

ECPA/BPC 2009

Please answer the following questions in English.

1. Is this your country's ECPA entry or is it an additional project? (Only one ECPA entry per country plus up to two other projects.)

Swedish ECPA entry 2009

2. What is the title of the project?

MUMIN – Maria Ungdom Motivational Interventions.

3. Please give a short general description of the project.

Mumin, Maria Ungdom Motivational Interventions, is a collaborative project involving the police, the healthcare sector and the social services, with the objective of preventing youths from finding themselves in a state of permanent social exclusion and becoming persistent offenders. The project involves ensuring that youths who are arrested for drug-related crimes are quickly provided access to care and treatment. Within a few hours of the arrest, the police and a care team are to have held discussions with the youth and his or her parents and attempted to motivate them to enter into a care contract as an alternative to traditional sanctions. Early detection, in combination with quick counter measures, is deemed to be an important factor when it comes to stopping drug abuse and preventing continued criminality. The collaboration between police, healthcare and the social services means that youths who would otherwise only come into contact with one of the collaborating parties now come into contact with all three within a few hours of their arrest.

4. Please describe the objective(s) of the project?

One of the most important objectives of MUMIN is to ensure early intervention and to reduce the processing time between police interventions in which youths are suspected of drug offences and the youths coming into contact with the social services and the care system for drug abusers. Reducing the time taken by this process also reduces the risk that the youths will develop more serious forms of drug abuse and become involved in the criminality that often accompanies this drug abuse.

Another important objective has been to chart and identify the group of youths that become the object for the MUMIN measures and to motivate them both to start participating in measures quickly and to establish contacts with the healthcare sector.

An additional objective has been to motivate youths arrested for drug offences to choose contract care instead of the traditional sanctions awarded by prosecutors and

courts in cases involving youths.

5. How was the project implemented?

The project was initiated in August 2004 with assistance from the Mobilisation Against Drugs. Prior to the start of the project there was a very clear need for collaboration in this area. The background to the project was that the police were repeatedly coming across the same youths in unsuitable environments, despite the fact that these youths had previously given urine samples that had tested positive for drugs. The long processing times at the social services were seen as one factor that contributed to this situation. Long processing times were also a well-known problem in the drug dependency care sector. All three actors were agreed that a more effective and intensive collaboration would lead to more youths being prevented from developing a more persistent drug abuse and being helped to desist from their drug abuse. This would also lead to a reduction in new recruitment to drug use.

In the course of 2004, the Youth Section of the Criminal Investigation Division at the Stockholm County Police Authority also expressed a desire for, and the need to, develop a collaboration with the social services out in the field. The conditions for a future collaboration were investigated and this led to a decision to continue developing this work within the framework of the MUMIN project.

Since January 2007 the work has been implemented at the Criminal Investigation Division's Youth Section. The project has been evaluated at the research unit at Maria Ungdom with the assistance of the Mobilisation Against Drugs, and the evaluation is appended to this entry form. The work has been well received at the level of the police authority and the authority's plan of operations for 2009 states that the working method is to be extended throughout the police authority. This process has been started in the Västerort district, among others, where the work has both been implemented and further elaborated over the course of 2009.

Since the MI (Motivational Interviewing) method constitutes an important part of the project, training courses have been implemented for personnel working with the project. The Maria Ungdom centre is the City of Stockholm's central unit focused on youths aged up to 20 years. The centre comprises three units: the investigation and treatment unit, the support centre for young crime victims and mediation, and the emergency reception unit. The investigation and treatment unit works with youths with substance abuse problems or who are at risk of developing a problem with substance abuse. The unit operates in close collaboration with the Stockholm County Council Substance Dependency Centre.

