



moninaisvoimaa

Development of family caregiving with the help of a substitute model (OKSA)

Project (Co-funded by the ERDF and the Finnish Ministry of Social Affairs and Health in 2004–2006)

The project will experiment a substitute system model of family caregiving on the regional level with the aim to develop the model to the national level use. The new operation model will create cooperation between the existing networks and the public, private and third sector. The operation model aims at supporting the work of family caregivers and at increasing the variety of home services.

Target group

In the substitute training of family caregivers the focus will be on persons who have considered entrepreneurship in the care sector as well as on persons who want to have an independent, versatile job.

Benefits

- Support to the work of family caregivers by offering them flexible services based on their needs.
- Development of a new, cost-effective operation model for the present and future needs of home and family care.
- Increasing of entrepreneurship and strengthening of the present business activities in the care sector.
- Increasing of know-how through substitute training.

Development of family caregiving with the help of a substitute model is a sub-regional project going on in the Joensuu region. The project offers alternative services to support family caregivers. The project aims both at training of substitutes for family caregivers and at encouragement of people in the care sector towards entrepreneurship. Also improvement of cooperation between the public, private and third sector with the aim to help the demand and offer to meet with each other is among the project's objectives.

The project's substitute training involves persons with either professional education or long-term experience from their own sector. Therefore the training focuses mainly on entrepreneurship education and on the model of independent working.

One concrete example of the cooperation between the public, private and third sector is the contact secretary hired jointly with the registered association of family caregivers in the Joensuu region. The contact secretary acts as an intermediary between the substitutes and those in need of help, including family caregivers, elderly people living alone and families with children. In practical substitute work all people staying at home can be customers, even if the official criteria for family caregiving were not fulfilled.

Of the substitutes trained in the project one part offer their services through the cooperative Pohjois-Karjalan Napakka and one part work as independent entrepreneurs. After the training the substitute activities are pure business and will not be funded through the EU or other support. Also other opportunities offered by the Finnish society which are not widely known (e.g. domestic help credit) will be introduced in the work in practice.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT US!

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