



Dear Organization,

My name is Àngels Guiteras Mestres, President of ABD Welfare and Development Association (Asociación Bienestar y Desarrollo) and I have the pleasure to introduce you to the association I represent.

ABD is an NGO created in the 80s and declared to be of public interest. We develop projects and work on services and programs which try to give an answer to vulnerable situations, which can lead to social exclusion.

Our **mission** is to manage and coordinate processes focused on people's empowerment while enhancing their autonomy. We give support to people throughout their lives, preventing them from socially vulnerable situations, assisting their needs, getting society involved and promoting a socially cohesive society.

Our **Vision**: We belong to the Third Sector and the social economy: we work looking for the maximum efficiency because we seek to produce the greatest impact.

ABD is structured in **four main intervention's areas**: Drugs Addiction area; Poverty and Inclusion area; Childhood and family area and Socio-health area. All the programs we develop address the following processes that create situations of vulnerability or social exclusion: situations like drug addiction and associated diseases, migration processes, violence within the family, early motherhood, ageing, disability, mental health care or lack of basic goods such as housing and employment.

In relation with **migrant's inclusion** ABD manages through public procurement the Reception point of the Barcelona City Council named "SAIER", with the mission of informing and derive the newcomers that seek for counselling and support in our city, and attending more than immigrants, asylum-seekers and refugees. Simultaneously, ABD manages through public procurement the Barcelona City Council service of intercultural translation and mediation, a community action service that addresses and prevents conflicts through mediation between neighbours in the city of Barcelona.

At a European level, ABD in the last years has implemented an **internationalization strategy** that has resulted in the leadership of an Erasmus + KA2 project (2016-MythWORK), and being part of the Consortium of an AMIF project (2018-Food Relations), a Justice project (2017-Solidify), an ESF Agency project (2018- Social Economy for Care) and the Erasmus+ KA2 (2017-Tech-Ability).

The impact of ABD is due to the work of an interdisciplinary team of **2,000 professionals** and more than **400 people involved in voluntary work**. Together with citizens, public institutions and other organizations ABD actively participates in more than 55



platforms at a local, national and European level, promoted by Third Sector organizations leaders or public administration.

ABD's experience in working with social exclusion within the national and local context, allowed us to participate in various projects, both as coordinators and partners, in the wider European context.

For this reason, ABD intent is to make its expertise and capacities available to those looking for European partners for the development of European projects.

For more information about us and our activities, below you can find a summary of the association.

You can also visit our website: <https://abd.org/home> and watch our recap video here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=k3bjcD-854o>

I am at your disposal for further information and clarifications.

Kind Regards,

Àngels Guiteras Mestres

## ABD Information

GENERAL INFORMATION	
PIC*	944665638
Full legal name (National language)	ASOCIACIÓN BIENESTAR Y DESARROLLO
Full legal name (Latin characters)	ASOCIACIÓN BIENESTAR Y DESARROLLO
Acronym	<b>ABD</b>
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PROFILE	
Type of Organisation	NGO
Is the partner organisation a public body?	No
Is the partner organisation a non-profit?	Yes



## Background and Experience

ABD is a non-profit organization nominated a "public service" by the government and which started in the 1980s. After more than 20 years, we still believe that everyone deserves to live in a society that minimizes or attempts to eradicate inequalities and social exclusions and we carry on to work to do so.

ABD provides different programs and services that offer solutions to most situations that generate vulnerability and social exclusion. We are dedicated to guiding people through this important path of their lives, trying to prevent situations where they may feel fragile. We work to meet their needs as well as the needs of those around them. Our mission is to manage and coordinate processes focused on people's empowerment while enhancing their autonomy. These processes are to be implemented efficiently, ethically and with proven levels of quality and sustainability.

We are developing more than 75 programs and services that respond to the processes that create situations of vulnerability or social exclusion. Situations like drug addiction and associated diseases, migration, violence within the family, early motherhood, old age, disability, mental health, or lack of basic goods such as housing and employment are addressed to more than 95,000 people we attend each year. Care work is complemented by training and awareness programs aimed specifically at a population of more than 600,000 youth, and with programs and community involvement and personal development that have an impact on more than 9,000 people.

This impact is due to the work of an interdisciplinary team of 2,000 professionals in the social and health care and an intervention model that maintains the participation of civil society in all its actions: 400 people involved in voluntary work. Voluntary action is an engaged and transformative activity. The volunteers express their responsibility and involvement in the community and create a socially cohesive environment. No doubts, their work contributes to the defence of vulnerable people and group interests.

ABD is structured in five main intervention areas. Each one has got several services created in order to accomplish our mission and goals.

- Drugs Addiction Area makes an intervention in issues related to drug abuse and HIV/AIDS from a bio-psychosocial and community perspective in the services of prevention, care and inclusion designed to meet specific people's needs, promote social development and healthy lifestyles.
  - Poverty and Inclusion area supplies all collectives in a situation of social vulnerability or exclusion. The strategies are based on prevention, care and information; all of them with the aim of achieving social inclusion and integration.
  - Childhood and family area offers attention, treatment and prevention of current family situations using new methods for developing family's welfare. The beneficiaries are people with psychosocial problems within family environment (family violence, adoptions, child abuse, separation, etc.).
  - Socio-health area includes attention, organization, coordination and management of all the services, both individual and collective, which are needed by drug addicts.
- From the beginning, we are committed to external supervision based on the criteria of ethics, quality, efficiency and accountability. We set up several assurance systems of quality and transparency in entity management and in all our services and programs.

