

GEA Cooperativa Sociale

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GEA Social Cooperative

About us

Gea is a non-profit Social Cooperative. Founded in 2004 in Padua, has as main goal

the promotion and the realization of processes of integration and active citizenship of immigrant individuals, families and communities.

Gea is composed of members with different professional backgrounds developed in various working contexts, all focused on the thematic of immigration and integration. Communication and intercultural integration experts, cultural and linguistic mediators, psychologists and experts in migration law and international cooperation also collaborate stably with Gea.

Goals and How we work

Gea's primary goal is **the realization of integration paths and exercise of rights and duties of migrant citizens in all areas of life in the Italian and European societies**, first of all through the coaching, guidance and support to immigrant individuals and groups in their relation with institutions, public and private services and with the civil society in all its social, cultural and religious aggregative forms. The main instrument of Gea's work is the Linguistic and Cultural Mediation, thought as a service that acts in the relations between institutions, structures, operators, immigrants and territory in order to promote a deep understanding of the dynamics triggered by the meeting of foreign users and services.

Areas of intervention

Gea promotes, designs and manages Linguistic and Cultural Mediation services and training paths in social-health, scholastic, cultural, judicial and job areas. It promotes educational, cultural, editorial and recreational activities and initiatives aimed at helping dialogue, integration and cohabitation. It also promotes projects and initiatives for cultural exchanges and international cooperation.

Quality

- **Certification of the quality management system** CISQUERT for:
 1. Planning and supplying of Linguistic and Cultural Mediation services;
 2. Project and planning in social areas.
- **Mirasole award of the Humanitas Foundation** for the project "Integrated services for linguistic and cultural mediation."
- Partner and operative office in Triveneto for **Oxfam Italia** activities.



Main experiences

SOCIAL AND HEALTH AREA

- ✓ **Cultural and Linguistic Mediation services (MLC) in A. Ulss n° 15 and A. Ulss n° 6**
Since 2005, GEA projects and manages for A. Ulss n° 15 “Alta Padovana” and A. Ulss n° 6 Vicenza the cultural and linguistic mediation service in hospitals and social health districts for immigrant users and families; guarantees supervision, training and coordination of mediators
- ✓ **2009 Project/FEI/PROG. 2349 “Health without borders”**
Annual intervention approved by the Ministry of the Interior on behalf of European Fund for Integration of Third Countries citizens, to strength stability and quality of the MLC services in health and social area, promotion of information and self orientation of migrant communities, modeling and dissemination of the service offered.
- ✓ **“Interculturality with foreign citizens”**
Financed by Cassa di Risparmio Padova e Rovigo Foundation, aimed at reinforcing networks of services for school integration of immigrant students and families.
- ✓ **“Health assistance in a multicultural context”**
2006: project and management of training course for staff of A. Ulss 15 (hospitals and social health districts) on help and care of users in the intercultural context.

EDUCATION

- ✓ **Regional Program of initiatives and interventions for immigration**
Since 2005: promotion of the socio-scholastic integration of teenagers and women, strengthening of networks and inter-institutional coordination.
- ✓ **2010 Project/FEI/PROG. 7040 “F.AR.E. – Famiglie, Alunni, Reti- INSIEME”**
Annual intervention for the promotion of professional interventions and instruments aimed at supporting, reinforcing and spreading services for the welcoming and the scholastic integration of foreign students and their familie.
- ✓ **“New generation integration paths”**
Biennial project aimed at reinforcing the territorial network of instruments and services for the scholastic integration of immigrant students and families in Alta Padovana.
- ✓ **“Intercultural education”**
2006: training intervention on intercultural education, migration and integration for professional training institutes.
- ✓ **SESTANTE**
Pilot project on the rights/duties to education and training, welcoming and orienteering with foreign families and teenagers.

RIGHTS

- ✓ **“The invisible signs” – Prevention and contrast of FGM**
Partner of a training, research and information project on female genital mutilation’s contrast and women’s rights

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- ✓ **“Otherwise different” – Security freedom and justice Dep. European Commission**

European project of research, information and sharing about the fight against racism, xenophobia, and anti-Semitism, promotion of dialogue among young Muslims and Jews.

WORK AREA

- ✓ **Job Orienteering in Alta Padovana**

Partner in a project of job orienteering for unemployed at risk of social exclusion, with personal tutoring activities and job placement

- ✓ **Stop & go**

Partner in a project of job orienteering for employed and unemployed adults, with activities of information and welcoming, personal tutoring, mediation, pre-training courses