

Partner Presentation Form

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Type of organisation:

SME School University Public Authority
 Training No Profit NGO

Other (Specify)

Fields of action :

SMEs Youth Universities Public Authorities
 Equal opportunities Schools Unemployed

Other (Specify)

Description of the organisation

In the seventies, a group of Rotary Clubs and Lions Clubs from the Lombardy region created AIDD, an organization of volunteers for the prevention of youth distress.

In recent years, AIDD has expanded its activities by addressing new issues of youth distress, including drugs, alcohol, bullying, cyberbullying, smoking, video games, the internet, game therapy, gambling, anorexia, bulimia.

The inspiring principle is to take responsibility for the "primary prevention of youth distress", only partially supported by the institutional authorities, which is expressed in the recognition of risk factors and identification of the actions aimed at preventing, mitigating or eliminating them. In addition, the motto of the association is "to serve" the people, in this case the youth, in need, as inspired by founding members. AIDD's prevention activities take a strong pedagogical and educational angle, thanks to the contribution of its staff composed of psychologists, pedagogists, pharmacologists and legal personnel.

Over the years, AIDD has specialised in the following areas of intervention:

- Information, awareness raising and training courses aimed at reinforcing education and psychophysical health of young people in primary and secondary schools, ensuring the involvement of teachers, pupils and parents and with the use of "pedagogical itineraries" developed by expert psychologists and pedagogists
- Organization of conferences and forums, aimed at implementing the level of awareness of authorities, institutions and operators involved in the youth field. AIDD focuses especially on youth as a tricky developmental age, which requires strong, concrete and timely interventions to avoid degenerating towards the "deviance" of the risk factors identified at embryonic level
- Organization of events, also with fundraising purposes, aimed at institutional activities

Just to give an example, during the 2018/2019 academic year, AIDD has implemented educational pathways targeting 3.725 students, 460 teachers, 1.550 parents, for a total of 1.100 educational hours.

Experience of the organization in previous European projects

None.

Experience and Expertise of the organization in the project's subject area

In the past three years, AIDD has conducted, at regional level, the project titled "La Vita in un Sorso", an educational programme expressly developed to address alcoholism among the youth. Almost 2.000 people, including students, parents and teachers, have benefited of this project so far, reporting high rates of satisfaction and relevance.

AIDD has conducted La Vita in un Sorso in the following schools: Tolstoj, Cardarelli, Pisacane Poerio, Munari, Cantù, Calasanzio, Rinnovata Pizzigoni, Capponi, Mauri in the municipality of Milan, and in primary and secondary schools in Lombardy region, namely in the towns of Cinisello B.mo, Arese, Erba, Sesto San Giovanni, Melegnano, Concorezzo, Trezzo sull'Adda, Garbagnate, Rho.

The schools where AIDD has worked have provided with testimonials from teachers, parents and pupils who are in favour of replicating the courses, as they have felt involved, thanks to the adopted methodology developed and implemented by their pedagogists, psychologists, pharmacologist and lawyers.

Awareness raising events have also been organised in various departments of the municipality of Milan. These events are open to the public and they engage key stakeholders and policy makers.

Contributions that can be provided to the project

AIDD will play a two-fold role in the CUT! project.

The organisation will be the scientific leader for the development of project's outputs, focusing on the contents and making sure that the materials that will be produced will respond to the actual needs of young girls and boys, their parents and educators. They have a long-standing experience on educational activities for the prevention of alcohol abuse and other risky behaviours among young people. They are staffed with psychologists, pedagogists and doctors who are able to address the subject of the project in a holistic way, taking into account all facets of the problem.

In addition, AIDD will be responsible for the creation of media products, such as the logo and website of the project, the videos included in IO1, the graphic editing of all materials produced by partners.

In a nutshell, AIDD will ensure a proper communication and production of project's intellectual outputs and messages, both from a content and graphic point of view.

Reasons of involvement in the project

AIDD wishes to put its experience at the service of youth beyond its local and regional communities, as the topic of alcohol use and abuse is more and more urgent to be tackled both at national and European level. However, to be effective, it is fundamental to have specific guidance, which AIDD is well placed to provide.

AIDD is willing to contribute to the education of European youth for a healthy and happy life, free of risky and negative behaviours.

Contact Person's Experience and Expertise

Stefano Sgarella works as video producer, editor and director for various Italian universities, public institutions, foundations and no-profit associations, specializing in projects with social and educational backgrounds. Since 2010 he has been actively collaborating with the International Labor Organization for the international campaign against the exploitation of child labor. He is part of the Board of Directors of AIDD.

Jessica Colombo has a ten-year experience in the management of international projects addressing social and educational issues. She has worked with different international organisations, such as the European Commission, especially on Erasmus+ funded projects, the World Bank, Ministries of Education and public institutions of various countries, and UN agencies (e.g. WFP, FAO, UNFPA). She is also an experienced trainer and has participated in a number of research projects.

Rita Subioli is a psychologist and psychotherapist working with teenagers and adults. Graduated in Clinical and Health Psychology, she has specialized in New Addiction Psychology. She has collaborated with associations and private centers that deal with substances dependence and behavioral addictions (e.g. internet and video games addiction, gambling addictions, emotional addiction), with a focus on adolescence and social withdrawal (Hikikomori). The clinical activity has oriented her training towards an integrated model, which allows to decline the therapeutic approach according to needs and singularity of patients.

Alberto Parola is Professor of Experimental Pedagogy at the Department of Philosophy and Educational Sciences of the University of Turin. He also teaches Methodology of Mediaeducational Research and Technologies of Education and Learning. He has experience in developing multimedia products (television formats and distance learning courses) and was part of the group of experts of the European project Emedus - European Media Literacy Education Study. Currently, he is President of the Interdepartmental Research Center for Cinema, Education and Media of the University of Turin (Cinedumedia).

Veronica Gariboldi is a graphic and web designer and photographer working with artists and no-profit associations. She delivers tailor-made projects taking care of all the stages of the design process, from brainstorming to the realization.