From the beginning, ABD has audited its financial data by an external auditor, and since 2004 ABD's Management System and all our services and programs have been auditing and conforming to ISO Norm 9001:2008 by Bureau Veritas.

Since our foundation in the early 80s, we have always believed that cooperation and collaboration are inherent values in our project. We have worked very hard throughout the years to become a trustful organization. Together with citizens, public institutions and other organizations, we intend to create a support's network. We actively participate in more than 55 platforms promoted by Third Sector organizations or public administration, as the Civil Society Forum on Drugs (CSF - EU).

**What are the activities and experience of your organisation in the areas relevant for this project? What are the skills and/or expertise of key persons involved in this project?**

ABD develops projects in the field of social exclusion since its beginning. ABD was founded as an organization in the field of drug addiction and based on this experience it develops projects and programs to tackle the social vulnerability or exclusion. The strategies are based on prevention, care and information; all of them with the aim of achieving social inclusion and integration.

We currently have a catalogue of services aimed at the different aspects that accelerate social exclusion, such as immigration, lack of training, situations of long-term unemployment, homelessness, women, illness, youth, etc. They all work towards the integration of people experiencing social exclusion that affects some of the basic aspects of their vulnerability, and ensuring basic aspects of social integration, such as training and skills development for work.

We specifically develop services aimed at the first moments of coming to the city of Barcelona and the process of connecting with the network of public care (health and social services, especially). In order to do so, ABD has a multicultural team, with more than 33 different nationalities, as of those who assist and accompany people of all nationalities, with different migration paths (economic, political, regrouping, etc.) and with different needs (families, women, unaccompanied minors, etc.). ABD annually offers this kind of support to more than 11,000 people in the city of Barcelona.

The approach to young immigrants is also realized through specialized services in the field of health care through "health workshops with young immigrants" and "assistance service for pregnant minors." In both programs ABD uses reconciliation and linking strategies to the group of young immigrants in order to reduce inequalities concerning health (especially those about drug use, sexual and reproductive health and aspects of parenting) and to improve their strategies of social inclusion (avoiding school dropouts, encouraging labour insertion, etc.). Both services assist directly more than 275 minors and for a period of 6 months to three years.

Furthermore, the understanding of the family environment is the first step to address the situations of exclusion arising from the unemployed and/or job insecurity. This is the reason why we state that our experience in social inclusion projects and also in

labour insertion and those addressed to family development are complementary. Every year, ABD reaches more than 15.000 families, 3000 of them who had to include their sons and daughters in the migration processes. In all our services, ABD gives attention to people from different ages and it adapts its methodology to the characteristics of each group, if necessary. Moreover, ABD carries out prevention programs in schools and/or in attention services offered to young people at risk of social exclusion (juvenile facilities, etc.). These programs reach over 9.000 young people: Workshops on gender equality and Drug prevention activities for Young people.

Despite all this work, in ABD we currently face different challenges related to the care of children and young immigrants, and now it is more important than ever due to the expected waves of refugees in Europe. The first challenge is to achieve a better care for unaccompanied minors. These children have protection but often do not have social support which leads to illegal abandonment in the streets. And the second challenge is to achieve a full integration of immigrant children who have other indicators of exclusion: we want to adapt dropout prevention and labour insertion projects for the group of young immigrants (ABD has employment and work inclusion services addressed to structural and emergent poorness, people affected by the effect of the crisis).

Despite being able to bring a lot of experience in the intervention, ABD also needs to lead this project in order to provide new approach and relationship strategies with young immigrants that allow us to develop a real integration work. We need to investigate new tools and to train our teams. To manage the project ABD proposes a team conformed by: A team specialized in social impact services and programs creation, assessment and social research, as well as decentralized cooperation and projects specialized in the field of community mediation, migration and development.

### Have you participated in a European Union granted project in the 3 years preceding this application?

- SolidiFy - Supervised Drug consumption Facilities to instil harm reduction and social cohesion at local level – Funded by the European Commission (JUST 2016)
- Integration of Third-Country Nationals - AMIF-2016-AG-INTE-01, Food Relations. Funded by European Commission (AMIF 2018)
- DREAM Project, Funded by the European Commission ( EUROPE FOR CITIZENS 2018)
- Social Economy for care, Funded by the European Commission ( INTEREG 2018)
- ERASMUS+KA2, M.Yth.WORK Innovative Techniques for Reaching Out to Migrant Youth - 2016-2- ES02-KA205- 008204
- PREDICT – participation in the Project: PREDICTING RISK OF EMERGING DRUGS WITH IN SILICO AND CLINICAL TOXICOLOGY Funded by the European Commission (JUST) 2016-2017.