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**Reaching all young people** Case Study BIS e.V. and GDLB

> Netzwerk für betriebliche Integration und Sozialforschung e.V.

Gesellschaft GDLB für duales Lernen Berlin gGmbH



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### **Overview**

• Focus: Inclusion

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- Target Group: Young people with disabilities
- Goal: Foster empowerment and self-determination Support futures planning
- Methodology: Person-Centered Planning (PCP)

### **Target Group**

- Young people with fewer opportunities (especially with disabilities) with little opportunities to participate in vocational orientation, vocational training or working life
- Ratification of the UNCRPD and introduction of the BTHG encourage young people with disabilities to take inclusive path -However, these young people also encounter structures that do not fulfil the claim of inclusion

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## **Our Goal**

- To support people in their fight for their right to inclusion; make space for empowerment, as strength and perseverance is required
- Help youth envision their future, plan what steps they need to take to achieve it and identify what challenges they will face on the way
- Guiding principles: self-determination, resource and social space orientation
- Our course addresses these issues: Based on our findings we developed a workbook that (young) people can use to reflect on their future goals, needs, and strengths.

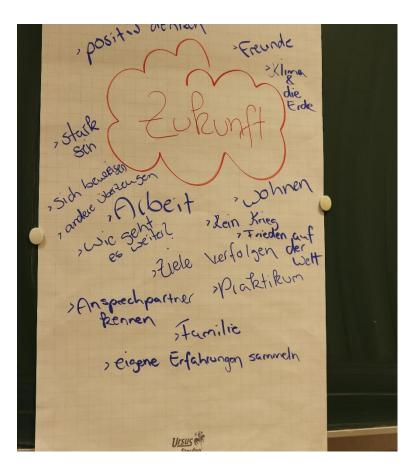
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## **Person-Centered Planning Methods**

- Method to help people plan their own future: Every person is able to plan their own future, no matter how much assistance they need
- Main principles:
  - Person-centered
  - Resource-oriented
  - Social space-oriented
  - Targeted toward self-determination
- Treat people like citizens and members of communities



## **The Educational Course**



- Modular Course
- Between November 2022 –
  February 2023
- Usually Monday for 90 min.
- 12 people with disabilities (mainly learning difficulties)



## Module Overview (Part 1)

- **Module 1:** Team welcomed participants and presented the program and an overview on the upcoming weeks. Both educators and young people brainstormed the idea and concept of the term future. Concluded with a team-building exercise.
- Module 2: Participants reflected on their life so far and visualized it as a path. ("Lebensweg").
- **Module 3:** Group brainstormed spaces that play an important role in their life and where they spend time.
- **Module 4:** Building on Module 3, participants talked about barriers and obstacles faced in everyday life. The joint discussion covered their rights and concrete possibilities to overcome some of the obstacles discussed.



# Module Overview (Part 2)

- Module 5 and 6: Participants talked about each young people's individual strengths and skills.
- **Module 7:** Team discussed existing individual support systems, visualizing the people in their lives using playmobile figurines.
- Module 8: Conclusion with a future celebration. Method brings together results of previous modules. Group discussed participants' biographies, dreams and ideas for the future, skills and strengths brought by each and what they need to realize their dreams. Two educators familiar with participants joined the future celebration.



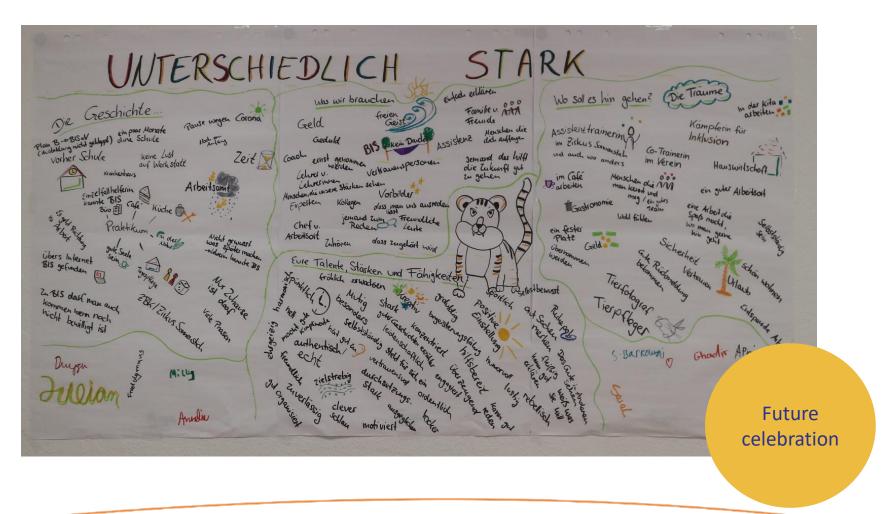














### **Results and Findings:** Dreams and Wishes

Participants listed their dreams as the following:

- to be a fighter for inclusion
- to earn money
- to have work that is fun and a nice place to be
- to receive good feedback
- to have a good team of nice people around them
- to have a place where they feel a sense of belonging
- to become a professional: e.g. working in a café, being a coach, a photographer



## **Results and Findings: Dreams and Wishes**

Some results named in the mapping of participant talents, skills and strengths:

- having a positive attitude, being happy, friendly
- ability to stand up for themselves
- being strong and courageous
- being self-determined
- being authentic
- being motivated
- being ambitious



## **Results and Findings: Dreams and Wishes**

Participants listed their needs and demands as:

- People that listen to them and that they can talk to
- People that see their strengths
- People that support them, especially when things get hard
- Experts, coaches, teachers, colleagues and assistants
- Free spirit and no pressure
- Money
- To be taken seriously
- Things to be explained in an understandable way
- Role models



### **Feedback and Further Findings**

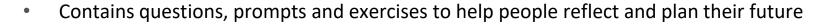
- Participant feedback was generally very positive: Participants liked being asked about their skills and wishes and enjoyed the future celebration. Other methods received mixed feedback, e.g. using playmobile figures for circles of support. This demonstrates a need for a wider range of methods and variations.
- Another raised issued was privacy. Some people felt more comfortable working individually and not in a group setting. The team offered the possibility to work in a group or individually. This influenced our decision to develop the workbook that can be used on your own.
- Feedback and results revealed the course to be an empowering experience. Building on this, the team continued to develop a product that recreates a similar experience -> the workbook

### **The Workbook**

- After completing the course, we turned the results and experiences into a workbook, or a tool that young people can use to think about their future, strengths and goals. The workbook can be used independently, however, it is also possible, and in some cases useful, to work together on it with youth workers. Thus the product is also relevant for youth workers.
- Current Status (27/03/24): First draft was developed and is currently being piloted. The first feedback was positive. The final result will likely be ready by the end of April 2024.

# Sneak Peak: Workbook

- Five Main Chapters:
  - Who I am
  - Strengths, talents and skills
  - Dreams and wishes
  - Support and allies
  - Taking action



• Can be used print or digitally









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