



# Making life a safe adventure

Strengthening families to prevent maltreatment of children with disabilities

In occasion of the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child

## Residential dissemination event

(Ca' La Ghironda ModernArtMuseum, Zola Predosa, Bologna, Italy)

19/20 November 2009

Promoted by AIAS Bologna onlus and its national and international partners, in collaboration with Ca' la Ghironda ModernArtMuseum, this two day event focuses on operational strategies for the prevention of maltreatment of children with disabilities. As the experience of the consortium has shown, effective prevention strategies should be based on the enhancement of protective factors in the life situation of the child and the family. In dealing with this important issue we will move away from the prejudice that disability automatically leads to situations of tension, depression and risk, and explore the individual, family and community resources that can be developed for preventive purposes. The event will highlight the importance of the family and of its strength and needs. We will further highlight how respect for the rights of the child and the development of his/her potential can contribute to a change in the perception of disability. Finally, we will focus on the three-way relationship Child-Parent-Professional, on communication issues and on the need for supportive networks which strengthen families and contribute to making the life of children with disabilities a safe adventure.

All the events in the programme will take place at Ca' La Ghironda ([www.ghironda.it](http://www.ghironda.it)), a modern art gallery and sculpture garden located in wonderful surroundings in the hills outside Bologna. The aim of the organisers is to create an intensive learning experience, based on the active collaboration of all participants, which will fully exploit all the intellectual, human, artistic and natural resources available.

**Promoting organisations:** *AIAS Bologna onlus (I), Ca' La Ghironda Modern Art Museum (I), Fenacerci (P), AFANIAS (ESP), EFOESZ (HUN), EVPIT (EST), SUSTENTO (LV), DISABILITY NOW (GR), PORAKA (RM), TURKISH SPASTIC CHILDREN ASS.*

**Represented organisations:** *The European Commission (Daphne Program), The World Bank, European Association of Service Providers for Persons with Disabilities (EASPD), Eurochild (EU), European Disability Forum (EDF), COFACE-Handicap, Handicap International (D), TASS (UK), One World Association (PL), Il Faro Centre against child abuse-Public Health Care Agency of Bologna/Province of Bologna (I), CDH (I), CADIAl (I), AFPE (F), others....*

**We envisage promoting this event in a very open way. Organisations wishing to contribute to the success of this event are invited to forward this invitation to their contact list.**



With financial support of the EC in the framework of the DAPHNE Programme.



## Thursday November 19<sup>th</sup>: 14.00-19.00 Seminar

This seminar targets invited representatives from local and European organisations with differing perspectives on how to work for the well being of children with disabilities: experts, parents, care providers, policy makers.



There will be key note presentations from experts in the field, reports on work undertaken by the consortium partners during the project and a plenary debate. With the participation of the novelist **Simonetta Agnello Hornby** (*photo left*) and **Charlotte McClain-Nhlapo**



(*photo right*) senior operations officer of the World Bank in Washington.

**Other speakers:** **Sergio Anastasia** (IRCCS Fondazione Ospedale Maggiore Policlinico di Milano), **Yannick Besnier** (vice direttore AFPE F), **Janet Fairley** (training expert- TASS UK), **Melissa Filippini** (psychologist and researcher), **Claudio Imprudente** (giornalista, writer), **Cristina Pesci** (vice president AIAS Bologna onlus), **Benedetta Turdo** (European Commission Daphne Programme), **Donata Vivanti** (vice president European Disability Forum), **Valentina Zincati** (film maker).



A more detailed program will be made available through the web site: [www.iasbo.it/daphne](http://www.iasbo.it/daphne)

From this page it is already possible to download the materials produced by the consortium (*see: book covers*).

## Friday November 20<sup>th</sup>: 9.30-17.00 Pooling good practice

Friday is dedicated to the sharing of information on good practice **in different countries** and **in the following fields:**

- Changing the perception of disability.
- Design and development of services that are perceived by the families as supportive
- The empowerment of children with disabilities and their families
- The development of supportive networks

This session will target professionals in the health, education and social sectors, representatives of NGO's such as parents associations and associations of people with disabilities, students, etc.

