

# INTERLINKS Final Conference



## **SIMILARITIES - DIFFERENCES IN LONG-TERM CARE OF DIFFERENT GROUPS?**

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# CRPD art. 19



- Live in the community- with assistance needed
- Full inclusion and participation – accessibility of the services for general public
- Choices equal to others:
  - With whom to live
  - Where to live

# Definition of institution



- An institution is not defined only by its size, which is just an indicator of more fundamental characteristics which make a service “institutional”, it is its “institutional culture”:
  - Isolation from broader community
  - Clients are compelled living together
  - Not sufficient control over the live
  - Rigidity of routine
  - Block treatment
  - Paternalistic relationship
  - Social distance of the staff
  - Rules of the institution are more important the needs of the clients

# Size of the residential service



- It does appear that, the larger the setting, the fewer the chances are to guarantee individualized, needs-tailored services as well as participation and inclusion in the community.
- On the other hand, the reverse is not necessarily true, i.e. there can be small-scale facilities with a profoundly institutional character of care.

# On client-oriented culture of service provision



- Respect and orientation on individual needs of a client
- Maximum support of the client in his/her control over the life
- Partnership between staff and clients
- Flexibility in care provision
- Inclusion in the community
- Maximum use of community resources

# Transition from Institutional to Community-based Care

## Risks:

- Over-investment in current institutions
- Maintaining parallel services
- Closure of institutions without alternatives in the community
- Alternatives with institutional culture

# ERDF regulation



## **Promoting social inclusion and combating poverty:**

- Investing in health and social infrastructure which contribute to national, regional and local development, reducing inequalities in terms of health status, **and transition from institutional to community-based services**

# ESF regulation



## **Promotion of equal opportunities and non-discrimination:**

- Equal opportunities and non-discrimination should be promoted through “**specific actions**” targeting people at risk of discrimination and people with disabilities, with a view to increasing their labour market participation, enhancing their social inclusion, reducing inequalities in terms of educational attainment and health status and **facilitating the transition from institutional to community-based care.**