



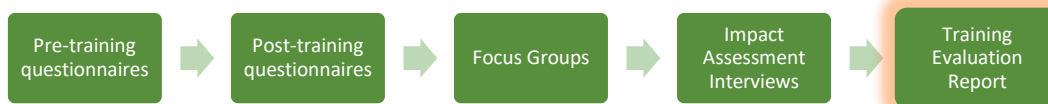
LEAVING CARE

Issue 5
November 2019

Hi! We are happy to share this fifth project newsletter with you. In this issue, you can read about the training evaluation process, the nomination for a European Social Services Award, the Youth Bootcamp as well as our upcoming final events. Happy reading!

TRAINING EVALUATION

Data for the training evaluation is being collected at national level from four sources: pre-training questionnaires, post-training questionnaires, focus groups and impact assessment interviews. These will then be collated, analysed and compiled in a final report by an external consultant.



The training courses have been completed in almost all project countries and we have started receiving the focus group summary reports. The preliminary conclusions sound very promising! In Italy, the participants reported that “they’ve had, in the last months, the practical validation of the knowledge they acquired in the training, mainly regarding the right to participate and the right to make ‘mistakes’. Having a better awareness of the rights of young people to participate in their transition planning legitimated the social workers in engaging young people in the leaving care process, accompanying them, building together a strategy with more than one option, letting them choose what they preferred, even if the social workers would have chosen something different for them.”

The final training evaluation will be finalized in March 2020.

SHORTLISTED FOR THE INNOVATION AWARD!

Within the frame of the European Social Services Awards, the Prepare for Leaving Care training has been shortlisted for the Innovation Award!

The judges have shortlisted five projects per category and their scores count for 50% of the final vote. The online voting system, which is open until 29 November, will count for the other 50%. **The winning project will be announced on 6 December, at the awards ceremony.** Please show your support and **VOTE!**

Motivation to vote: The Prepare for Leaving Care training fills a gap that exists in most child protection systems by giving care professionals access to comprehensive training material. It is co-delivered by young people with care experience, which gives care professionals the opportunity to hear first-hand how young people experience current leaving care practices and to reflect together with them on how to improve this experience in the future with the overall aim of ensuring better outcomes for care leavers.

Co-funder



This project is co-funded by the Rights, Equality and Citizenship (REC) Programme of the European Union. Responsibility for this content lies solely with SOS Children's Villages International. The European Commission is not responsible for any information contained here.

About the project:

Leaving Care – An Integrated Approach to capacity building of Professionals and Young People aims to embed a child rights based culture into child protection systems which improves outcomes for children and young people in particular in the preparation for leaving care. Project partners include FICE Austria, SOS Bulgaria, SOS Estonia, SOS Hungary, SOS Italy, SOS Romania and FONPC.



Stay in touch!
train4childrights@sos-kd.org

YOUTH BOOTCAMP – BOOST YOUR YOUTH LED INITIATIVE

SOS Children's Villages International in partnership with SOS Greece and representatives from the International Youth Coalition is organizing a global Youth Bootcamp which will be held in Athens on 11th-13th March 2020.



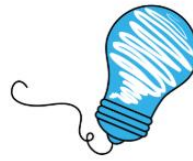
APPLY & CONNECT

Now - 6 January 2020



BOOTCAMP & GROW

11-13 March 2020



INSPIRE & CHANGE

April - December 2020

The Youth Bootcamp will be a space for young changemakers - young people who are working on a youth-led initiative, trying to make a positive change in their lives and communities.

Young people are changing the world and they are proving that every effort – big or small – counts. We strongly believe in the power of young people and see our role in supporting and empowering youth to get active and be part of the movement around the 2030 Agenda.

The **3-day bootcamp** will feature 15 existing initiatives led by young people from across the globe and carefully chosen by a selection committee. **The Youth Bootcamp will offer young people the opportunity to showcase their work, receive trainings, tools and funding to help scale up their projects and drive the change for a better world.**

Please help us to spread the word and encourage young people to apply (please find [here](#) the online application form) and join this great international youth event!

WHAT'S COMING UP

The national *Prepare for Leaving Care* training courses are coming to an end and the external consultant will soon start working on collating and analysing all the information for the **final training evaluation**. The preliminary results will be presented at the **final project steering group meeting in Milan**, which will take place on 10th-12th March 2020. The meeting will gather all project partners as well as two young people with care experience from each country. External experts will also take part to discuss the sustainability of project outputs.

The **final national conference** are also currently being planned and will take place between February and March 2020. These events are meant to promote the learnings and outputs from the project, present national policy recommendations on leaving care, as well as to give a good example of full and meaningful youth participation. Participants will therefore be invited to attend training teasers to get a first-hand experience of how powerful training sessions involving young people as co-trainers are.

Quotes from young people with care experience (from Scoping Report):

'I felt left alone, and this should definitely be changed'

'I was shocked at age 18 by the big, unexpected thing, that I had to go'

'It is not right that while I was gone for three months nobody ever called me to ask me whether I am alive and well.'

'I think that it should be considered as a job, that a mentor-programme, a mentor-program, which helps the young people to prepare for the process of leaving, both emotionally and socially.'

Be the change!