



HOUSING FIRST IN ITALY:

Building Network, Making Innovation

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POD MAATSCHAPPELIJKE INTEGRATIE
BETER SAMEN LEVEN
SPP INTÉGRATION SOCIALE
MIEUX VIVRE ENSEMBLE





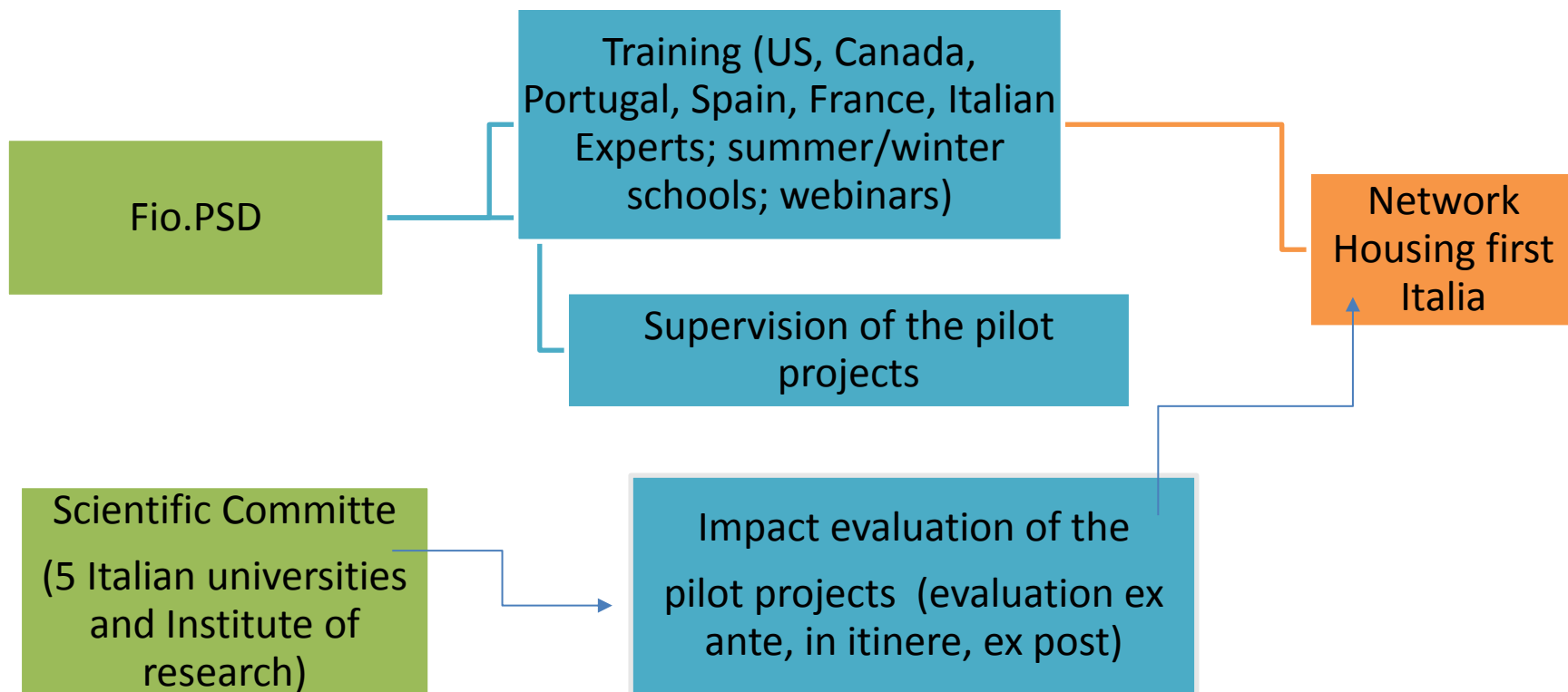
How was Housing First in Italy born

- Since 2014 **fiO.PSD** (the Italian Federation of Organization Working with Homeless People) launched the **National Programme for Implementing Housing First** in Italy
- Broad consensus among fiO.PSD's members and not only
- Participation of more than 100 social workers, managers, directors, public servants, scholars, researchers and students in the poverty sector were registered during the launch of the programme (**Turin HF Conference**)
- Many organizations embrace this challenge and take part at this programme (social experimentation for 24 months)
- On 1st march 2014 the **Italian Network of Housing First** was born under the coordination of fiO.PSD





