

HR4Homelessness Training

General Goal

The main aim of the training is to increase the capacity of professionals to provide Harm Reduction (HR) support and increase the coverage and quality of existing HR services and programmes in their organisations, especially for people experiencing homelessness.

Participants

The training targets frontline workers and coordinators responsible of the development and implementation of services in their organizations. This can be homeless and other social support services.

Programme of the 6 sessions

The sessions will include short and practical presentations, followed by discussions among the participants, also in smaller subgroup to facilitate exchange. Each session HR reduction interventions for people experiencing homelessness.

The 6 webinars form a series, each webinar building on the content and learnings of the previous one. [We invite you to participate in the full series of webinars.](#) If this is not possible, you can join for individual sessions (please let us know upon registration).

[For registration, please send an email to Ruth Kasper and Dalma Fabian.](#)

Webinars will be recorded and made accessible for participants. We plan to open a forum to facilitate exchange among participants (probably a closed Facebook group). Further material will be provided to the participants after the training.

Session 1 | Framing Drug Use & Homelessness, November 10th, 10 a.m. – 12 p.m. (Brussels time)

This session will welcome participants to the webinar series, provide an introduction and overview on the HR4Homelessness project and introduce participants to the main HR principles.

Participants learn about the interconnectedness of drug use and homelessness. They will be introduced to the main lenses – medical, coercive, moral, psychosocial, harm reduction – through which drugs, drug use and homelessness are framed. They understand the specific harms highlighted by each of these frames and the typologies of interventions they articulate.

Programme

1. **Introduction HR4Homelessness project** – FEANTSA: Project Goals, context, results of the European survey on current HR service provision for people in homelessness
2. **Framing and Construction of Homelessness** – Wayne Stanley, National Spokesperson for the Simon Communities of Ireland
3. **Framing and Construction of Drug Users and Drug Use**– Roberto Perez Gayo, European Harm Reduction Network
4. **Discussion**

Session 2 | Harm, Risk & Vulnerability, November 12th, 15 – 16.30 p.m. (Brussels time)

The session starts with a brief presentation on the history of HR. Participants will learn how HR has evolved in the past years and how it is interconnected to other areas of work. The need for a balanced HR and drug policy approach, which takes into account public health and human-rights perspectives, will be highlighted. Specific attention will be given to the differences between harms, risks and vulnerability.

Participants will share their experiences in smaller breakout groups and discuss the practical implication of the associated harms, risks and vulnerabilities to specific substances.

Programme

1. **A Brief History of HR and its relationship to community-led movements** – John-Peter Kools, Senior Drug Policy Advisor, Trimbos-Instituut (NL) *tbc*
2. **Harm, Risk & Vulnerability** – Roberto Perez Gayo, European Harm Reduction Network
3. **Harms, risks and vulnerabilities for specific substances-** participants choose 1 of 3 break-out rooms:
 - **New psychoactive substances (NPS)** – Eliza Kurcevic, Eurasian Harm Reduction Network
 - **‘Classic’ Opioids & Stimulants - Heroin & Cocaine** – De Regenboog Groep (NL)
 - **‘Party Drugs’** – Jorn Dekker, Drop-in Center Coordinator & Drugs Consumption Room Coordinator, De Regenboog Groep (NL)

Presentation of 15’ followed by discussion/ exchange of questions and good practices in small groups

4. **Plenary**

Session 3 | Harm Reduction Interventions for Homeless Services, November 17th, 10–11.30 a.m. (Brussels time)

The session provides an overview of different HR services and interventions such as Needle and Syringe Programmes, Drug Consumption Rooms, Outreach Work, Alcohol Managed Programmes etc.- see below. Smaller break-out groups allow participants to learn about a specific intervention.

