



SAVE THE DATE!

Hands-on experience in Early Childhood Intervention: from grassroots initiatives to national strategies

Chisinau, Moldova: 21-22 April 2016 | Location: Radisson Blu Hotel

RATIONALE

The early childhood period is considered to be the most important developmental phase which determines the well-being, quality of health, learning and social-emotional behaviour across the life span. For children with disabilities, children presenting biological and/or social risk factors and their families access to Early Childhood Intervention (ECI) during this period is crucial to ensure and enhance their development, help them reach their full potential, strengthen the family's competences, and promote the social inclusion of the family and the child. The Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities set out an explicit obligation to provide children with disabilities age-appropriate support to enable their full enjoyment of rights on an equal basis with other children.

OBJECTIVES

Organised by EASPD together with AOPD Moldova and with the support of EurllyAid and Zero Project, the conference embarks from a strong belief: a child needs a nurturing environment to thrive. **Which are the elements needed to create an adequate environment? Who is responsible for its set up? Who is involved in the process? What are the challenges and what should be improved in the development of such environments?** All these issue will be addressed by:

- ❖ **EXPLORING THE CONCEPT AND IMPORTANCE OF ECI:** early childhood intervention services and their impact on children's development trajectory and family functioning will be explored from a human-rights, scientific and economic and perspective. A particular focus will be placed on discussing the development of national implementation strategies in regard to ECI.
- ❖ **LEARNING FROM EXPERIENCES:** the focus of the conference will be on sharing practical know-how on ECI development. Various models of good practices of ECI from across Europe as well as parents' experiences of children with special needs will be presented during the conference. Interactive workshops will offer the opportunity to further explore issues related to the setting-up of community-based ECI services and to discuss, among others, topics such as: deinstitutionalisation, family involvement, the training of staff or innovative ECI techniques and therapies.
- ❖ **DISCUSSING A MANIFESTO:** in order to emphasise the importance of quality and accessible community-based ECI services and to assist key stakeholders in developing the adequate conditions that support early childhood development, the conference will reach recommendations addressed to various relevant stakeholders and decision-makers.

For information and registration please visit : www.easpd.eu or contact **Adriana Popa**
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