

THE ROLE OF DISABILITY AND THE FAMILY ORGANIZATIONS IN PROMOTING AND SUPPORTING INCLUSIVE EDUCATION IN RUSSIA

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DISABILITY IN THE SOVIET UNION

“We were invisible
”
...



STATUS OF CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES IN SOVIET UNION

The majority of children with disabilities were in special education institutions, studying at home, or getting no education.

NO education for children with intellectual disabilities

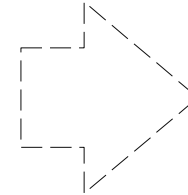
NO NGOs to promote equality in education for people with disabilities



RECENTLY IN RUSSIA

Children studied in special education schools or at home

People without disabilities had limited or no contact with people with disabilities



SOCIAL ISOLATION OF
PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

DISCRIMINATION

LIMITED AWARENESS OF
DISABILITY ISSUES

FEAR

PITY

TODAY IN RUSSIA

700 000

children with disabilities

14 MLN

people with disabilities

MOSTLY

SOCIAL ISOLATION OF PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

The law guarantees access to mainstream schools

DPOs and POs support and promote inclusion

PERSPEKTIVA

Established in 1997

A cross disability
organization

70 persons on staff – 35 are
persons with disabilities and
3 are parents of children
with intellectual disabilities



ALL RUSSIAN COALITION “EDUCATION IS A RIGHT FOR ALL”



28 REGIONS

- DISABILITY NGOs
- NGOS OF PARENTS OF CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES



ACTIVITIES of NGOs

HOW DO WE
PROMOTE
INCLUSION?

- Disability awareness lessons for school children
- Screenings of disability films
- Building bridges photo project
(pupils with disabilities + pupils w/o disabilities)
- Inclusive events
- Prepare people with disabilities
for public speaking
- Assessment of the quality of inclusion
at schools



KEY TARGET GROUPS

- Teachers
- Children at school
- Parents of disabled children
- Decision makers
- Broader community
- Children and teens with disabilities

ACTIVITIES FOR TEACHERS

- Teacher Trainings
 - Parents of disabled children and people with disabilities are trainers
 - Content - Disability awareness, etiquette, basic principles of inclusive education, social model of disability
- Webinars
- Parents share their stories
- Publications