During the project period, it became clear that there was a need for an extension of the collaboration between the Youth Section of the Criminal Investigation Division and the youth reception clinic of the Stockholm City social services administration. Over

the course of a trial period of four weekends, an extended, more offensively focused collaboration was tested, which involved social workers riding and working together with officers from the Criminal Investigation Division directly in connection with arrests and police interviews. This has provided the social services with access to the destructive environments in which children, youths and young adults spend time, which increases the likelihood of the early identification of children and youths who are at risk of developing drug abuse and criminality. Since September of 2007, this pilot project has been implemented as an integral part of the MUMIN project, since the evaluation of Mumin recommended the development of a specific social worker function of this kind in the operational work involving both the police and the social services. In order to maximise the opportunities for collaboration, the police have provided an office for a social worker on their own premises. In addition, the working hours associated with this position have been adapted to fit those of the police. At the same time, a provisional police station has been established at the City of Stockholm's Maria Ungdom centre.

The project was concluded in December 2006, but has been integrated into the work of all three agencies since January 1st 2007.

6. Were partners involved in planning and/or development and/or implementation of the project? If so, who were they, and what were their roles?

MUMIN constitutes a collaboration between the police, the healthcare sector, the social services, the Youth Section of the Criminal Investigation Division at the Stockholm County Police Authority, the emergency reception unit of the Maria Ungdom centre at the Stockholm City Social Services and Labour Market Administration, and the Stockholm County Council's Stockholm Substance Dependency Centre.

For the police, the new working method means that they work continuously with a social worker. It has also meant that instead of driving to the regular police station with the youths they intervene against as a result of minor drug offences, they instead go to the Maria Ungdom centre, where they conduct drug tests and interview them in the police station that has been established on the Maria Ungdom premises. The police, who have had training in motivational interviewing, then motivate the youth to go upstairs to Maria Ungdom's emergency reception unit, where the care staff conduct an assessment of the youth's drug problems and offer treatment to those in need. In cases in which the social services are involved, it is the social worker who is primarily responsible for conducting the motivational work.

For the social services, the close collaboration with the police means improved opportunities for quickly coming into contact with the youth and his or her parents in order to determine which measures the social services should offer. The newly developed working method also means that a primarily field-based social worker's role has been developed, with social workers now actively participating in the context of police interventions, in interviews and discussions with parents or guardians and when contact is made with the youth's local social services office. The social services function has been adapted in accordance with the needs and working conditions of the Youth Section at the county police Criminal Investigation Division. This means that

those conducting the work are first and foremost on duty during the evening and at night in line with the police's working hours, and that they are accessible in environments from which adults are usually absent. The social worker collects relevant information to provide a basis for the continued processing of the case, and also makes an on-the-spot social assessment and immediately places a report with the relevant social services acute unit when this is required. The social worker also provides crisis support and mobilises the resources in the youth's network/family that are required, as well as conducting the motivational work and establishing contact with relevant treatment, e.g. Stockholm County Council's Substance Dependency Centre.

For the county council, the new working method means that the collaborating parties receive assistance to motivate the youth to seek contact with the care sector. In return, they come into contact with a new and larger group of youths with treatment needs, who can thus be reached and offered care and the opportunity to change their lifestyle more quickly. The idea is that the MUMIN work is to "utilise" the crisis that the youth and his or her family experience in connection with the arrest, and will be able to provide access to measures when the family is at its most receptive to offers of support and assistance.

The youth section of the CRIS organisation (Criminals Return Into Society) has also been involved and has attempted to motivate youths who have declined to participate in additional treatment

7. How did you build in plans to measure the performance of the project?
Has the project been evaluated? How, and by whom?

A database has been established for the MUMIN project, in which it has been possible to compare the group of youths that have been the object of MUMIN measures with youths who have voluntarily sought care. The social situation of the youths has been carefully detailed on the basis of factors such as sex, age, housing situation, forms of substance abuse, psychosocial health, protective factors, and prior contacts with the care sector. By means of this data collection it has been possible to measure whether the working method used in the MUMIN project has produced contacts with a different group of youths from those that the drug abuse care sector comes into contact with through the use of more "traditional" working methods.

