



equalhungary.hu

The EQUAL Programme is funded by the European Social Fund and the Hungarian Government. Az EQUAL Programot az Európai Szociális Alap és a Magyar Kormány finanszírozza.



# UNITED FORCE

EQUAL project

Labour market reintegration  
through homeless services

(2005. 07. 01 – 2007. 12. 31.)



Menhely Alapítvány



BMSZKI



Fővárosi Szociális Közalapítvány

## THE PROJECT IS SUPPORTED BY:

Magyarország célba ér



European Union



The Hungarian Government

## MEMBERS OF THE UNITED FORCE PARTNERSHIP:



**BMSZKI**  
Budapest, 1134,  
Dózsa György út 152.  
[www.bmszki.hu](http://www.bmszki.hu)



**Menhely Alapítvány**  
Budapest, 1082,  
Vajdahunyad u. 3.  
[www.menhely.hu](http://www.menhely.hu)



Fővárosi Szociális Közalapítvány  
Budapest, 1052, Városház u. 9-11.

The leader of the partnership is also responsible for communication:

BMSZKI  
Fehér Boróka  
Tel: +36 1 2389-527  
[feher.boroka@bmszki.hu](mailto:feher.boroka@bmszki.hu)

## SUPERVISING BODIES

Országos Foglalkoztatási Közalapítvány  
EQUAL Nemzeti Programiroda  
Budapest, 1037, Galagonya utca 5.  
[www.ofa.hu](http://www.ofa.hu)



Nemzeti Fejlesztési Ügynökség HEFOP és EQUAL Közösségi  
Kezdeményezés Irányító Hatóság  
Budapest, 1133, Pozsonyi út 56.  
[www.equalhungary.hu](http://www.equalhungary.hu)  
2006

## THE GOAL OF THE PROJECT

The goal of our project is to stimulate homeless people getting stuck in the services of homeless provision, as well as the system of service provision (including helping professionals) to help homeless people leave services and live an active, self-sustaining life as integrated members of society.

In today's Hungary, apart from the Roma, people with disabilities and low qualifications, one of the most endangered groups regarding unemployment is that of the homeless. As most homeless people face multiple disadvantages (on top of their lack of housing there are often also problems with unemployment, addiction, social isolation, psychological disorders), a complex system of social support has to be created to help them.

### PROGRAM 1: TRAINING AND HELPING HOMELESS PEOPLE FIND EMPLOYMENT

► Creating Job Centres (on two locations: helping homeless service users find jobs, write CVs, learn how to find and keep employment...).

► Creating and operating a Social Information Centre (SZIK) – providing a wide-range of information for both users and social workers, as well as legal and psychological advice.

► Needs assessment (assessing the needs of homeless people by several tests designed for this purpose).

#### What do we know about homeless people?<sup>1</sup>

- 63% are between 40-59 years old
- 45% only accomplished the primary 8 grades of school
- 46% considers themselves healthy enough to work
- 57% have some sort of work income
- there are more people with occasional jobs than with regular ones

1) Based on a study of 1411 homeless people, service users in one of BMSZKI's services, 2005. <http://www.4inclusion.org/documents/documents.asp>

- ▶ Trainings (recruiting candidates for specific skills trainings, supporting them before, during and after the training both individually and in groups).
- ▶ Creating and operating small IT centres in services (as well as teaching homeless people basic IT skills).
- ▶ Empowering the Fedél Nélkül (Roofless) streetpaper, disseminating the experiences and results of the project. ([www.fedelnelkul.hu](http://www.fedelnelkul.hu)).
- ▶ Helping to create as well as supporting a new self-representational association of homeless people.

