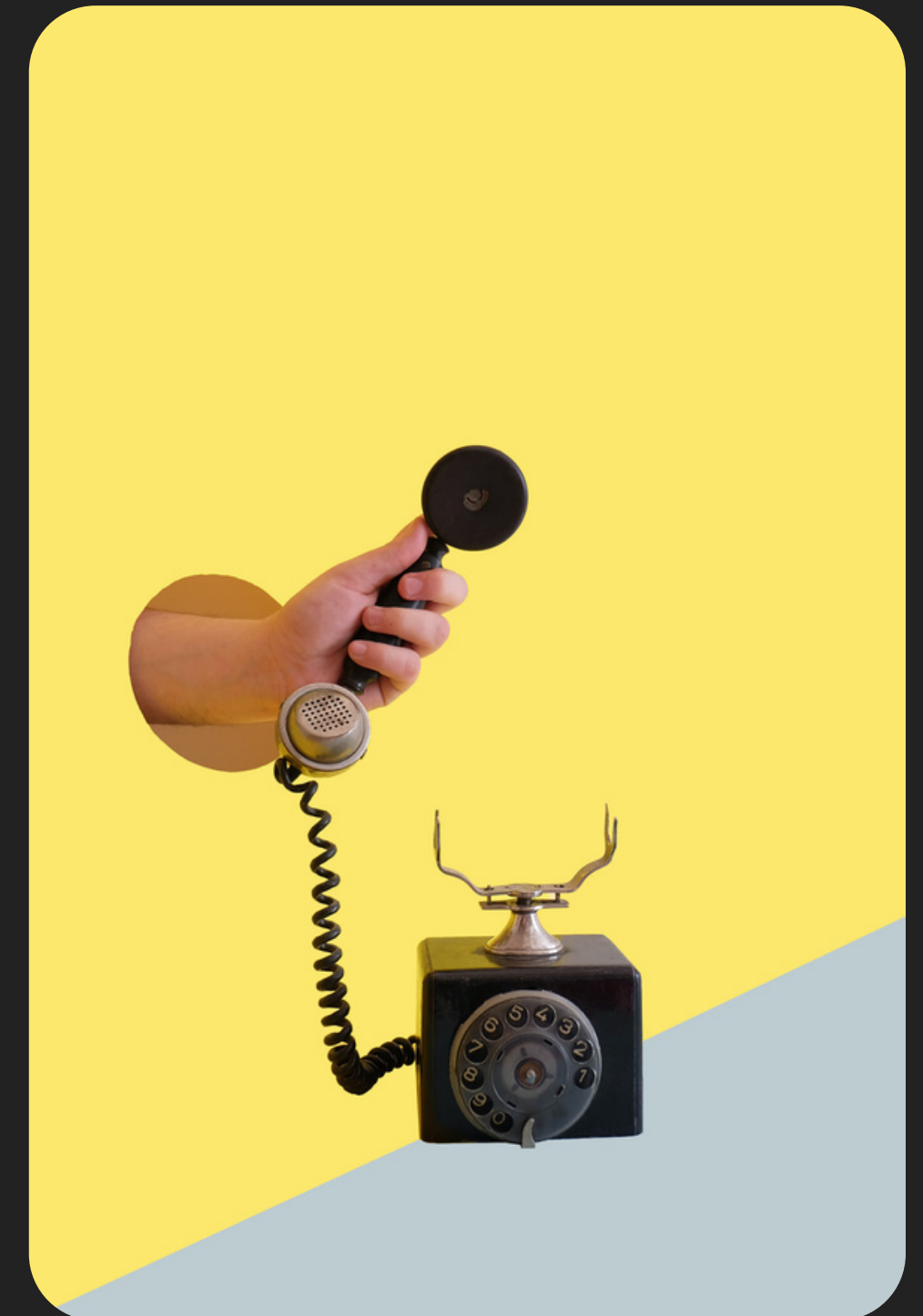
- Your non-participation in the course.
- All travel related issues, including costs and the exact itinerary.
- Your contact details.
- Anything else relevant to us for the organisation of conference.

Note: all information shall be treated confidentially.

Tomi Martinjak - coordinator for foreigner participants:

Contact: tomi@mdj.si, tel: +386 41 360 233.

Our main goal is to ensure that participants not only enjoy their time in Slovenia but also receive a significant professional benefit from attending this conference.



Looking forward
to meeting you in
Slovenia!





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