

#### INTERNATIONAL PARTNER INFORMATION SHEET

### 1) Name of Partner Organisation and Main Contact for Exchange

Associazione Italiana Persone Down Onlus sez. Pisa (AIPD Onlus)

# Contact person:

**Paola Farris** 

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#### 2) Address of Partner Organisation, Telephone, E-Mail and Website

Via Rosellini 42/44 - 56124 Pisa - Italy

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www.aipdpisa.org

Fiscal Code: 93065190501

### 3) Age Group, Gender and Social Background of Group Members

Group Members, all aged between 16 and 30 years old, are men and women with Down syndrome who regularly attend the activities of the Association. Most of them enjoys a certain level of autonomy, and for this they need to develop greater communication skills, to experience more opportunities to interact among peers, to strengthen their capacity in order to be able to enjoy independent living and to be able to enter the world of work.

12 young people per group. 6 male and 6 female if possible.

1 male and 1 female leader for each group.

# 4) 3 Main Aims of Partner Organisation

The Association has, by statute, the following purpose and specific objectives:

• Intervene to give to family members of people with Down Syndrome psychological support, extended information and correct, practical support,



opportunities for interaction and exchange of information and experience;

- Facilitate the necessary and fruitful inclusion of children with Down syndrome in schools of every order and degree;
- Promote and organise all activities aimed at promoting the inclusion of all people with Down syndrome in society and in the world of work and their acceptance at all levels, even with the organization and management of projects for the development of personal autonomy and external courses and vocational trainings;
- Promote the creation of structures and services tailored to meet the people with Down syndrome's needs, including residential needs;
- Create a network of consultants consisting of physicians, health care, education and social professionals, who are sensitive and concerned with the problems of Down syndrome, in order to achieve a better general care;
- Spread the knowledge of operational, legislative and social security tools which can benefit all people with Down syndrome.

The Association has in the "Course of Education to the Autonomy" its core activity. Since 1998, it works on education courses and social autonomy; since then, the activities were expanded by involving not only teenagers but also other age groups. There is another project called "Play and learn" aimed at children, dedicated to their first steps into the world. A third project is addressed to young people, the Agency of Leisure, which is a container created to develop and facilitate the management of free time. Finally, with the group of adults with Down syndrome, the project called "Agency" meets their needs in free time and their interests.

Since 2003, AIPD has expanded the concept of autonomy, hitherto seen only from the social point of view. With the renovation of an apartment and the opening of "Our House", the Association began working during the weekends with young adults with Down syndrome, by managing a home, sharing its space, a path therefore targeted to residential autonomy with the important goal of starting to think about a life outside the family. Within this initiative are then connected other initiatives, always with the goal of encouraging a process of gradual autonomy of people with Down syndrome.

# 5) Project title

**SEEDS - Social Entrepreneurship bEyond DisabilitieS** 

5) a) Preferred Dates and Number of Days for Exchange



#### b) Possible Dates for Advance Visit

We are open to any period for the Advance Visit and the Exchange. The Exchange can be of maximum 10 days (travel days excluded).

# 6) Accommodation and Facilities To Be Used During Hosting Stage of Exchange

Young people will be hosted in the Association's headquarters, which is an independent building with a small garden where the 2nd floor is equipped with 3 double rooms, a kitchen, a dining room, a library and toilets.

## 7) List of Activities, Workshops, Visits etc Proposed For Exchange

Among the activities proposed, there can be the following:

- visit to a virtuous example of working inclusion of one of the AIPD's members;
- organisation of a meeting with relevant public institutions in the field of youth, disability, social services, employment;
- conference in Pisa on the opportunities of social inclusion for people with Down Syndrome, especially in the field of employment and autonomous living solutions;
- workshops with the Group Members of the different organisations involved, on topics such as: a) developing the sense of entrepreneurship; b) how to write a CV and to be prepared to a job interview; c) "If I were in your shoes"- activity to develop problem solving attitude; d) "My home is your home" activity to develop the sense of tolerance and organisational skills; e) focusing on how and which social services should be improved, implemented and available in their municipalities; etc.
- vocational training on being a waiter/waitress;
- a 2-days of co-living in the buildings of AIPD;
- Tourist tour of the town of Pisa, done by the Association's Group Members involved in the project;

# 8 Currency In Partner Country And Additional Money Advice

AIPD will cover costs of food, accommodation, transport, activities during the local stage. Additional money should be brought by participants. Local currency is EURO.



# Types of Transport To Be Used During Exchange AIPD will collect the partner group from the airport. During your visit we will use a minibus, large buses and trains. Any Other Helpful Information a) AIPD welcomes the participation of young people with disabilities as well as able-bodied people b) Our members will meet your representatives during the advance visits and

- you will visit the residential centre where your group will stay
  c) We will ask our members to e-mail your members before the exchange
- begins
- d) During the exchange we will make a DVD of the activities
- e) Your group will have one free day so that you can relax at residential centre or go shopping
- f) Leaders should preferably speak English and/or French
- g) It is recommended to indicate any Special Needs to be covered during the Exchange at the earliest stage of the partnership, and always <u>before</u> submitting the project proposal
- h) AIPD would give priority to project partners who are willing to organise also an Exchange in their home country in a second stage.