

# Abstract: Together into adulthood - Moving forward in life (YEE)

The project aims at supporting the putting into practice the financial, social, educational and health care rights of children and adolescents in child protection aftercare warranted by the Child Welfare Act or Integration Act. The project responds to the proposals of Child welfare aftercare reformation task force (2019), making use of the aftercare modelling outcomes (Yliruka ym. 2020) and it takes into account the concern on silo mentality in the system and the ethos, and the principles highlighted in the report of the Working group led by Archbishop Kari Mäkinen (2020).

The project aims at transformation in the modes of operation on three levels, the societal, local, and individual, in which the goals are being coordinated and examined systemically. Preparing aftercare reformation calls for multilevel development.

- 1) **Goals:** The project amplifies the actualisation of young people's rights and equality. It aims to prevent inequality and social exclusion, and to advance equality and participation. The project aims to support equality and inclusion also under the pandemic circumstances.

**Actions:** Supporting activities and co-operation with young people in aftercare at all levels: in social work when developing case plans, co-developing services locally, and keeping young people's rights and equality in mind to achieve the goals when co-operating nationwide.

**Outcome:** Fundamental issues that hinder the actualisation of equality have been discovered and reported in every level. Propositions for necessary actions for supporting health, social services, education, employment, habitation, social and family relations, and reaching independence have been gathered.

- 2) **Goals:** The project compiles a knowledge base to support development work.

**Actions:** Data on municipal services and needs of young persons will be collected. Surveys on the supportive measures required by the Child welfare after-care and the Integration Act will be performed. The municipalities, partners and the young persons will be informed of the outcomes through multiple channels. The outcomes and conclusions of the investigation will be provided for and discussed together with national and regional actors.

**Outcome:** Mutual discussion of the gathered information leads to changes in actors' and young persons' understanding of the situation, and the outcomes have a developing impact on local practices. Increasing awareness helps young persons to more readily demand supportive measures suited to their needs, and such needs come into light in the municipalities.

- 3) **Goals:** The project develops integrated service and operation models for responding to the needs of the target group via amplifying cooperation between the public sector and non-profit sector.



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The project also amplifies coordination and young people's participation in developing the service and activities.

Actions: Co-operation and peer development between sub-projects is supported by workshops for reflecting upon experiences and shaping new models.

Outcome: New co-operation networks have been developed locally, service integration and models of youth participation have been piloted, good practices have been discovered and learned from, new co-operation structures have been generated, processes in case planning have been modelled, dialogical practice culture has been amplified and client trust in the services has been strengthened. Good practices which work in the everyday life of the young people have been collected and distributed nationwide.

- 4) Goals: The project amplifies cross-sectional co-operation and creates new kinds of networks for development, learning and influencing. It also creates practice models for national and local activity. National and local operating models are created to promote the future reform of aftercare.

Actions: Workshops and development fora are organized together with young people. Proposals and initiatives are heard and collected through the process from young people and professionals alike.

Outcome: Multifaceted and inclusive evaluation of the service needs of the young people becomes more common, as well as listening to their plans for better everyday life. Novel co-operation networks function as fora for development, learning and influencing both nationwide and locally. Peer networks of experts by experience function, and young people participate in the development. Their suggestions in their issues have been heard, they know how to ask for help and demand their rights. Co-development forums will be created to be able to influence the reform of the practices. By spreading our message in different governmental sectors, the overall effectivity will increase, and the operating models developed in the project will be rooted in practices. Gender perspective will be mainstreamed in the project processes. In practice this means regarding the specificity of men, women and intergenerations, and aiming to diminish segregation. The project advances societal equality by strengthening, also under the pandemic, opportunities for participation for young people with experiences of social exclusion.

The project is executed together with the Finnish institute for health and welfare, Deaconess Foundation, social competence centre of Pohjanmaa region SONet BOTNIA, University of Applied Sciences of Seinäjoki and Pesäpuu ry. In addition to that, all the nation's social competence centres co-operate with the project, Päijät-Häme Verso more closely. It is funded by the European Social Fund (ESF) 1/2020–2023. Supervising Authority is the Ministry of social affairs and health in Finland.

More information (in Finnish): [www.thl.fi/yee](http://www.thl.fi/yee)



SeAMK

SONet BOTNIA



LASTENSUOJELUN  
KEHITTÄMISYHTEISÖ



Diakonissa-  
laitos

Kestävää kasvua ja työtä -ohjelma

Vipuvoimaa  
EU:lta  
2014–2020



Euroopan unioni  
Euroopan sosiaalirahasto