Care Farms: an European and Dutch perspective

Marjolein Elings & Jan Hassink
Green Care: the Dutch case

- Growing sector
- Different client groups
- Different forms of care
Overview Sectors of Green Care

- experiencing natural environment
  - looking at nature
    - Healing Gardens/Environments/Landscapes
  - being active in nature
    - Green Exercise
- interacting with natural elements
  - being active with nature
    - Therapeutic Horticulture
  - interacting with animals
    - Social and Therapeutic Horticulture
      - AAA, other forms of animal based programmes
    - Animal Assisted Interventions
      - AAT, other forms of animal based therapy programmes
- ecotherapy
  - Horticultural Therapy
- combination of labour and care
  - Green Exercise (as therapy)
  - Nature Therapy, Wilderness/Adventure Therapy

Figure: Haubenhofer, Elings & Hine, 2010
Orientation in different countries

Social/labour sector

- Italy, France
- Germany, Ireland, Slovenia, Austria, Poland
- Netherlands
- Belgium
- Norway

Health Care

Agriculture
Financing regulations

- Belgium: budgets of rural development funds
- Italy, France: reintegration funds; contracts with municipalities
- Netherlands: Budgets from care sector: opportunities for farmers through personal budgets. Now transition to municipalities
- Germany, Austria, Ireland: budgets from care sector: strict regulations
Impact regulations

- Italy: support for social co-operatives
- Flanders: support only for private commercial farms with limited number of clients
- Germany: support only for institutional farms with large number of clients
Type of green care farm

- Netherlands, Flanders: Family farms
- Germany, Austria: Institutional farms
- Italy: Cooperatives
EU projects in the future?

- New COST Action
- Effect studies in NL (youth care, people with learning disabilities)
- Effect study on community orders (Leeds, UK)
- Norway?
Qualities of Care Farms

- Attitude and engagement of farmer and co-workers
- Useful and diversified activities
- Informal non-care context
- Social community
- Green environment
Engagement of the farmer (f/m)

- Continuity of treatment
- Role model
- Involvement and responsibility
- Emphasis on what people can do
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Performance-Indicator</th>
<th>Start</th>
<th>Finish</th>
<th>Follow up programme</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>%</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Good contact with father</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>73</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Good contact with mother</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>83</td>
<td>81</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Daytime activity</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>88</td>
<td>87</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Good use of leisure time</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wellbeing</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>81</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Self-confidence</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>83</td>
<td>81</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No police contact</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>95</td>
<td>81</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No drugs</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No behavioural problems</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>46</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Social community

- More social contacts
- Demonstrating more social behavior
- Increase of perseverance
Useful and diverse activities

- Distraction
- Structure and routine
- Different environment
- Learning new competences
Green environment

- A better mood
- Improved concentration
- Recovery from stress
- Stimulates physical activity
- Stimulates intake of food and fluid (elderly with dementia)
- Different environment than used to
Thank you for your attention.

Marjolein.elings@wur.nl
0031 317 480549

© Wageningen UR