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Organización
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para la Educación,
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Организация
Объединенных Наций по
вопросам образования,
науки и культуры

منظمة الأمم المتحدة
للتربية والعلم والثقافة

联合国教育、
科学及文化组织

Regional Literacy Conference Addressing “*Literacy Challenges
in Europe with a sub-regional focus:*”

Building Partnerships and Promoting Innovative Approaches.

(Baku, Azerbaijan, 14-16 May 2008)

“Education - the Best Therapy”



United Nations Literacy Decade

EFFECTIVE PRACTICE

Presented at the UNESCO Regional Conference in Support of Global Literacy "Addressing Literacy Challenges in Europe with a sub-regional focus: Building Partnerships and Promoting Innovative Approaches", 14-16 May 2008, Baku, Azerbaijan

Programme name: Education – the Best Therapy

Implemented by: Workers' University "Joska Svestarot" Strumica

Basic facts

Country: Macedonia

Starting year: 2005

Outreach: 35 people per year

Target Population: Young people addicted to drugs undergoing a rehabilitation process

Language of instruction: Macedonian

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Brief Description

In the last decade the number of young people addicted to drugs in the Strumica region has significantly increased. Not only has the addiction worsened their health, social behaviour, and the relationships in their immediate family, but it has also lead to increased school drop-out.

In 2005 there were 70 young people addicted to drugs, registered in the Rehabilitation Center 'St. Elisaveta' undergoing a rehabilitation process.

This project shows how non-formal education, as one of the integrative parts along the rehabilitation process, contributes to more successful reintegration into society. The programme uses various social and psychological methods to ensure the building of self-confidence and thus the rehabilitation process. It also offers programmes to acquire further knowledge and skills.

The benefits the programme provides and the impact on the target group and the community are the following: On the one hand, by performing different tasks

and duties, the members of the target group become more responsible, more creative, and gain or improve certain skills which make them more confident. This all gives essence to the whole rehabilitation process and more strength to the target group to follow through with their social integration process. On the other hand, the successful completion of the programme leads to creating good examples for the rest of the community the target group belongs to and helps them get rid of the stigma they are subjected to by the larger community.