



European Crime Prevention Award and EUCPN Best Practice Conference 2010 Project Entry Form

The theme for this year's European Crime Prevention Award and EUCPN's Best Practice Conference is ***"A secure home in a safe community, through prevention, community policing and restoration"***.

According to this theme, the projects may focus on:

- the protection and the feeling of being protected against crimes (e.g. domestic burglary, computer crime, domestic violence, theft, itinerant groups, ...)
- the protection of the surroundings in the pursuit of a secure home (e.g. the prevention of nuisance, neighbourhood mediation, camera surveillance, environmental design, community workers, community guards, ...).

The list is not exhaustive. The projects may address any question relevant to this year's theme.

Please complete the attached form (the boxes are expandable). Note that the last point is for a one-page description of your project.

As we intend to compile a visual presentation of the entries, we kindly ask you to provide material for this (videos, photos, leaflets, etc)

Entries should be in English, but may be accompanied by a version of the entry in the national language if wished. Each country may enter one project as its ECPA entry and up to two other projects to be presented at the conference. Projects should be submitted only through the National Representatives. The full ECPA rules can be found at www.eucpn.org

Deadline for entries is **October 15th, 2010**.

Send your entry or entries to: eucpn@ibz.eu .

If you have any questions, please contact Anneleen Van Cauwenberge at eucpn@ibz.eu .



ECPA/BPC 2010

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.)

This is Bulgaria's ECPA entry.

2. What is the title of the project?

Center for Social Rehabilitation and Integration of Juvenile Offenders

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

The project establishes a focal point for work with juvenile offenders on the territory of Bulgaria's second largest city and its vicinity. The center is the hub of cooperation of all relevant institutions in the region, providing programs, interventions, counseling and mediation for the juveniles in an integrated manner, based on modern risk and needs assessment tools. This is the first such service for juvenile offenders in Bulgaria.

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

To establish capacity for integrated, risk and needs based social work with juvenile offenders in Plovdiv region.

To provide various services and interventions to clients of all relevant institutions in the region - Probation Service, Child Protection Department, Juvenile Crime Offices at police departments, the Local Juvenile Delinquency commissions, juvenile correctional or settlement institutions and private clients.

5. How was the project implemented?

The Center was established in 2009 when the NGO Crime Prevention Fund - IGA won the Plovdiv Municipality's public procurement to implement the service, with the Center itself developing its full potential in 2010. Core of the implementation of the project was the methodology of the service, designed by the organization administering the Center based on years of experience in working with juvenile offenders and relevant institutions within a number of one-off or time-limited projects.

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?

The project was consulted by the future beneficiary institutions with regard to the specific needs of their clients and the nature and aspect of their relevance to juvenile offenders. Plovdiv Municipality was instrumental in applying for the necessary funding from the Ministry of Labor and Social Policy. In the implementation of the project the NGO running the service partners through agreements with all institutions directing cases to the center (mentioned above in Section 4, second objective). The agreements outline the provision of information from and to the partner, reporting and advising function of the Center, and the programs and interventions that are made available to the juveniles once they become clients.

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

Performance of the Center is measured on three distinct levels. First level is the performance of the staff, guided by relevant job descriptions, task sheets, with monthly staff reports and monthly overall reports of the Center to the service management. The second level measures the level of cooperation with the relevant partners. This is important because while independently managed, the Center relies a lot on its partners to receive clients. At this level the number of cooperation agreements, the number of cases each partner directs to the Center and the quantity and quality of feedback to the partners are measured. The third level is measurement of the effect of the services and interventions delivered. Part of the individual contracts signed with the clients' parents outlined a provision for follow up tracking of the particular juvenile in order to evaluate overall reduction in re-offending. The need to agree this follow up personally for every case comes from the fact that there is no unified national system that does this tracking in order to measure re-offending. First results on the actual short term impact on re-offending are due in 2011.

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

In terms of establishing the Center and building its capacity the results are outstanding - the team has remained almost intact and gained a lot of practical experience, the Center's premises were fully renovated and modern equipment was delivered, and the activities have been promoted on many occasions and events.

In terms of achieving high levels of cooperation with relevant partners, the Center managed to reach significant part of its intended clients. For the 7 months operation in 2009 more than 160 cases were managed, comprising about 30 % of all juvenile offenders on the territory of the Plovdiv district, and 42 % of the offenders in the city of Plovdiv itself. Among this group it should be noted that more than 60 % of all juveniles, sentenced to probation in the region of Plovdiv in 2009 received services in the Center, where the objective for 2010 is to reach at least 80 %, and for 2011 - 100 %. With its capacity of 50 clients monthly average, it is expected that the Center will be working with at least 70 % of all juvenile offenders in the region by 2011.

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

The service methodology, annual and monthly reports of the Center are available both electronically and in print upon request. Being a service funded by the state, all documentation is in Bulgarian language. English version can be prepared in a case of high importance.

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

The project aimed to fill the gaps in the framework for dealing with juvenile offenders in Bulgaria. Different agencies have the tasks of dealing with this target group, each with its own nature and functions. Each agency developed its own mechanisms and case documentation. Better information sharing (uniform monitoring, evaluation mechanisms), integrated individual approach to working with the juvenile offenders are needed. The support for the bio-psycho-social model of scientific understanding of human behavior and the development of specialized groups and individual programs, specialized psychological counseling and other similar interventions have to be the leading principal and priority tools. The project aimed to solve these problems on the local level in Plovdiv - the second biggest city in Bulgaria and its vicinity. The specialized Center for Social Rehabilitation and Integration of Juvenile Offenders was established with a team of 10 social workers, psychologists, group work leaders and supervisors. It was equipped with more than 20 different interventions, ranging from cognitive-behavioral group or individual programs,

through enlistment in education and qualification courses, to family consulting. In order to design the best case plan for each client one of the most renowned risk and needs assessment tools - the English Asset tool - was adapted and introduced successfully.

Building the necessary partnerships started, and agreements for cooperation and transfer of clients were signed consecutively with the District Probation Service, the Juvenile Offices of 5 of the 6 police departments in Plovdiv, the Local Juvenile Delinquency Commission, the Child Protection Department, three resident juvenile institutions, and several schools. Case transfers came immediately and for the current year it is expected that more than 250 juveniles will receive counseling, support and services that will help them overcome the deficits in their behavior, the consequences of the offence, and will contribute to their personal and professional development, thus helping to reduce the re-offending rates. As very positive fact is that both in 2009 and 2010 the Center also had private clients, who voluntarily opted to receive services. This is a result of the adopted policy for the social workers to reach out to potential clients, and now representatives of the service make regular field visits to 12 Plovdiv schools, the 2 largest Roma neighborhoods in the city and even some nearby villages. The field for establishment of cooperation was broadened significantly and a great illustration of this is that the team managed to even negotiate free dental treatment for clients courtesy of agreement with the Dental Faculty of Plovdiv Medical University.

With a year of experience behind, the Center quickly grew in confidence. A series of promotion events and activities were organized, which complement the regular meetings with partners. Initiatives like the primary prevention campaigns "Say no to violence!" and "The choice is yours", the wide distribution of printed materials and posters, and of course, news of the successful development of many of the cases meant that the fame of the Center spread beyond the boundaries of Plovdiv District.

Agencies from other cities have since asked for cooperation on several high-profile or "tough" cases - such as the assistance provided in planning and providing interventions.

The Center has received delegations and study visits from the French prison and probation academy (ENAP), the offender reintegration network HSI from Brandenburg, Germany, the Ministry of Labor and Social Policy of the Republic of Armenia, and several Bulgarian municipalities interested in the service.