

EURLYAID NEWSLETTER 3 – MARCH 2015

Dear Eurlyaaid members,
The Eurlyaaid board would like to inform you about a recent conference. 4 Eurlyaaid members contributed to the 18th Biannual Symposium of the German Association on Interdisciplinary Early Intervention „Vereinigung für Interdisziplinäre Frühförderung e.V. – VIFF“

VIFF
18. Symposion Frühförderung
February 26-28, 2015
Martin-Luther-Universität Halle-Wittenberg

**„Frühförderung mittendrin –
in Familie und Gesellschaft“**

**“Early Intervention in the Middle of Life –
In the Middle of the Family and the Society”**



HALLE is a medieval city in the center of Germany. The famous composer GEORG FRIEDRICH HAENDEL was born 1685 in Halle.

The Martin-Luther-Universität (founded 1693) invited the VIFF to organize the symposium on the university campus.

It was for the first time, that 4 lectures in English (without translation) were presented in a VIFF symposium. Several years of regularly contacts between VIFF and EURLYAID prepared this first scientific exchange which will be continued in the following years.

The abstracts of the lectures are following here:

Family centered practices a pathway for building strong family/ professionals partnerships in Early Intervention

Ana Maria Serrano,
Universidade do Minho, Braga, Portugal
(President of EURLY AID)



A family centered approach recognizes that the family is an important source of influence impacting the physical and emotional well-being of individual members, and that when professionals support families, parents are in better position to have time, energy, knowledge and skills to positively play their role on scaffolding child development (Bronfenbrenner, 1992).

So within this approach the participatory and empowering help giving provided by professionals place the family in central and pivotal roles in decisions and actions involving both the family and individual family members

This presentation aims to introduce some of the concepts underlying family centered practices as well as research evidence concerning its use and impact on families and children.

The dependency on professionals by children and parents - a network focussed family

Noor van Loen,
Groningen, Holland
(Treasurer of EURLY AID)



The cooperation between families - children with a disability and professionals is like a flower....

It shows itself in all the different phases in a different way. In case you nourish it together it will eventually blossom.

With the best result: a child that can use the best possible within its limits and develop in the best possible way.

It sounds and seems so easy....

Which elements, for all parties involved, play an important role in this process? Why and about what do we sometimes get frustrated? How do we find solutions?

In this presentation the intention is to communicate and interact with you. Just you listening and “absorbing” is not what I intent to achieve.

Family centered networking group in language training

Monica Ingemarsson,
Kristiansand, Norway
(EURLY AID-Board)



In late 1980s a model of partnership in early language intervention was elaborated in Sweden by Professor Irene Johansson. The model has been implemented in many places in Scandinavia. The structure and the realization of the model are within the framework of empowerment and partnership. The social network of the child/family is used not only as a social support system but also as a pedagogical tool. The theoretical motivation for the model draws on theories which take language development as a lifelong creative process included in other activities and governed by social, cultural and historic factors. The child is the director of his own development but significant others can give vital support and mediate processes as good pedagogues in everyday settings. The social network group grows into an intentional system of communication and an organization of problem solving creating knowledge and skills relevant for the child/family. The key concepts are child and family centered, has short and long term continuity, participatory processes and change of power structures within the field of early language intervention. Evaluations of the model make it plain that families are strengthened in their power. However, there are variations between families due to demographic factors, social support systems and the various types of disabilities of the children.

The Kangoeroe: a home-based approach in early intervention.

Open your mind to an open mind.

Dirk Mombaerts,
Wetteren, Belgium
(Member of EURLY AID)



The Kangoeroe supports over the 300 families each year in early childhood intervention in Flanders Belgium. The transdisciplinary approach is based on the demands of the families. During the intervention we focus on the needs of the child and the parents. By modeling and active participation we learn the parents the specific competencies they need to care for their child and to become more independent from professional care. In our more holistic approach we respect the way of living from each family, their cultures and their values. The action starts from the routines in the families. Our objective is to increase the quality of life from the children and the parents.

We cooperate with the specialized services of neonatology and with the local care system. So we include private therapists, regular kindergarten, nurses,... in the early childhood intervention to promote the inclusion. In the background of our home visits we organize swimming programs on Saturday (very good for the fathers), parent meetings and family weekends.

A story about daily life in early childhood intervention with a lot of practical examples. Also we will tell about the challenges for early intervention in a changing community with always new legislations.