



## Valorising Employment for People with Disabilities (ValorEmpl)

Duration: September 2019 – September 2021

Project Coordinator: MPC Sint-Franciscus

### Partners:

Greece: ERGASTIRI EIDIKIS AGOGIS MARGARITA

Italy: Cooperativa Assistenza Disabili infermi Anziani Infanzia

Belgium: De Lork

Belgium: Association de Recherche et de Formation sur l'Insertion en Europe

Spain: FUNDACIO AMPANS

France: Les Genêts d'Or

France: SEVEL SERVICES

### Project Summary

In the recent years it is possible to notice a growing question from the Civil Society related to the added social value of persons with intellectual disabilities. From a strictly economic point of view, the impression is that they are rather perceived as a burden. This is a common phenomenon in Europe. The nagging question therefore is "What contribution a person with intellectual disabilities can bring to the community?" This refers to all forms of paid or voluntarily employment/engagement/ taking up social roles. What is the social role they can have? What role can service providers and professionals play? In our activities, as service provider and as member of European networks, we have noticed that in different countries new insertion practices and new forms of employment are appearing. These different realities provide a wide range of solutions and practices

to meet the needs and expectations of people with disabilities.

Through the ValorEmpl project we want to take a look at these practices, to explore them together and identify the key elements for success but also the obstacle in this regard.

The objective of the ValorEmpl Project is to point out elements and practices that facilitate the professional integration of people with intellectual disabilities: identify good practices, explore them together and identify the key elements for success, but also the obstacle that hinder employment for persons with intellectual disabilities.

Furthermore, in line with a series of events and workshops that approached the theme of employability of people with disabilities and fostered the will of the participants to work together on this theme, we believe this action may be the opportunity to strengthen the network around the topic of employment / voluntarily employment / engagement / taking up social roles.

More concretely, through the ValorEmpl Project the partnership wants to:

Improve the skills of the professionals working with people with intellectual disabilities;

Develop new skills for people with intellectual disabilities;

Take an overview of new forms of insertion and employment of people with intellectual disabilities;

Identify and analyse good practices and factors of success to improve the role of service providers in supporting the employability of people with intellectual disabilities;

Strengthen the network of organizations and service providers committed to support social inclusion of people with disabilities, particularly with regard to employment / voluntarily employment / engagement / taking up social roles.

This project is in a way complementary and in line with previous European actions and events that focused on social inclusion, employment and innovative services for people with disabilities.