

IDENTIFICATION OF EXAMPLES OF GOOD PRACTICE IN ABSORPTION OF STRUCTURAL FUNDS, CASE STUDY PROJECT "CHRISTIAN DAY CENTER"

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Abstract

The main purpose of this study is to capture the practical point of view, the main issues in examples of best practices in the application for funding for the project "Christian Day Center- Support for young people and adults with disabilities" project benefited the City Council Târgu Jiu, is a project which was realized in the Regional Operational Programme, Priority Axis 3 DMI 3.2 - "Rehabilitation / modernization / development and equipping of social services", the total value of the project was 3,373,722.72 lei, of which non-repayable funding over was worth 2,592,251.08 lei.

Through its general objective, the project "Day Center Christian - Support for young people and adults with disabilities" aims to contribute to improving the quality of infrastructure for social services by ensuring equal access of citizens of Tg-Jiu such services.

Christian Day Center- support for young people and adults with physical disabilities, musculoskeletal, neuro, somatic and visual has already proposed to the idea of the project, to be a center which will ensure the social inclusion of these vulnerable and contribute to increasing the quality of life, improve communication and information on the rights and benefits of social services to improve the management and organization of the system of providing social services and facilitating the participation of all stakeholders in the development of social services.

Keywords: sustainable development, absorption of structural funds, infrastructure deployment

JEL Classification: I14, J11, J13, R28

1. The appearance "Christian Day Centre project - Support for young people and adults with disabilities"

Since the beginning of the study should restate that the project "Christian Day Centre - Support for young people and adults with disabilities" was a project drawn up by experts overseen for City Hall and benefited the Local Council Târgu Jiu, is a project which was realized in the Regional Operational Programme, Priority Axis 3 DMI 3.2 - "Rehabilitation / modernization / development and equipping of social services", the total value of the project was 3,373,722.72 lei, of which non-repayable funding over was worth 2,592,251.08 lei.

Local social services should meet the needs of all disadvantaged groups, the local level is the main actor in solving the problems of vulnerable social groups in an integrated manner at Community level in the field of supporting people with disabilities Government approved Resolution no. 1175 of 29/09/2005, published in the Official Gazette, Part I no. 919 of 14/10/2005 on the National Strategy for protection, integration and social inclusion of people with disabilities in the period 2006-2013, under art. 108 of the Constitution of Romania, republished. This strategy is consistent with the "Community Strategic Guidelines for 2007-2013", which provide need to reduce disparities in terms of quality and the access of population to health services and social services at regional level and the need for concrete actions to increase the quality and efficiency of education and training. while the existence of these types of infrastructure, operating according to minimum quality standards in the field, is a precondition for the achievement of the Lisbon Strategy for growth and employment of the population.

To achieve this, investments are needed in infrastructure and equipment so that they comply with standards. Poor quality of infrastructure and facilities, poor equipment requires persons belonging to disadvantaged social group described to have a low access to services or isolating themselves.

Ability of the economy to absorb labour has become available following the massive restructuring of the dominant sectors (mining, energy and oil) is limited, which leads to a rather difficult employment of people with disabilities. The social exclusion phenomenon affects social groups who are at risk of social exclusion, ranging in vulnerable groups and that of people with disabilities who face many problems related to their social integration. The number of disabled people employed is low, both because of the offer of employment which is not consistent with qualifications and needs, and the low training and their professional school. Still exists phenomena of discrimination in employment on grounds of disability and physical environment and access to information is reduced. The current situation of the services offered in Tg-Jiu for disabled people, neurological problems and somatic can be described by a proactive intervention framework that fosters social inclusion.

The Tg-Jiu city, the administrative territorial unit, has a number of 96 641 inhabitants of which a total of 2,035 people, aged 15-85 years, are classified as disabled in the General Directorate of Social Assistance and Protection of Child Gorj. The statistical data indicate a significant proportion of the entire population of the municipality.

The Tg-Jiu city, through the Department of Public Welfare provides a range of social services for the disadvantaged, including providing social services for victims of domestic violence in "Casa Sânziana" and homelessness in the center "Casa Iris".

Christian Day Center - support for young people and adults with physical disabilities, musculoskeletal, neuro, somatic and visual has already proposed to the idea of the project, to be a center which will ensure the social inclusion of these vulnerable and contribute to increasing the quality of life, improve communication and information on the rights and benefits of social services to improve the management and organization of the system of providing social services and facilitating the participation of all stakeholders in the development of social services.

By Christian Day Center project was ensured by creating the necessary infrastructure deployment:

- information activities, psychological and legal counseling and social awareness for people with physical disabilities, musculoskeletal, neuro, somatic, visual. This activity aims at the protection and promotion of human rights and fundamental freedoms, promoting the active participation of people with disabilities in community life, creating an autonomy of the individual, so be sure of your own life. By offering psychological counseling aims to support people with disabilities, to discover themselves, to identify the interests, aspirations, and goals priority own.

