

Working for inclusion

National conference focussing on: How to develop good and holistic welfare models for working with children in a rural county?

Bodø, Radisson SAS Hotel January 28th and 29th 2010











Background and objectives for the conference

Nordland Research Institute, Bodø municipality, Nordland county municipality and the County Governor of Nordland take part in an international project together with partners from Scotland, Italy and Poland. The aim of the project is to contribute to developing holistic and good services for children and youth, and thereby promoting inclusion and preventing the development of poverty. As part of the project a national conference will be held in Bodø, where a particular focus is placed on how it is possible to develop good models for holistic services for children, youth and their families in a sparsely populated, predominately rural county such as Nordland. Models for education, recruiting and keeping well qualified staff to work with children and youth are the prioritized aspects of the conference.

The aim of the conference is to get new inspiration for the continuous development of good models for working with children and youth, to exchange experiences and get an insight into the challenges and opportunities that can be found in our partner countries, and have the opportunity to learn from and together with them.

Target groups

The target group for the conference is people who are responsible both politically and administratively for facilitating the development of holistic services for children and youth. In the municipalities this includes leaders for education and kindergarten services, chief administrative officers, leaders of health visitor and midwife services, the Pedagogical Psychological services, and politicians with responsibility for services for children and youth etc. In the county municipalities we target people working within the education sector and vocational training, and at the County Governor offices we invite people working within education, social services and health. In addition we welcome people working at university colleges and universities, employee unions, The Norwegian Association of Regional and Local Authorities etc.

Programme

Thursday January 28th

09.30 – 10.30 Registration – Coffee

10.30 – 11.00 Opening of the conference by the mayor in Bodø, Odd-Tore Fygle. Cultural presentation from pupils at Bodø Culture School.

11.00 – 12.00 Key note speech. Challenges and opportunities in the development of interdisciplinary and holistic models for children and youth services.

12.00 - 13.00 Lunch

13.00 – 14.20 Parallel sessions (see list below)

14.20 - 14.30 Pause - change of rooms

14.30 – 15.50 Parallel sessions are repeated

15.50 - 16.00 Pause

16.00 – 17.00 'The concept and practice of territorial equivalence and its significance for holistic rural development, inclusion and education.' John M Bryden og Karen Refsgaard, NILF, Oslo.

20.00 Informal evening event with entertainment, food and something to drink.

Friday January 29th

09.00 – 09.15 Opening of Day 2. Cultural presentation by students at Bodø Upper Secondary school, Program Area for Music, Dance and Drama

09.15 – 10.30 'Not a magic bullet but the early years workforce can make a real difference to children's lives ...' Bronwen Cohen, Children in Scotland, reports on the findings of the EC funded Working for Inclusion research study on the role of the early childhood education and care workforce in promoting social inclusion - and reflects on children's rights, 'place' and inclusion. Norwegian comment by Reidar Hjermann, Children's Ombudsman.

10.30 - 11.00 Coffee

11.00 – 12.30 Working for Inclusion – what are the challenges and opportunities? Presentations by representatives from Italy, Poland, Scotland and Norway.

12.30 – 13.00 Closing remarks/reflections from Reidar Hjermann, Children's Ombudsman. End of conference. 13.00 – 14.00 Lunch

Parallell Sessions - Day 1

Session 1: Developing a good upbringing model through cooperation. About the upbringing work in Bodø municipality. Henny Aune, Upbringing Coordinator, Bodø municipality.

Session 2: Family centre – model for interdisciplinary cooperation. Presentations from Bodø and Fauske municipality. Bjørg Apeland, Bodø municipality and Irene Larssen, Fauske municipality.

Session 3: Competence development and the development of holistic services through inter-municipal cooperation. The case of Vesterålen. Hilde Hansen, RKK Vesterålen and Lødingen.

Session 4: Local qualification and competence development for working with children and youth through guidance and decentralised courses within upper secondary education. Ingunn Mikaelsen, Saltdal Upper Secondary school, Inger Lise Pettersen, Nordland County Municipality and Bibbi Myrvoll, The Career Centre in Indre Salten.

Session 5: Good models for decentralisation and development of higher education to meet the need for development in rural areas. Elisabeth Nilsen, Bodø University College.

The parallel sessions run twice.

Conference fee incl. evening event: NOK 1500,-

Conference fee without evening event: NOK 1100,-

Registration at Nordland County Municipality website: www.nfk.no Registration deadline: 15/1-2010

Welcome!