



ABSTRACT FORM

Name/Nome	Serena Goljevscek	Country/ Paese	Italy
Affiliation/Organizzazione <i>(University/Agency/NGO)/(Università/Azienda/ ONG)</i>	DSM Trieste		
Address/Indirizzo			
Phone-mobile/Telefono	393289778842	Fax	
E-mail	serena.goljevscek@asuits.sanita.fvg.it		
Title of the contribution/Titolo del contributo	Home-treatment and hospitality at 24hrs Mental Health Centers		
Objectives/Obiettivi	Brief description of 24hrs Mental Health Services hospitality and home-treatment team work during acute psychiatric crisis		

Contents-text/Contenuto-testo:

Max. 400 parole/words

The 24-hour Mental Health Centre, as it was conceived and subsequently created in Trieste during the de-institutionalization process started in the '70s, takes care of psychiatric, psychological and social needs of a defined part of the territory, offering the opportunity of a direct and low-threshold access, without selective or deferral mechanisms.

The main function of the Mental Health Center (MHC) is represented by the process of taking in charge, with all the social dimensions connected to mental suffering: taking in charge is realized, in its maximum expression, in giving people with serious mental illness, a concrete support in the development of a real process of inclusion in one's own life context; equally, its role of care is declined in the function of 24-hour night hospitality, as a therapeutic tool during a critical phase of mental suffering. The person has the opportunity to live the crisis in a welcoming and informal environment, maintaining, as much as possible, connections with his own life context, family and friends. During moments of loneliness, anguish and suffering, the space of the 24hrs MHC becomes a place of social relationships, meeting and support, and 24-hour hospitality is used as a tool to improve and re-define therapeutic relationships with MHC's professionals, in order to start or update therapeutic pathways and mobilize a greater number of energies and institutional resources.

The peculiarity of the experience of 24hrs MHC's hospitality represents a practical, but also symbolic, way of overcoming the institutional concept of hospitalization, providing a therapeutic response through the dimensions of listening and care in the most critical moments of a mental disease.

In the last two years, an intensive home-based support project was developed in the Mental Health Department of Trieste, consisting of a small and multidisciplinary group of professionals; this new project was built to offer people with acute mental suffering, the chance of home-treatment, with an intensive, daily, multidisciplinary, rapid and flexible specialistic support. The team provided a timely assessment of emerging crisis situations, promoting, when appropriate, the development of an intensive home care pathway, integrated as much as possible with the subsequent work of continuity and prevention of new crises, developed by the Mental Health Center.

Bibliography:

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