- social activities and leisure. People with disabilities will have the opportunity of watching TV shows, movies, video projections, to practice games (backgammon, rummy, chess), reading activities.

- socio-cultural and occupational activities. Through this activity is performed cultural group, to develop their creative potential. These activities include conversations and social contacts, artistic and cultural activities (musical evenings, literary clubs, shows involving disabled), craft activities to this end will set up a gym occupational therapy equipped with sewing machine, easels, device fretwork, drawing paper, etc.

- Activities computer and internet communication network. To this end, the Centre has been equipped with adequate equipment needs of beneficiaries.

- gym and exercise activities. Thus was conceived and arranged a room for exercise properly equipped (plant pulley counterweight, elastic bands, elastic cords, set dumbbells, mattress recovery balls recovery, medicine balls, bicycle ergometer, elliptical bike, treadmill, trellis, stepper) . In the same framework it was arranged and a table tennis room so that sporting activities practiced by people with disabilities to occupy a sphere widest.

- Measures and actions to prevent social exclusion for people with visual disabilities and support the interests, rights and obligations. All those services are provided by accredited providers, who started running specific activity after the completion of project implementation (modernization and equipment Center) as: service contract attached (Nr.04 / 02.02.2009 for delivery services- people disabled and neuromotor) and initiated proceedings (SEAP notice number 81 280 / 30.06.2009) for supply services – visually handicapped persons, all operating costs and being paid from the local budget.

2. Good practices encountered in the project "Christian Day Center"

Further, we intend to perform a scan of the application form so that we identify any examples of good practice within the project "Christian Day Center - Support for young people and adults with disabilities" best practices were the basis for implementation successful completion of this project.

A prime example of good practice is the very concern management of Târgu-Jiu, to have this vision, it capitalize by identifying ideas and especially to generate a project to put into practice this idea, namely finding instruments concerned support of certain social categories namely young people and adults with physical disabilities, musculoskeletal, neuro, somatic and visual. Thus, in the city of Târgu Jiu, it was identified one of the gaps Romanian social assistance system which supports enough people in the target group of the project " Christian Day Center - Support for young people and adults with disabilities."

In this context, it needs to promote a positive image about people with disabilities in cooperation with various stakeholders, including the media; increase the visibility of the disabled person as a full member of the community.

Through media campaigns we will follow to raise public awareness, including to combat stereotypes and prejudices about people with disabilities and to support the acknowledgment of their rights.

The project primarily aims to raising awareness of people with disabilities, and developing the creative potential of these persons. It also aims to stimulate creativity, their social initiatives, increase independence and professional integration.

Establishment "Christian Day Center - support young people and adults with disabilities" in the location of the Mioriței (an old dilapidated neighbourhood in the central interior built area of 396 square meters) for services provided to persons with physical disabilities, musculoskeletal, neuro, somatic and visual become a necessity in the context of social assistance programs generated by socio-economic situation of Târgu-Jiu.

Christian Day Center- covers a wide range of services in order to help people with disabilities, since their

acceptance in the center, up to specific problems that they face, temporarily (cultural issues, legal and administrative, relational, occupational). Meanwhile, organizing activities on developing independent life skills and vocational skills has a direct contribution to the development of social economy activities and thus to decrease social exclusion and, in parallel, to increase accessibility to the labour market.

The implementation of such a project has positive results, both from a humanitarian standpoint and in terms of re-integration into the labour market. To facilitate access for disabled people within the communities to social services is respected "open doors principle" and the "equal opportunities".

Recreation, sports, access to information, socialization, culture must be part of the life of a disabled person to the same extent that part of the life of a healthy person. It thus enhances support for the participation of the disabled person and his family to sports and cultural events at theatres, museums, cinemas, libraries and facilitating access to heritage objects, tourism and leisure.

Christian Center is justification well as in promoting access to services necessary to support social integration and prevent the isolation and separation from the community of persons with disabilities.

Promoting social integration of people with disabilities as active citizens able to control their lives and full participation of people with disabilities in community life will lead to improving the autonomy of the individual so that he can take control of their lives through activities in the Christian Center.

Another example of good practice is the clear and concise presentation of the application for all services funded will pay a living center - Christian, persons with disabilities. Needs and constraints for young people and adults with disabilities are multiple, but the need remains first class communication and counseling either group or individual. Services provided by the Center for Christian living based on the following activities:

- ✓ information,
- ✓ advice (legal, psychological, vocational)
- ✓ social awareness
- ✓ socializing and leisure
- ✓ socio-cultural and occupational activities
- ✓ activities of computer and communication network of Internet
- ✓ leisure gymnastics and exercise
- ✓ supporting the interests, rights and obligations

For people with visual impairment, this project represents a solution with the prevention of social exclusion; Provision of computers, facilitating communication with society and internet access to information, education and culture of the beneficiaries, ensure better integration in the economic, socio-professional, cultural and artistic city.

