



Project search from West Sweden

Programme:	The Fundamental Rights and Citizenship Programme, the future Erasmus for all Programme or similar programme where the topic could be addressed
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Organisation:	<p>The Municipality of Falkenberg is situated on the west coast of Sweden. The municipality consists of the town of Falkenberg located by the seaside, where more than half of the 41 000 inhabitants live, and a rural area that extends as far as 50 km to the east. The total surface area of the municipality is 1115 km². The welcoming sea shores and the variety of rural surroundings make Falkenberg a popular summer resort. Besides tourism, the economy is also based on agriculture, forestry, small and middle-sized mechanical industry and commercial services.</p> <p>Municipalities in Sweden are responsible for preschool (from the age of 1), preschool class (from the age of 6, a school form in its own right with a large element of creative work and play), compulsory school (9-year comprehensive), compulsory education for pupil/children with intellectual disabilities, leisure-time centres for school children, upper-secondary schools, upper-secondary education for pupils with learning disabilities, adult education, education for adults with intellectual disabilities and Swedish language tuition for immigrants. Furthermore, special forms of education such as childminders and drop-in pre-schools are also competence of municipalities. Falkenberg has a total of 8,661 children and pupils.</p> <p>The Department of Children and Education in Falkenberg aims to contribute to the goals of the municipality's joint vision "Everyone shall succeed". For Falkenberg, serenity at school is an important cornerstone in the foundations of the learning and the development of pupils.</p> <p>During 2013, the Department of Children and Education has revised the equality plans of each school to ensure that they all include operational efforts to prevent discrimination and degrading treatment. One of the largest schools has an employee values educator, whose tasked with leading and monitoring the work to ensure equal treatment in the school, for example by managing incidents that have occurred, talking with students, supporting teachers and head teachers with documentation, etc., and driving the everyday essential work forward. Following the success of the local investment in a values educator, the department is now looking to implement this concept across all schools to ensure that more staff gain equivalent skills.</p>

	<p>The aim is to create a network of values educators that will work to improve the skills of all staff and develop the work of all schools on equality and against harassment.</p>
<p>Project idea:</p>	<p>The Department of Children and Education in Falkenberg Municipality is pleased to communicate you its interest in participating as a <u>project partner</u> in a proposal with the aim of raising the skills levels of all educational staff in terms of equality issues within the frame of the Fundamental Rights and Citizenship Programme or any other similar EU Programme where the topic could be addressed.</p> <p>In Falkenberg, there are many excellent examples of equality work in schools. Surveys and questionnaires show that the majority of pupils in Falkenberg feel safe at school, but we are also aware that there are pupils that are subject to violence and harassment. It is our duty to stop any acts that violate an individual's dignity. The politicians leading the Department of Children and Education are very keen to safeguard the municipality's work on equal treatment. Each year officials, head teachers and teachers present some good examples along with development areas in equal treatment work.</p> <p>The department would like all staff at our schools to have the courage, the knowledge and the confidence to notice violations, to know what to do, and to be able to react in the best way. These topics are also highly addressed in the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child setting out measures to ensure that the child is protected against all forms of violence and harassment. The aim is hence to give all staff within compulsory education (focusing on children aged 12-16 years) and upper-secondary school (16-19 years) a better foundation to deal with violations, and provide them with the tools and methods to act in difficult situations. This through the training of a team/network that will in turn raise the skill levels of the entire organisation in this area.</p> <p>Falkenberg is particularly interested in cooperating with other municipalities in the EU in a project proposal which aims to develop the equality work of organisations and to ensure that all school-related staff gain a deeper understanding and better knowledge on how to work with equality related issues.</p> <p>The main objective of and EU-funded project could be to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Raise the level and knowledge within the field of equal treatment, harassment and discrimination. - Empower the staff to notice and handle difficult situations. <p>The activities carried out in the project would be to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Further educate a team/network, which will serve as the foundation/skills supply for the staff working towards pupils concerning equality issues. - Develop a toolbox of methods to work with, amongst other things:

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communication with parents • Documentation • How to act in situations where degrading treatment occurs • Standard critical thinking <p>- Training of staff in pre-schools and schools</p> <p>Please contact us if your organisation is looking to submit a project proposal as lead partner, and if you are looking for additional partners.</p>
Partners searched:	Project partners from EU-countries, EEA/EFTA countries, candidate countries, both public, private sector, NGO's, social enterprises
Key words:	Equal treatment in schools, anti-discrimination and prevention of degrading treatment
Project period:	2014-2016