The programme will see a mix of interactive workshops and more traditional presentations, partially in parallel sessions. An updated programme will be available through [www.iasbo.it/daphne](http://www.iasbo.it/daphne).

During the entire event there will be a room available with tables and wall space where the participating organisations can display printed matter, posters, pictures, etc.

During the morning session some groups of young people with disabilities will be engaged in creative workshops in the museum atelier.



## Friday November 20<sup>th</sup>: 17.00-19.30 Creative workshop and party

For this event children with and without disabilities, parents, staff, politicians are invited. All will be involved in the making of a unique piece of art to celebrate the 20th Anniversary of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (20/11/1989). Contemporary artists Gianni Sevini and MEP Vittorio Prodi will give us a hand. Once created, we will try to turn the sculpture into music and sing it together. An anniversary cake will be eaten. During this event we will further present the short movie "Sara's adventure" of Michele Testi and Valentina Zincati. Giorgia Betti, young protagonist of the story, will be with us.

### Promoting organisations

Under the "Making life a safe adventure" logo an international consortium of disability related nongovernmental non-profit organisations is working together on the issue of the prevention of violence against children in the domestic environment. Some of them since 2002.



AIAS BOLOGNA ONLUS - Italy  
FENACERCI - Portugal  
VAIMUKAD - Estonia  
SUSTENTO - Latvia  
DISABILITY NOW - Greece  
AFANIAS - Spain  
ÉFOÉSZ - Hungary  
PORAKA - Republic of Macedonia  
TURKISH SPASTIC CHILDREN ASSOCIATION in SINOP - Turkey

### Our common view

- Children with disabilities have a higher risk to be victims of domestic violence, maltreatment and abuse than children without disabilities.
- It is an issue of global concern that affects all cultures and all social and economic classes.
- There is not a direct link between disability and violence, but in a multifactor model different factors impact on the development of stress that may lead to forms of maltreatment.
- Therefore, to prevent children with disabilities being victims of maltreatment in the domestic environment, the natural role of the family have to be strengthened by enhancing protective factors and by reducing the impact of risk factors. Further child and family support services have to be designed and developed.
- Associations, social cooperatives and ngo's have an important role in furthering knowledge based collaboration between all relevant actors in prevention.

### Our commitment

- To further prevention of maltreatment, the strengthening of families and to promote the rights of children with disabilities
- To design and to develop experimental dissemination activities that advance prevention and that are potentially transferable good practice.
- To continuously disseminate the results obtained so far by the partnership following two activity lines.
  - Vertical: dissemination of the content of the projects within the local context (sharing expertise, capacity building and the building of supportive networks).
  - Horizontal: enlarging the international network including other countries and develop local capacity to raise the issue within family organisation(s) (awareness raising).

**Ca' la Ghironda ModernArtMuseum** is more than just a private collection of modern art. The Museum is a resource centre for inclusive art and environmental education.



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## Interested in participating?

**Participation is free of charge.** Bologna is well connected with all major airports. Overnight accommodation (including meals) is available on the Museum premises. In order to book accommodation, please contact [eravaglia@ausilioteca.org](mailto:eravaglia@ausilioteca.org). The venue is barrier free. In specific cases, budget permitting, it **may be possible for us to reimburse travel and/or accommodation costs:** please send inquiries to [hoogerwerf@ausilioteca.org](mailto:hoogerwerf@ausilioteca.org).

Participants are invited to contribute to the programme. It is possible to do so by:

- bringing relevant materials produced by your organisation that show methods, approaches, models, and results;
- giving a presentation in the course of the Friday morning session;
- sharing your expertise in an interactive session with the other participants;
- taking part in the creative workshop.

YES, I wish to contribute to the success of this event.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Organisation: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

I need a table/display/both to display the following materials in the market place:

\_\_\_\_\_

I wish to present a good practice:

Title:

Conductor/speaker:

Short description:

Please list/do not list my organisation among the represented organisations of this event.

Please return to [hoogerwerf@ausilioteca.org](mailto:hoogerwerf@ausilioteca.org) or by fax to: + 39 051 6597737



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