Network 5 PCs equipped with software specifically designed for deficiencies of view, allowing them to use easily computer and specific software (voice synthetic) fulfil the minimum necessary to this category of people, making them aware of regardless of obstacles that can "see" what you want permanently

Access to information and communication technologies creates opportunities for all members of society, but perhaps mostly for the blind. Social barriers of prejudice, infrastructure and inaccessible formats no longer stand in the way of participation. They are available to everyone, information technologies helps individuals to reach their full potential and enable people with visual disabilities to play their role in society.

Also, an example of good practice within the present funding application is the accurate determination of the target group. The target group are people with physical disabilities, musculoskeletal, neuro, and visual somatic living in Targu Jiu Municipality aged 15 years -85 years that are found registered in the General Directorate of Social Assistance and Child Protection Gorj.

These people depending on the degree of disability are classified as persons with disability degree 1, 2 and 3. The total number of registered disabled people, mentally and disability associated with somatic broad range between 15 years-85 years is 1,209 people of which 653 women and 556 men. Handicap their distribution is as follows:

- Grade 1 - 413 people are registered disability;
- Grade 2 - 737 disabled persons;
- Grade 3 handicap 59 people;;

The number of people with visual disability grade I and II in Tg-Jiu is 826 people in Gorj and recorded a total of 2399 people.

The final beneficiaries of the project were and are still both families and caregivers of people with physical disabilities musculoskeletal, neuro, somatic and visual. They are considered final beneficiaries of the project and the 9 persons employed (6 full-time jobs and three part-time) - for the operation of Christian Day Center.

For instance, a good practice is represented and rigorous determination of project activities they had undertaken for the project to be implemented in the best conditions, it is noted phasing them is rigorously determined specifying the terms clear and precise to the be carried out. In this regard it was drawn up a calendar of implementation project.

In other news, it can be a good practice and rigorously accurate material resources involved and the expected results. Thus, Targu Jiu Municipality has ensured that the project implementation unit has available office with all the necessary equipment (computer, phone, fax, internet access, etc.).

The anticipated results of what they wanted to achieve and were obtained following the implementation can include: a social center for people with disabilities who work in an area adequately managed and equipped in accordance with the quality standards in 2035, disabled beneficiary social services offered at the center Christian 9 new jobs (6 full-time jobs and three part-time) - Christian Centre for the operation. Results of the provision of services (after project implementation) can include:

- Increased access to these newly created social services center;
- Improving the quality of life of the beneficiary;
- New infrastructure created for a real system of protection of persons with disabilities;
- Improving the quality of information on the rights and obligations of beneficiaries;
- Providing social services adapted to the needs of beneficiaries;
- Increasing trust people with disabilities in the social assistance system;
- Increase the satisfaction of persons covered
- Increasing the number of people who will know and be aware of the issues people with disabilities.

Another example of good practice is the indication in the application for financing functions will regăsi in the Team Project Implementation Unit (PIU), but more importantly it is stated that the work of the project management will be provided by Unit implementation of the project, set at Tg-Jiu people who have experience in project implementation. These persons involved in the project activities have made specific training so they had acquired certification attesting a range of skills in terms of project implementation programs from European funds.

One aspect that may result in an example of good practice is the one relating to the financial management of the project has been contracted as a specialized firm who had to fulfil the following conditions:

- ✓ experience in financial management of projects;
- ✓ experience working with public authorities;
- ✓ accounting system used in accordance with national legislation;
- ✓ branch in Targu Jiu;
- ✓ minimal equipment: computers, copiers, phone, fax;

Another good practice is to clear management of documents related to procurement, which should be standardized for this purpose was conceived annex related to public procurement.

In this list are given all objects investment that will be made by submitting the funding request and after submission, which will require different types of procurement procedures also are generally estimated values in lei for each object and estimated time to complete each procedure.

Conclusion

Requirements imposed by Romania's accession to the European Union represented and still represents for the social assistance system a milestone in the strengthening and structuring of institutional set-up and steps to shape an image compatible with European structures in this area in this context was necessary to establish a coherent system in which social services provided to the population by public institutions and private organizations to gain legitimacy and effectiveness in addressing social problems facing the Romanian society.

Besides, in the current context in which Romania is trying to align certain specific standards Christian Center successfully manages to value the principles underlying the development of services for people with visual, directed to the issue of equal opportunities, as follows:

- Persons with disabilities remain in the community who come and lead a normal life with help if necessary;
- These persons participate in decision-making both in the general problems of the community and in particular the specific problems of people with special needs;
- Disabled or incapacitated must receive all the assistance they need within the ordinary structures of education, health, social assistance, etc.
- They actively participate in social and economic development of the community and their needs are included in national and local plans.

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