

Youth with special needs and unexpected sexual behavior

Project review

Lemme Haldre

Tartu Child Support Center for Abused Children

email: ch.abuse@online.ee

Phone (372)7484666

Youth with special need and deviant sexual behavior

Project is financed from the resources of Norway Grants 2009-2014, program Domestic and Gender-Based Violence.

Duration: 12 months: nov 2014 – nov 2015

Main objective:

- To provide young people with knowledge about appropriate sexual behavior that would not harm their peers.
- To avoid young people with special needs to become victims of abuse.

Youth with special needs and deviant sexual behavior

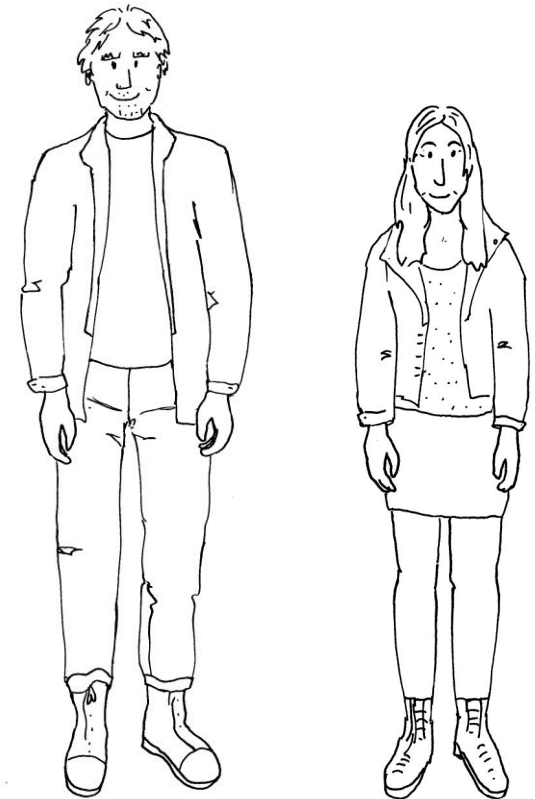
Sub-goal: to train specialists that work with mentally disabled young people;

To provide specialists with knowledge and skills to conduct sexual counselling and educating conversations among mentally disabled young people.

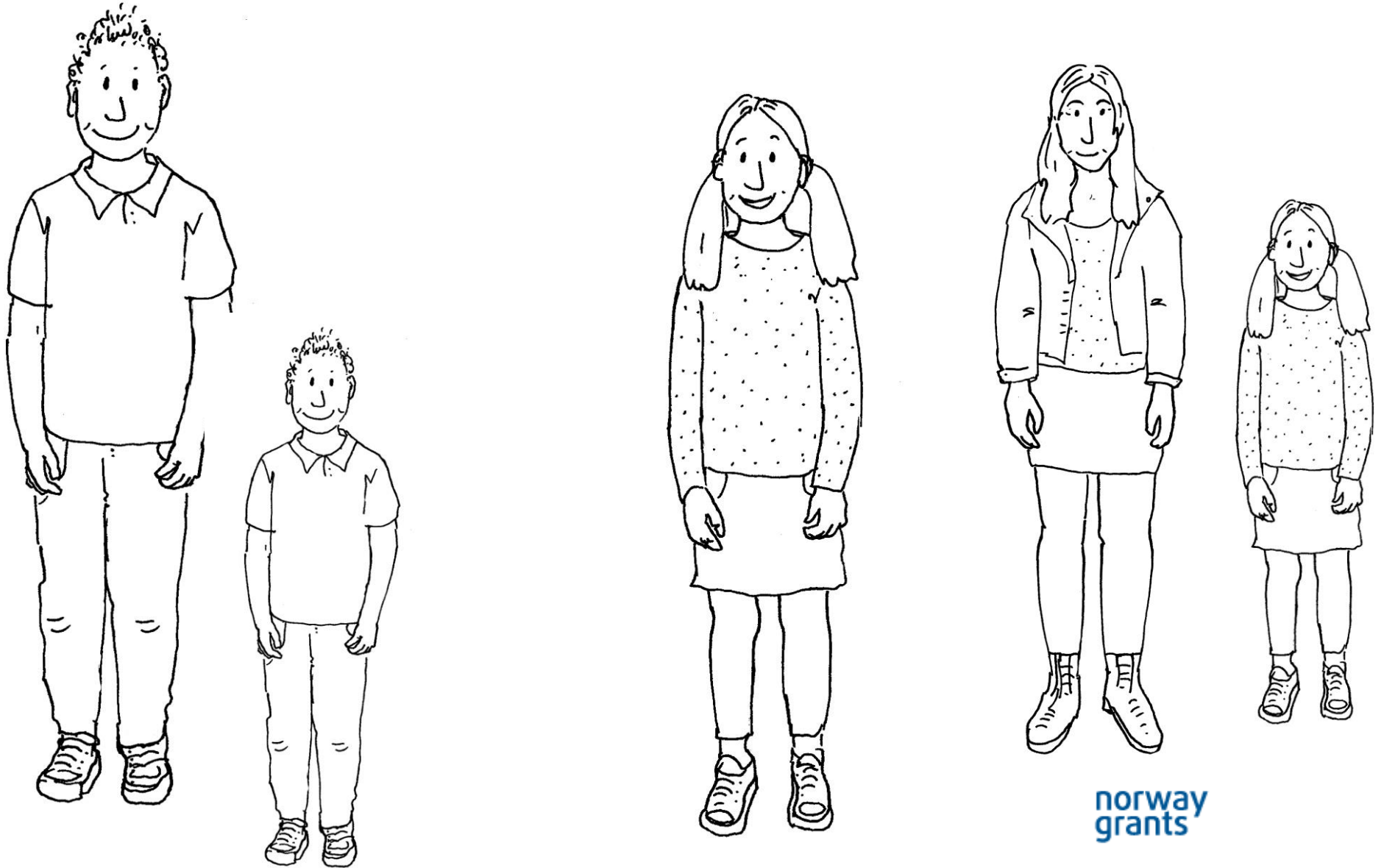
To provide skills for specialists about the ways of treating and counselling young people who suffer from problems in sexual behavior (abusive behaviour towards other children).

