



Education and Culture

Leonardo da Vinci

BMSZKI, Budapest City's homeless service provider (www.bmszki.hu), successfully concluded a Leonardo da Vinci Life Long Learning mobility project in December 2009. We sent altogether 16 colleagues to 11 different cities all over Europe for a period of 2-15 weeks, to do "practical training" in homeless services. Our host partners were mostly NGOs, and some services ran by local authorities. The staff involved carried out real work, although limited, as there were language barriers as well as lack of knowledge of the specific systems. Our social workers were placed in specific projects where they spent around three days a week, and they were also shown other projects to help understand the whole network of services for homeless people. Upon their return they had to make an oral presentation with photos, as well as write a report of 25-40 pages about their experiences.



We do think it was a good programme and most of the participants came home with new enthusiasm for their work and new ideas of what to do. So overall it has not only had a positive effect on them individually but hopefully their teams and even the organization as a whole.

We are planning to run a similar exchange, send as well as host social workers, in 2010-2011. The deadline for applying is February 5th, 2010. Please contact feher.boroka@bmszki.hu for more information.