Over the course of the project, the police, the social services and the healthcare sector have noted and compared the measures taken in association with youths within the context of the project on a monthly basis. Each month during the project, the police have measured how many youths have been arrested for minor drug offences. These statistics have been compared on a monthly basis with the number of youths that have been the object of motivational measures and that have agreed to undergo treatment within the dependency treatment sector. In a similar way, the youth emergency reception units have also measured MUMIN-related activities, amongst other things in the form of reports made to social services, the number of return visits booked and

how many MUMIN youths have turned up for these return visits.

Over the course of the project, a staff questionnaire has been distributed which has collected information on whether the project has reached the relevant staff in the various organisations that have worked with MUMIN.

The project has been evaluated at the research unit at Maria Ungdom with the assistance of the Mobilisation Against Drugs.

<http://www.fhi.se/PageFiles/4947/MOB2007-mumin-projektet-utvardering-tidiga-insatser-%20mot-ungdomars-narkotikamissbrukpdf.pdf>

8. What were the results? How far were the objectives of the project achieved?

According to the evaluation of the project, 650 individuals were arrested within the framework of the MUMIN project between August 2004 and December 2006. 595 of these were youths (487 males and 108 females). The evaluation shows that 58 percent of the youths who became the object of measures within the MUMIN project were persons that Maria Ungdom had not previously had any contact with. Stated briefly, this means that the MUMIN project led to the identification of a “new” group of youths that had previously been relatively unknown to the dependency care sector. These youths often have serious drug abuse problems, commit large numbers of offences and have a negative attitude towards voluntarily seeking treatment for their drug abuse problems. Immediately following their arrest, these youths were given the opportunity of a counselling interview in order to assess their situation at the provisional police station located on Maria Ungdom’s premises. Approximately 50 percent agreed to the initiation of a treatment contract.

The evaluation presents detailed data on the MUMIN youths’ psychosocial health, which has been compared with that of the youths who have voluntarily contacted the Maria Ungdom centre. The MUMIN youths often present with more extensive drug abuse – primarily of cannabis, more extensive sleep problems, problems with family relationships and psychological problems, and they have more often been the victims of bullying (this finding relates primarily to the girls) than the group of youths who have voluntarily sought care. (see table below)

By means of searches of the case management system maintained by the Prosecution Service (Cåbra) the MUMIN project has been able to note that the proportion of youths (under 18 years of age) who have been issued with waivers of prosecution has increased, and that the number issued with prosecutor’s fines has declined. In order to be issued with a waiver of prosecution, youths are first required to have acknowledged their guilt in relation to a suspected offence, to be in contact with the social services and to draw up a care plan/contract in consultation with the latter.

The project has also meant that actors working in the project have been trained in a special type of counselling method, known as MI, or motivational interviewing,

whose objective is to motivate substance abusing youths to gain an insight into their situation and to seek help voluntarily.

Table showing results of comparison between youths encountered in MUMIN project and youths voluntarily seeking care/treatment for drug problems at the Maria Ungdom centre.

4.3 Additional problems beside drug abuse

	MUMIN, females	Non- Mumin females	MUMIN males	Non- mumin, males
<u>Individual problems</u>				
Depressive symptoms	52*	28*	21	16
Anxiety	44*	24*	12	13
Suicidal ideation	33*	19*	5	6
Suicide attempts	17	9	3	2
Self-harming behaviour	35	23	2	5
Sexual risk behaviour	9	6	2	1
Eating disorders	20*	9*	0	1
Concentrational difficulties	17	11	20	16
Sleep disorders	33*	15*	23*	13*
Disruptive and aggressive behaviour	24*	8*	18	13
Other behavioural problems	15*	6*	12*	6*
<u>Family problems</u>				
Problematic family relationships	52*'	25*	29*	16*
Substance abuse in parents	15	11	7	11
Substance abuse in siblings	11*	3*	4	2
Mental illness/substance abuse in extended family	22*	6*	14*	5*
<u>School and peer group</u>				
Truancy	50*	26*	44*	28*
Other school problems	30*	11*	30*	9*
Been bullied	11	7	4	4
Bullied others	4	1	2	2
<u>Criminality and victimisation</u>				
Criminality	30*	9	50*	21*
Exposure to sexual abuse	13	10	1	0,1
Exposure to physical/emotional abuse	17*	6*	10	6
Other trauma	9*	3*	13	2
Other	22*	5*	12*	4*