Chart





Membership

According to the Programme, each partner:

- *believes* in HF principles
- *engages* staff in training
- *starts with* three apartments for HF users
- *subscribes* an agreement with fio.PSD at standard fee
- *is available* for evaluation activities of the Scientific Committee





Composition of the Network

- 52 members located in 10 regions and 20 municipalities
- 47% not for profit, 33% Caritas, 12% other religious partner, 8% public
- Other “supporters” (neighborhoods, counselling services, real estate, lawyers, parishes, volunteers, local shops, employment agency, help center)
- 110 social workers (psychologist, educators, sociologists, social workers)





Results

- **33** operative projects
- **343** HF users (55% single adults, 45% family homeless) [+ **167** children]
 - ✓ 70% male, 30% female
 - ✓ 50 years average age
 - ✓ 63% roofless and houseless, 37% people living in insecure houses;
- **176** apartments
 - ✓ 60% in private rental housing, 21% religious property, 19% public property)
 - ✓ 26% single apartment; 43% apartment for families; 29% congregate housing (three people for room)
- High levels of social integration (**80%** report that feel safe at home, 76% meet friends and other people outside, 68% enjoy the neighborhood)
- **20** people recovered after one year

Source: IRES-FVG – University of Padova





Difficulties

- Lack of national dedicated funds
- Lack of minimum income for most vulnerable people
- Lack of affordable and permanent housing
- Cultural change/path dependency
- Heterogeneity (context-oriented and target oriented projects) (*...even if this is becoming a strength of HF Italy*)





Added values

- Net-work (working together, learning by doing, exchange of good practices, sharing between staff)
- Respect of philosophy and adaptation of the local needs
- Policy change
- Enforcement of homelessness sector
- Improvement of skills of social workers
- Scientific Committee





If you want to start a HF project...

- To invest in continuous training of the staff
- To build a solid partnership and exchange between public and private organizations
- To use HF as *driver of change* (policy change, cultural change, innovation, long-term vision)

... *What else?*

... Everyone has a secret!



The faces of the Network

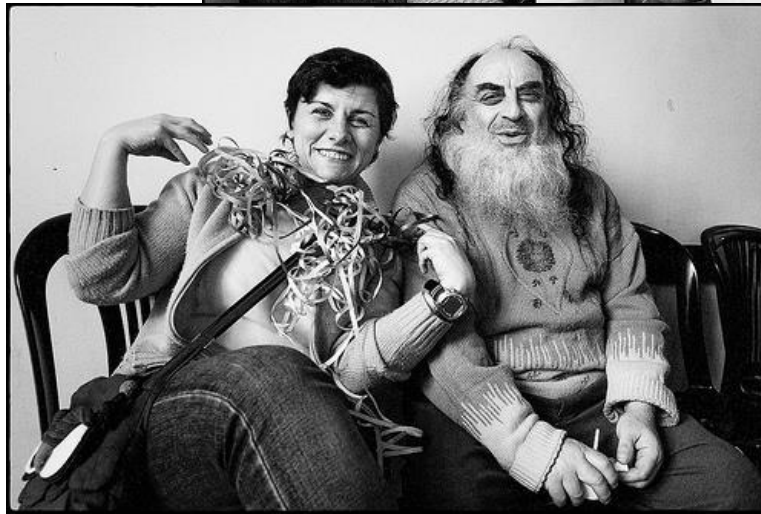


Summer school Ragusa 2014



Winter school Palermo 2015

HF Users



fio.PSD Staff for HF Italy



Cristina Avonto
fio.PSD President
HF services Provider



Domenico Leggio
fio.PSD Vice President
HF services Provider



Alessandro Carta
(fio.PSD vice president)
Senior Trainer
HF services Provider



Marco Iazzolino
Director of NHFI



Anita Adamo
Coordinator NHFI



Caterina Cortese
Coordinator Scientific
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Thank you

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