

The role of good partnership with professionals in recovery - examples of good practice from Czech Republic



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Situation in the Czech Republic in 2011

- *10 000 beds in 16 psychiatric hospitals, no mental health legislation or mental health policy*
- *model of recovery is not a part of official mental health policy or mental health care*
- *some aspects of this concept are included in mental health services or a projects run by few NGOs like Czech Association of Mental Health run by professionals*

Role of professionals:

- *introducing concept of recovery to patients, families and public*
- *helping to start new projects or services or organizations which are focusing on recovery*

KOLUMBUS

Protection of interests and rights of people with mental illness

Informedness, communication and cooperation of users with professionals and public

Community care expansion, especially safe housing and working possibilities for users

Support to recovery of users – work, rehabilitation, psychoeducation, leisure time, destigmatization, empowerment

DEVELOPMENT OF KOLUMBUS

ACTIVITIES: 2001 ONE ACTIVITY – MEETINGS OF MEMBERS

2011 several projects

**MEMBERS: v roce 2001 - 6
v roce 2011 - 160**

**Places: 2001 PRAGUE a Ústí nad Labem
2011 – ten regions and 8 hospitals**



**Ústecký, Olomoucký, Jihomoravský, Pardubický,
Liberecký, Středočeský, hl.m.
Praha, Moravskoslezský, Jihočeský, Zlínský**

Project: Patient's Trustees – Monitoring and Protection of Human Rights of Patients Hospitalized in Psychiatric Hospitals (2004 – 2011)

- **The aim** of the project is to monitor and to protect rights and interests of patients hospitalized in psychiatric hospitals and in psychiatric department of general hospitals.
- to provide the patients with free of charge social and legal counselling and counselling in the area of the rights of patients
- to educate patients as well as the staff in the rights of the patients in hospitals

Role of professionals (lawyers and ex-users):

- Project Patients' Trustees was initiated by lawyer Lucie Rybová (Lucie Ripová) in 2004 with 6 mental health care users, who took part in 6 hospitals.
- In 2011 there were 23 users connected to the project, from whom there were 3 lawyers.