*Statistically significant at 95% alpha-level

9. Are there reports or documents available on the project? In print or on the Web? Please, give references to the most relevant ones.

Mobilisation against drugs, Report 2007 The Mumin Project (Muminprojektet), Evaluation of early measures against youths' drug abuse. Kristina Sinadinovic & Ulf Wahlgren

<http://www.fhi.se/PageFiles/4947/MOB2007-mumin-projektet-utvardering-tidiga-insatser-%20mot-ungdomars-narkotikamissbrukpdf.pdf>

10. Please, write here a one page description of the project:

Youths who take large quantities of drugs and who commit drug offences constitute a group at high risk of ending up in a state of permanent social exclusion and persistent criminality. Since 1993, the Swedish police can take blood and urine samples from youths suspected of minor drug offences, but if these youths are not given help to desist from drug use, they commonly become the objects of subsequent police interventions. The MUMIN project attempts to “utilise” the crisis young people can experience following an arrest. The objective is to offer treatment and support to the youths and their families in connection with the arrest, when they are at their most receptive to offers of help and support. Another of the project’s objectives has been to reduce the time between the arrest of young people for minor drug offences and the point when they come into contact with social services and the drug abuse care sector.

The MUMIN, (Maria Ungdom Motivational Interventions), project is a close collaboration between the police, the social services and healthcare. One important aspect of the project has been to establish a provisional police station on the Maria Ungdom premises in Stockholm, and to have field social workers riding alongside the police to reach out to youths. When an arrest is made, the youth is driven directly to the Maria Ungdom centre for drug testing and an interview. Discussions and a treatment contract are offered directly in connection with the arrest. The youth section of the CRIS organisation (Criminals Return Into Society) has also been involved and has attempted to motivate youths who have declined to participate in additional treatment. This fast-track, collaborative chain of investigative and responsive measures constitutes an important method for stopping drug abuse and preventing continued involvement in crime.

An evaluation of MUMIN shows that 650 individuals were arrested between August 2004 and December 2006 within the framework of the project. Of these, 595 were youths. The evaluation shows that 58 percent of the youths who became the object of MUMIN measures had not previously had any contact with the Maria Ungdom centre. Stated briefly, this means that the MUMIN project led to the identification of a “new” group of youths that had previously been relatively unknown to the dependency care sector. These youths often have serious drug problems, commit large numbers of offences and have a negative attitude towards voluntarily seeking drug abuse treatment. Immediately following their arrest, these youths were given the opportunity of a counselling interview to assess their situation at the provisional police station at the Maria Ungdom centre. 50 percent agreed to the initiation of a treatment contract.

The evaluation presents a detailed comparison of the MUMIN youths’ psychosocial health with that of the youths who have voluntarily contacted the Maria Ungdom centre. The MUMIN youths often present with more extensive drug abuse, more extensive sleep problems, problems with family relationships and psychological problems, and they have more often been the victims of bullying. Searches of the Prosecution Service’s case management system show that the proportion of youths issued with waivers of prosecution has increased, and that the number issued with fines has declined. In order to receive a waiver of prosecution, youths are first required to have acknowledged their guilt in relation to a suspected offence, to be in contact with the social services and to draw up a care plan/contract in consultation with the latter. The project has also trained staff working in the project in a special counselling method, known as motivational interviewing, which aims to motivate drug abusing youths to gain an insight into their situation and to seek help voluntarily.

