
Detailed description of thematic focus of individual activities

Small Grant Scheme Call

Support of NGOs activities in the field of mental health of children and adolescents

Activity no. 1

Implementing innovative and/or improving the current preventive social-rehabilitation and community-supportive methods and practices in the field of mental health care for children and adolescents

Programs, methods and interventions related to the mental health of children and teenagers from early childhood to adolescence will be supported.

- In the area of prevention, the support will be provided to programs aimed at identification of risk of mental disorder and its early detection and programs targeting populations at risk, such as children in orphanages and other institutional care facilities and in low-threshold facilities for children and adolescents; as well as prematurely born children, children of mentally ill parents, children with chronic somatic diseases, etc. Eligible are also programs focused on addressing the behavior which increases the risk of mental illness, such as bullying, as well as programs aimed at reducing the negative impact of mental illness of a family member on the healthy members of the family. This activity also includes, for example, new ways of organizing cooperation between professionals from more than one profession.
- In the field of therapeutic and rehabilitation area, the support will be directed to the introduction of comprehensive social rehabilitation programs and psychosocial procedures aimed at reducing the risk of illness recurrence and mitigating the impact of the illness on the functioning of the child and adolescent as well as on family members. In the field of community-based supportive care, this activity can include programs to support families of children with mental illness, such as respite stays and programs aiming to improve socialization and promote healthy social ties of children with mental disorders in their natural environment.

Activity no. 2

Educating children and adolescents to improve their knowledge and skills in the field of mental health and strengthening the prevention of mental health problems

- Support will be provided for the implementation of psychoeducational programs, campaigns and materials aimed at children and adolescents with mental illness, but also at groups at risk of developing mental illness and the general child population. In addition, educational programs for schools will be supported, either in the form of lectures and other preventive activities related to mental illness, or by creating a curriculum. The preparation, creation and distribution of printed and electronic texts and audio-visual materials for schools and the general child and adolescent population on the topic of mental health and mental disorders will also be supported under this activity.

Activity no. 3

Educating and enhancing the expertise and skills of health professionals providing care to children with mental disorders as well as non-medical professionals, informal carers and pedagogues

- This area supports the education of health professionals specialized in the field of mental health of children and adolescents, be it pedo-psychiatrists, clinical psychologists or nurses. The support can also go to educational activities increasing the knowledge and competence in the field of mental disorders in cooperating professions, especially physicians of first contact, such as general practitioners for children and adolescents as well as non-medical professionals (teachers and other pedagogical personnel). This activity will also support increased knowledge of undergraduate students at medical faculties about mental health of children and adolescents. Generally, the aim of this activity is the implementation of courses, lecture cycles, creation of educational materials, both in paper and electronic form.

Activity no. 4**Information and destigmatization activities raising awareness among professionals and the general public about mental health and mental disorders in children and adolescents**

- Eligible activities include creating and implementing, in a comprehensible and attractive way, information activities, programmes and campaigns raising awareness of the general public of mental health of children and adolescents. The supported activities can either target a specific population group, such as education sector employees, or have a broader focus on general population. Support will be given to the implementation of destigmatization campaigns aimed at improving awareness of mental illnesses in children and adolescents, both in the form of education and in the form of direct experience with this population. The preparation, creation and distribution of printed and electronic texts and audio-visual materials on the topic of mental health and mental disorders in children and adolescents will be among the supported activities. This activity will also finance raising awareness of professions dealing with the treatment of mental disorders and the destigmatization of these professional disciplines and the respective experts.