<b>Number of homeless people participating in various activities</b>	<b>As planned by 2007.12.31</b>	<b>As of 2006.06.30</b>
Needs assessment	1400	900
Recruiting to skills training	350	192
Preparing those chosen for skills training	175	119
Individual and group support during skills training	125	104
Job seeking training	100	n.a. <sup>2</sup>
Job keeping training	140	n.a.
Basic IT skills training	60	22
Job seekers in either job centres	Not estimated	1050
Fedél Nélkül street paper EQUAL reporters	3	4
Fedél Nélkül special vendors	40	22
Members of self-representational association in training	15	n.a.

2) Not available – those services have not started as yet

## PROGRAM 2: IMPROVING SERVICES - TRAINING OF SOCIAL WORKERS

► Creating and operating a Social Information Centre (SZIK) – providing a wide-range of information for both service users and social workers, as well as legal and psychological advice. This includes 4 specialized networks of social workers, in the following fields of expertise:

1. Employment
2. Housing
3. Addiction
4. Social homes for the elderly or disabled

The 4 thematic groups of experts have monthly trainings in their relevant fields.

► Practice-oriented trainings for social workers (IT skills, policy issues, supervision, teaching homeless people various skills, how to lead small groups, - 150 staff involved).

► Training the staff of the Job Centres (a Job Centre with several years of experience trained our 8 advisors especially for this task).



## PROGRAM 3: SOCIAL PURPOSE COMMUNICATION

### The goal of this program is:

- ▶ To integrate the feedback from homeless people and social workers into the project,
- ▶ To diminish social prejudice,
- ▶ To introduce and disseminate good practice and experience to social services, homeless people and employers.



### How?

- ▶ Group discussions (involving homeless people, social workers, employers and journalists, both in services and “neutral” locations).
- ▶ “A City of Solidarity” conference – Budapest, September 2006.
- ▶ Interviews with helpers and service users.
- ▶ A study about legal possibilities regarding employment (for employers as well as those (to be) employed).
- ▶ Publishing various brochures of information (for employers and for homeless job seekers as well).
- ▶ Fedél Nélkül (Street Paper) EQUAL special section (every two weeks).

## PROGRAM 4: TRANSNATIONAL ACTIVITIES

In the course of transnational cooperation the project carries out activities in partnership with three other similar projects: Interprepa (Paris), Motiva (Madrid) and TMD (London). This partnership is called **4inclusion**.

Common objectives:

► *Objective 1:* To exchange practice and test new new methods for routes into activity, including engagement and volunteering.

► *Objective 2:* To exchange practice and test new methods for routes into the labour market, addressing the needs of both individuals and employers, and including mechanisms such as social enterprise, corporate social responsibility, and access to the open labour market.

► *Objective 3:* To utilise a variety of sources of information to identify and compare the impact of multiple disadvantage on the target groups.

► *Objective 4:* To exchange practice and test new methods for participation to empower the identified target groups and individuals.



Common activities/tasks:

- ▶ Transnational themed seminars for exchanging ideas and best practice
  - “New ways to the Labour market” – *Paris, October 2005.*
  - “New Ways to Social Activation” – *Madrid, May 2006.*
  - “New Approaches for People Facing Multiple Disadvantages” – *Budapest, October 2006.*
  - “Empowerment” – *London, April 2007.*
- ▶ Formal and informal exchange between staff as well as service users.
- ▶ Final conference – *Budapest, October 2007.*
- ▶ Participating in other conferences to disseminate results.
- ▶ Publishing results and findings of projects
- ▶ Production of CD-Rom (to enable the dissemination of information).
- ▶ Specialist reports on “Gender Equality and Opportunities” and “ICT training and use”.
- ▶ Evidence base – transnational baseline and common indicators.

For more information about transnational activities or the partnership itself, please visit [www.4inclusion.org](http://www.4inclusion.org).



The transnational partnership is in close cooperation with FEANTSA, the European Federation of Organizations working with the Homeless. [www.feantsa.org](http://www.feantsa.org)

[www.menhely.hu](http://www.menhely.hu)  
[www.bmszki.hu](http://www.bmszki.hu)