

Peer Learning Activity - Call for Expression of Interest

Methods for a competent early childhood system

City of Ghent - Childcare Unit

For this PLA the childcare unit of the city of Ghent is looking for one ISSA member willing to share his expertise on 'diversity' or 'the transition from childcare to education'.

What study visit to each participating member of the PLA

When between December 2018 and July 2019. Dates can be jointly decided.

Where 2 day-visit to Ghent – 2 day visit to PLA partners city and local daycare centers

Who 3 persons per partner. A delegation of 1 childcare policy officer, 1 childcare staff manager and 1 representative on childcare of the local municipality is preferable.

Deadline for application Friday, October 5 2018



Financial conditions

- accommodation: up to €100/person/visit.
- travel: up to €250/person/visit.
- lunches: up to €10/person/meal.
- own contribution: costs which exceed these amounts are at own expenses.

Theme for the PLA

At this PLA we would like to exchange good practices on (on-the-job) training methods for professionals with a vocational degree and interesting ideas on working on/with diversity (social inclusion) in an early childhood environment. If your organisation is based in a country which has a split system for childcare /education. The transition from childcare to school (Educare) can be a specific topic in the 'diversity' theme.



If your organisation is not a public organisation a representative from the local municipality as part of the delegation would add value to the PLA.

We are looking for:

- * an exchange of knowledge, innovative ideas on methods in working with professionals with vocational training
- * an exchange of expertise on local pedagogical vision and strategies
- * an exchange on new ideas and strategies on implementing these methods in local context
- * an exchange of ideas to fill a toolbox of methods for on-the-job training

Application

If you are interested you can send an email to the PLA contact of the city of Ghent with a short motivation, the topics/themes your organisation is able to share information on and preferred period for hosting / visiting Ghent. If more members would be interested we will make a selection based on the similarity of the applying organisation to ours, the expertise on the PLA theme and the suggested dates or periods for organizing the visits. We would like to receive this by 05.10.2018.

Our approach

In this PLA program we'd like to organize study visits to both partners organizations, visiting different local childcare centers and have a partner meeting on the PLA theme.

The timeframe for the PLA and visits is from December 2018 to June 2019. The exact dates can be decided jointly. The study visit will consist of a 2 day program including field visits and an exchange on the PLA theme. Visits can be conducted in Dutch or English language.



How we think about this PLA

The local Flemish context of vocational secondary education for daycare professionals, a raised retirement age and a growing diversity of children and families brings challenges and leads to life-long learning for our daycare staff. We want to cope with these challenges by re-inventing ourselves on a daily basis and we look for new innovative ideas in order to permanently enhance quality of our services in favor of the children in our centers. Therefore innovation and exchanging experiences on working with these themes between the PLA members, are meaningful contributions and learning opportunities for the childcare department not only for our mid-sized city but for all the PLA members.

The City of Ghent as your host

Ghent is a city of many faces : we are a historical city, a university city, a port city, a city of diverse cultures. We are the capital of the East Flanders province and the second largest city in Belgium. We have about 260.000 people. We are a growing city with a lot of young families with not only income differences but also differences in languages, culture and origin.



You might also know us as the host of the 2017th ISSA conference on 'Local responses, Global advances: Towards Competent Early Childhood System'. Having a strong belief in this competent system, the city of Ghent invests in structures and staff to organize, support and facilitate work floor professionalization.

The city of Ghent Childcare Unit

As an organizer of childcare we are one of the biggest players in the local childcare sector providing daycare on 74 locations throughout our city for app. 4500 children every day. Our city's childcare daily practice is based on a holistic view on education and care, the well-being and participation for all our children, natural learning strategies, sensitive-responsive interaction with and reflection of our children and the child as the engine of its own development.



Our unit has a pedagogical team which supports quality in our childcare centers. Their wide range of methods on coaching, experience in working with professional childcare workers and expertise on themes such as; cooperation with parents, interaction with children, green and durable daycare, social inclusion, children's participation and cooperation with the neighborhood has developed in the past 20 years and is integrated in our daycare centers and out-of-school care centers.

Contact

For the PLA application or more information :

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