

"C.R.E.A. – Children Rights and Education of Adults" - Summary of the project

The C.R.E.A. Project aims to create a support for professionals who work in the field of adult education (and mainly with parents of children in early ages) by helping parents in the exercise of "Active citizenship" for the promotion of children rights.

The project partners are aware that *parents can play a real and effective role in the promotion of children rights*, leading actions in the application of active citizenship. However, at present this role is not entirely played and many opportunities to promote children rights are not exploited. People, families, parents are not aware of the whole range of opportunities for an active and democratic participation in the decision-making process that are offered by Public Authorities and/or other organisations, mainly associations and social enterprises. The last ones are in fact the most interesting and less known organisations, but they can play a very important role. They can be defined *multistakeholder structures*, that is enterprises operating in the social sector, with the active participation of all groups of people representing a social need. In such a structure, parents themselves are stakeholders and are able to express their needs (that is, in this case, the needs of their children), to propose solutions and to take part in the realisation of actions that can satisfy such needs.

At present, what is necessary is to make parents aware of all the existing opportunities to defend children's rights, to motivate them towards a real and active participation, to "educate" them to an effective active citizenship.

The European Union has expressed the need to improve actions of adult learning, but any activity in adult learning needs the development of tools, skills, methods and knowledge that can be adequate for the single target group they are referred to.

This is what C.R.E.A. is going to develop: *a handbook, a CD-Rom and a training course for professionals, social managers, educators involved in activities with families and parents.*

AIMS OF THE C.R.E.A. PROJECT:

- ✓ to *increase the role of parents* in the promotion of children rights, through the exercise of *active citizenship*
- ✓ to promote *adult learning initiatives*, as an effective method to make parents aware and to motivate them about the opportunities offered by active citizenship
- ✓ to give *a tool supporting professionals working with parents*, to make their actions of adult education more effective
- ✓ to develop the *CREA course*, as a European training course for those ones involved in adult learning activities for parents who might be interested in the application of active citizenship
- ✓ to *publish a handbook and a CD-Rom* as a tool supporting professionals involved in adult education activities
- ✓ to *disseminate the results* and products of the CREA project at European level

ACTIVITIES PLANNED:

- ✓ realisation of a *research* about:
 - *methods and pedagogical approach* in adult/parents education
 - *tools and opportunities* of active participation and *active citizenship* offered by public authorities and private organisations, mainly associations and social enterprises
 - *European legislative frame* regarding children rights
- ✓ development of a *European Training Course* addressed to trainers, social managers and professionals in the social field working with parents. The course will focus on effective methodologies and contents to be applied in adult education initiatives aimed to develop active citizenship and promote children needs
- ✓ *testing of the European course twice* in two different countries (with the participation of two representatives for each partner at any time) and evaluation of the effectiveness of the course
- ✓ development of the *final version of the Course* and its introduction in the Grundtvig list of courses
- ✓ development of a *CD-Rom and a handbook* as methodological supports for trainers working with parents on how to make them aware of the opportunities offered by active European citizenship and, as a consequence, on how to use it to promote the rights of their children
- ✓ *Three transnational meetings* (two in Italy and one in Lithuania), with the participation of the project partners, for the planning and evaluation of the project activities.
- ✓ *Local seminars and a final transnational workshop* to present the project results and products

EXPECTED OUTPUTS:

- ✓ *C.R.E.A. course*: a refresher course for professionals working in the social field, trainers, social managers and any other professional working in adult education activities aimed to involve parents in the exercise of active citizenship as a tool to promote children rights
- ✓ A *handbook* about *effective methodologies* that can be applied in adult education activities
- ✓ The *C.R.E.A. CD-Rom*, containing the results of the research