

Vocational Therapy

Occupational Training and Support in the labour market



COTEC, Council for Occupational Therapists of the European Countries, fylder 20 år i 2006. I den anledning bringer Ergoterapeuten i samarbejde med det finske fagblad en række portrætter af ergoterapeuter i andre europæiske lande. I det finske fagblad, har kollegerne mod nord mødt den danske ergoterapeut Mia Pough Hansen. I dette nummer præsenterer vi en tysk kollega – Albrecht Konrad

Af Albrecht Konrad, OT, Cologne/Germany

The BTZ is a non profit- and an occupational rehabilitation institution. Our target group for this special work-training are adults with mental health problems or handicaps.

We offer a special assessment of the individual's situation, orientation and career advancement with the aim of (re)integration into the labour market.

In 1993 the BTZ opened its doors in Cologne, in Germany are 12 BTZ. More than 400 people use the different kinds of training and work programs for their purposes every year. Most of those, who have finished the training program, find their way back to the labour-market.

LEARNING BY DOING

The 6 OTs in the BTZ-Cologne work in an Interdisciplinary Team with Work trainers/taskmasters, and Psycho-social workers, all together we are 30 colleagues.

There are 4 areas with 4 interdisciplinary Teams. We have 4 different training areas: craft, business and two individuals programs. Two Teams have one OT, and two Teams have two OT's.

My work-place is one of the individual program areas and we are specialised on all jobs which belong to the service occupation.

Normally we have 18 clients and they stay between 3 and 12 months. The training program is subdivided into three sections. The first section the orientation phase is the main working area for the OTs. A canteen, a kiosk, a big office and the laundry are our fields of activity. Learning by doing is one of our principles and so our clients work from the first day on.

A NORMAL DAY

My working day begins at 7:30 am. First the OT's and the work trainers have an informal meeting. We have to see

which clients will cook the meal and clean the dishes, which clients will work in the office and so on.

At 8:00 am the OT has a morning circle (30 minutes) with the clients in the orientation phase. We talk about the current condition and health situation and then we give our work instructions. Our program is very well oriented much to working life.

After the morning circle I work together with the clients or I talk with one of them in a one to one interview. We talk about his working life, his experience and which conditions he needs for his future working place. We also appraise his work results and here it is very important to stress the good aspects.

At 9:30 till 10:00 we have another informal meeting with the whole team. Here we talk about the clients and other news.

After this meeting I do the same things or I visit for example a client who is doing fieldwork outside the BTZ, to get more specialised work experience.

In the afternoon I do the same things or I go with a client to interview a person on the labour market about his work. These interviews are very important to understand the actual reality of work on the labour market. I have also to do a lot of administration because we have a good documentation. The BTZ has close collaboration with the family, the doctors and therapists, the day-hospitals and other kinds of out-patient support.

My working day finishes at 16:00 pm.

Se mere om COTEC på www.cotec-europe-org



My name is Albrecht Konrad (left) and OT was my third training, so you can see that the issue "work" accompanies my life. I'm 37 years old and I finished my OT-education in 1999. First I worked as an OT in the Psychiatry (University-Hospital-Cologne) and now since 2001 I have been working in an Institution called BTZ, Occupational-Training-Centre.



Udvalgte frister efterår 2006

Studierejsefonden:

Ansøgningsfrist den 15. september 2006

Praksispuljen:

Ansøgningsfrist den 15. september 2005

ROPOX-prisen:

Indstillingsfrist den 2. oktober 2006

Specialistgodkendelse:

Ansøgningsfrist 16. oktober 2006

Du kan læse mere om Studierejsefonde, Praksispulje, ROPOX-pris og Specialistgodkendelse på www.etf.dk.



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