INTERACTIVE TRAININGS



PERSPEKTIVA'S WEB-SCHOOL

FEBRUARY – MAY, 2016

4 WEBINARS ON INCLUSIVE EDUCATION

1617 PARTICIPANTS FROM 70 CITIES



ACTIVITIES FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN

Screenings of disability films

Inclusive Sports, presentations by disabled athletes

Disability awareness trainings

Inclusive activities

Photo workshops

Have a buddy



BUILDING BRIDGES: CAMERAS IN THE HANDS OF CHILDREN



FILMS ABOUT CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES



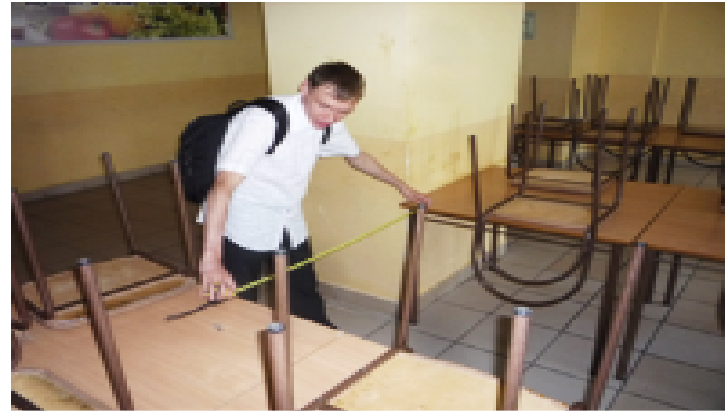
INCLUSIVE SPORTS ACTIVITIES CHILDREN IN MOTION: TOGETHER IS



DISABILITY AWARENESS LESSONS



SCHOOL ACCESSIBILITY AUDITS BASED ON UNIVERSAL DESIGN PRINCIPALS



SUPPORT FOR PARENTS OF CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES

Legal counsel

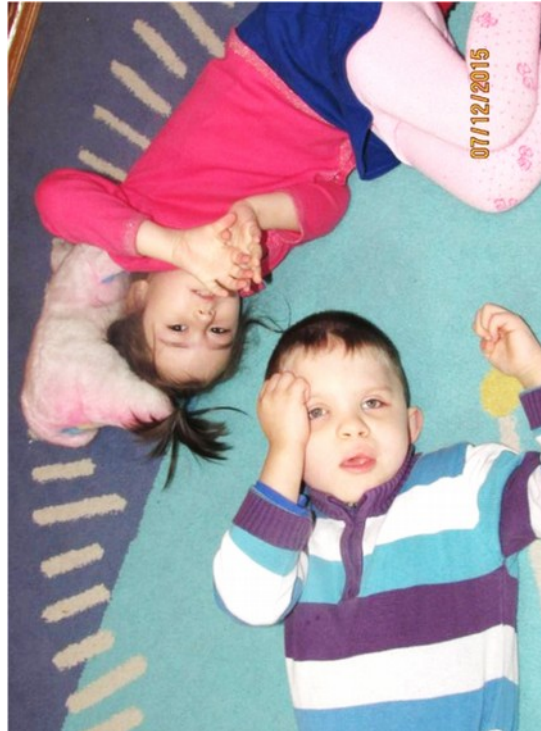
Peer support

Accessibility

Provide expertise

Trainings

Parents as experts



Dmitry Molchanov



HAVING A BUDDY ...



BEST BUDDIES



Лучшие Друзья

DEVELOPING YOUNG LEADERS



ACTIVITIES FOR WIDER COMMUNITY

Public education campaign:

All children should go to school together

- posters, public service announcements
- media coverage
- Annual Inclusive education weeks
- Competition for best inclusive school



ANNUAL INCLUSIVE EDUCATION WEEK

Flash mobs

Round tables

Presentations at schools

Sharing of success stories

In 2015 130,000 persons from 16 regions participated: teachers, family members, children, etc

COLLABORATING WITH THE MEDIA

Media want good stories

We organize interviews with family members and people with disabilities

Media help us to convey our stories to a bigger audience



ASSESSING THE QUALITY OF INCLUSION AT SCHOOLS

Inclusive internal policies

- Legal documents
- Inclusion support team
- School environment and facilities
(technical aids, equipment, classrooms design, barrier free solutions, methodologies, etc)

