

# Community based living in Croatia



UdrugaSusret

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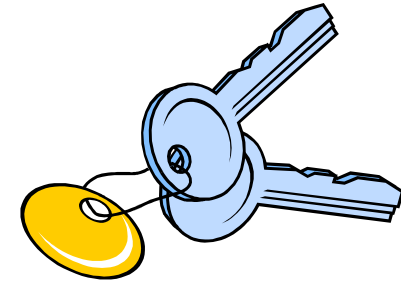
Budapest, 29.5.11.

# Community based care



- Social services **provided where people live** and where needed - shown to offer better quality of life and greater satisfaction
- **Answer to existing needs** which could not be met within conventional health and social welfare system.
- Institutional care still **dominates** in most part of the Region (EE). Most of the money (85%) is spent on maintaining the large institutions.

# NGO *Susret*



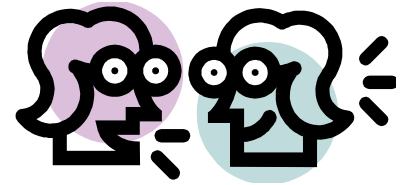
- Since 2006.
- 3 community based apartments with support
- 12 users – arrived from their families, foster families, institution
- 6 direct support staff for provision of assistance and support

# Postulation



- The basic concept of housing is **normal living environment**.
- Safe, acceptable housing is a critical element in the complex array of services that people with mental health problems require to establish and maintain themselves in the community.

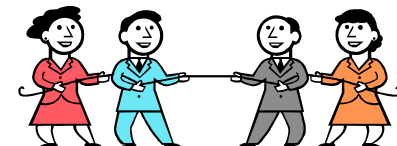
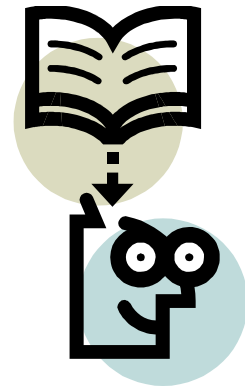
# Approach toward users



- Communicate frequently
- Building up relationship
- Support and gentle teaching
- PCP – person centered planning (yearly)
- Assisted employment (cooperation with API)
- Psychotherapy group (weekly)
- Other activities in the community (health care, market, day care centre, theater, cinema, church)

# Approach toward direct support staff

- Psycho-education
- Work on conflict relations
- Balance approaches toward users
- Increase level of professionalism



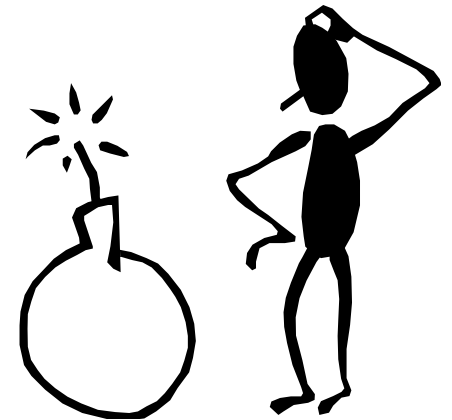
# Aims

- to empower and assist people with mental health problems to **develop the skills** they need to work towards **their goals**, **increase** *their independence* and **participate** as valued and active *members* of the community.



# Some of challenges ...

- User's involvement into activities
- Spent so much time in their lives powerless
- Taking responsibility for own life
- Challenges:
  - daily activities
  - supported employment
  - Stigma





# Is there something special in housing? YES!



If social inclusion means to ensure that people, in spite differences or disabilities, feel themselves in the world like at home, and connected in the local community, then the most important place to feel at home is – *at home*.