

Connection mental health care and the social (youth) network in society



GGZNEDERLAND

GGZ Nederland, Dutch Association of Mental Health and Addiction Care



Parnassia Groep

Specialist in geestelijke gezondheid

Parnassia Group, specialized provider of Mental Health and Addiction Care

Goal mental health interventions

- Goal: an optimal psychological development to become a mature adult who is able to have relationships and to fulfill social responsibilities
- So we, as providers of mental health care, need a connection with the network around the youngsters where we can meet and treat

Good practice – suicide prevention

- A hausse of suicides of young people occurred in West Friesland
- We developed an approach in which we arranged meetings with the circle of people around the deceased: friends, family, school social worker etc.
- Goal: to stop epidemic aspects of suicide
- Goal: to help them coping with this tragedy

Challenging perspective – drug abuse

- Substance abuse has a different expression in cities and countryside
- In the countryside, in specific subcultures of youngsters, hot spots for drug abuse appear every now and then
- If the whole network (formal and informal) around these youngsters join forces and analyse the problem (drug specifics en surrounding specifics) we will be able to tackle the problem more effectively

Problems / challenges

- Epidemiologic: specific problems occur in small numbers. So we obtain evidence en practice based knowlegde after incidents.
- This knowlegde and the direct need to collaborate fades away when there are no actual events anymore.
- So connection of knowledge is very inportant, but how can we invest in a meaningful way of collabaration between specialized mental health care and social networks in the public domain?