Programme

1. **Introduction**
2. **Overview of HR Interventions for Homeless Services:** Participants learn about HR interventions for different types of homeless services (drop-in centers, Housing First programmes etc.) – Filipe Costa Miranda, Norte Vida, Director of Services
3. **Specific HR interventions-** participants choose 1 break-out room:
 - **Drugs Consumption Rooms** - Jorn Dekker, Drop-in Center Coordinator & Drugs Consumption Room Coordinator, De Regenboog Groep (NL)

- **Alcohol Managed Programmes-** De Regenboog Groep (NL)
- **HIV/HCV Community Testing, Counseling & Treatment-** Norte Vida (PT)
- **Outreach, NSP & Mobile Services-** Henrik Thiesen, MD & Director of the Health Team City of Copenhagen & Sandra Vieira, psychologist, outreach team Norte Vida (PT)

Presentation of 15' followed by discussion/ exchange of questions and good practices in small groups

4. Plenary & Closing

Session 4 | Peer Involvement, November 19th, 15 – 16.30 p.m. (Brussels time)

This session departs from the notion of peer to peer practices and examines the ways in which people who use drugs & people who experience homelessness navigate the risks associated with substance use and the experience of homelessness. To do so, we will examine what care & protective practices they use and share with their immediate peers and communities.

Building upon this HR practices “from below”, participants will be offered models of good practice in which community care and support is upscaled and supported through meaningful involvement of peers in service design, implementation and evaluation, as well as research and policy making practices.

Programme

1. **Introduction**
2. **Peer2Peer Harm Reduction Practices** – Hayley Murray / Tait Mandler (Peer researchers, University of Amsterdam) *tbc*
3. **Meaningful Involvement of PWUD / People Experiencing Homelessness** – Mat Southwel EuroNPUD
4. **Good Practice Example of Involvement #1 + Discussion** - Henrik Thiesen, Director Health Team City of Copenhagen
5. **Good Practice Example of Involvement #2 + Discussion** – Groundswell (UK) *tbc*

Session 5 | Drug Use & Homelessness: Intersectional Frameworks, November 24th, 10 – 11.30 a.m. (Brussels time)

This session will introduce participants to the concept of intersectionality, a lens through which to understand social inequality. Intersectionality aims at addressing the multiple dimensions of identity and social contexts as they intersect with one another and relate to stigma, marginalization and harm. Break-out groups at the end of the session allow participants to work in the intersection between drug use, gender, sexual orientation, class, race, physical and neural diversity, among others.

Programme

1. **Introduction: What is intersectionality and intersectional vulnerabilities?**
2. **Intersectional Frameworks** - Roberto Perez Gayo, De Regenboog Groep (NL) *tbc*

3. **Intersectionality and specific user groups-** participants choose 1 break-out room on a specific user group:
 - **Gender** – Aura Roig, Director Meztineres- Women who Use Drugs Surviving Violences (Spain)
 - **Migration, race, and challenges in access to health care system** – PICUM (tbc)
 - **Sex Work** –ICRSE
 - **Physical and mental health** – Filipe Costa Miranda, Director of Services Norte Vida, psychologist (PT)
4. **Plenary & Closing**

Session 6 | Drug Use & Homelessness: Social Justice Frameworks, November 26th, 15 – 16.30 p.m. (Brussels time)

This session will provide participants with foundational tools and examples of actions regarding advocacy to support the autonomy, rights and justice of people who use drugs and people who experience homelessness. Understanding drug use and homelessness through the lens of vulnerability implies broadening our focus beyond individual behavior and to acknowledge how the social determinants of health - marked by inequalities and exclusion - affect people who use drugs and people experiencing homelessness.

Programme

1. Introduction
2. **Topics & Areas** for Advocacy – Rights Reporter Foundation (HU)
3. **Tools & Methods** for Advocacy – Rights Reporter Foundation (HU)
4. Break-out Groups
Participants split into groups to discuss the main barriers to be tackled by advocacy, how they try to overcome these barriers in their context, methods applied, what worked out/not.
5. Final session of the webinar series: perspectives & outlook