WHY this project?

Based on the experiences of Tartu Child Support Centre children and youth with special mental needs are more endangered to become victims of sexual abuse and may themselves abuse other children.



What is specific in teaching young people with special needs?



Essential things to keep in mind while teaching children with special mental needs:

- Because of cognitive development perceiving and thinking are different
- They have difficulties in understanding cause and effect. Thinking is explicit.
 - Difficulties in adaptation.
 - Often emotionally immature.
 - Frequently suffer from individual problems that add learning difficulties: speech disorder, visual and hearing impairment, autistic features.

1st target group: social workers, psychologists, police officers - specialists that work with young people and children with special mental needs in shelters, children's homes, residential care institutions, special schools.

2nd target group: young people with special mental needs and young offenders with mental problems, met by professionals who work with children and young people.

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Project activities:

I Trainings: three 3-days training cycles for specialists. 72 hours in total.

Trainers: psychologists of Tartu Child Support Centre; special pedagogues and specialists of Estonian Sexual Health Association.

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III 3 round tables

IV 2 information days/ training days for specialists

V Supervisions for project partners

VI Manual with task sheets (methodological material for specialists)

Complementary small project from bilateral relations funds, with deadline on April 1st.

Structure of 3-days training

Day 1st – topic of child abuse, risk factors of becoming victim or offender, causes, consequences. Reason of deviant sexual behavior of children and youth.

Trainers: clinical psychologists, clinical sexologists of Tartu Child Support Centre

Handled topics:

Day 2nd – methodology in teaching children with special mental needs. Trainers: special pedagogues who have been working in schools for children with special needs.

Day 3rd – practical training of teaching sexual knowledge to children and young people with role plays. Trainers: specialists from Estonian Sexual Health Association.

Tartu Laste Tugikeskus

SEKSUAALSUS JA LAPSE ERIVAJADUS

Abimaterjal kasvatajale



Structure of the book

Theoretical part (7 authors)

Games and discussions (11 task sheets)

Illustrations – 38 drawings

Subjects

- Who is a child with special mental needs? What is the special need resulting from mental disability that has to be taken into account in communication?
- Sexual development of children.
- Sexual development of children with special mental needs.
- Talking about sexuality with a child whose special needs result from mental disability.
- Child abuse.

- Talking with a child with special mental needs about sexual abuse.
- Sexual education in an institution for children and young people.
- Child with special mental needs as a victim and as an offender in criminal proceedings.
- Guidelines, tasksheets, illustrations.
- Contacts and useful educational material.

Tartu Child Support Center

Kaunase str. 11-2

50704 Tartu

www.tugikeskus.org.ee

Email: ch.abuse@online.ee

Phone:

+372 7484666