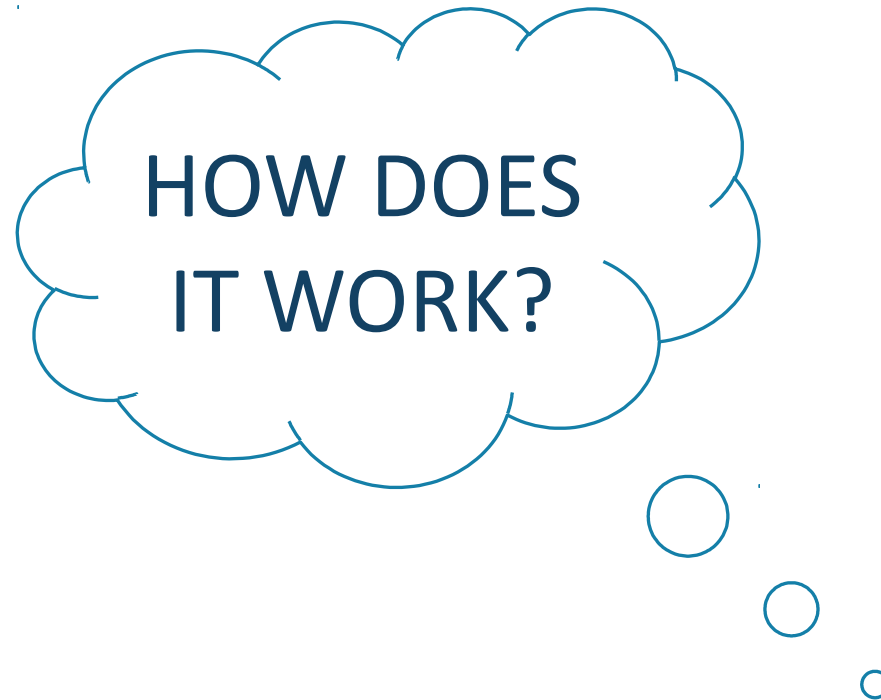
Inclusive practices

- Programs and strategies
for implementing inclusive principles, interaction and decision-making strategies
- Methods and instruments
for introducing PWDs to the educational process

Inclusive culture

- School atmosphere relationship, values, commitment
- Have practices been internalized
- Has the school becomes a better place for all children

SUCCESS STORIES



1st STORY: School №1797, Moscow

INITIAL SITUATION

0 pupils with disabilities



The school administration is not prepared to accommodate CWDs and have fears.

School №1797, Moscow

2015/2016

PERSPEKTIVA held

- disability awareness sessions
- Screened disability films
- Trainings for teachers



The school has changed its attitude toward inclusive education

ANNA WILL GO TO SCHOOL ON SEPTEMBER, 1, 2016

They have agreed to include Anna, who has cerebral palsy and uses a wheelchair, into regular classes instead of supporting her on the home school program.

2nd story

School №13, MOSCOW

INITIAL SITUATION

7 pupils with disabilities

NO BULLYING, BUT

NO close contact
NO attention
NO friends

WHY?

classmates are uncomfortable interacting with them

2nd STORY: School №13, Moscow

2015/2016 ac. y.

PERSPEKTIVA held

- Disability Awareness Lessons
- Inclusive Photo-workshop (for students with and without disabilities)



The disabled pupils

- are finally accepted by their classmates,
- and have made new friends

Julia, one of their teachers:

«After the disability awareness lessons and the photo-workshop, our disabled students have new friends and don't feel lonely any more»

«Teachers who saw the Lessons were really impressed! They admitted that all kids should take these lessons »

The teachers have asked us to hold trainings for them.

3rd STORY: Schools and Kindergartens, Voronezh

INITIAL SITUATION

0 children with autism
in schools

0 children with autism
in pre schools

NO public awareness
of autism

NO Or limited
support for
inclusion at local
schools

3rd STORY: Schools and Kindergartens, Voronezh

2014/2015 ac. y.

SPARK OF HOPE,
VIED, EXIT held

- Disability Awareness Lessons
- Trainings for teachers
- Trainings for parents of children w/o disabilities



SPARK OF HOPE

- Collaborated with local education authorities
- Raised awareness about autism, secured media coverage
- Raised funds money for hiring tutors, training specialists, and buying equipment for classrooms

2 resource classes in mainstream schools

2 resource rooms in pre-schools

14 pupils with autism at schools

8 children with autism at pre school

2016-2017:

4 resource classes open at regular schools

4 resource classes at preschools

SPARK OF HOPE

VIED

EXIT

WHAT DO WE OFFER?

Expertise

A clear vision

Innovative programs

Additional resources

Life time experiences

We are more flexible

Bring PWDs to schools

Role models for children with disabilities

New information

Success stories

Celebration of inclusion

OUR PLANS

Train Best Buddies' ambassadors (self advocates) to lead disability awareness lessons and invite them to speak before children.

Develop a user friendly website on inclusive education

Organize a festival of inclusive best practices

Involve business partners in the schools

OUR MESSAGE OF DIVERSITY, ACCEPTANCE AND COLLABORATION



CONTACTS



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