Stad Kortrijk

Name of the organisation :	Stad Kortrijk / ZORG	Stad Kortrijk / ZORG Kortrijk			
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Type of organisation:					
SME □ Sc Training □ No Profit	hool 🗆 Ur	niversity 🗆	Public Authority		
Other (Specify)					
Fields of action :					
SMEs Equal opportunities	Youth □ Schools □	Universities Unemployed	☐ Public Auth	orities 🗆	
Other (Specify)	Elderly care				

Description of the organisation

Kortrijk is centre city in Flanders, situated in the south-west of West-Flandres. Kortrijk has approximately 75000 inhabitants.

Zorg Kortrijk is the Care department of the city of Kortrijk. It concerns residential elderly care, facilities for assisted living, a day care centre for elderly, care at home and childcare service.

WZC de Weister is one of the 5 nursing homes of Zorg Kortrijk.

WZC De Weister works according the principles of small-scaled normalised living. It has a great expertise in the care for people with dementia and dementia-friendly societies.

Experience of the organization in previous European projects

WZC De Weister had won in 2014 an EFID award, which is an European award for initiatives on dementia-friendly societies.

WZC De Weister and the Rifugio Re Carlo Alberto, both EFID award winnars, realized in 2016 a joint-project called 'All and about with dementia', a project about dementiafriendly travelling/tourism and leisure.

The city of Kortrijk has experience in European projects on subjects as poverty, inclusion, etc...

However it is the first time we join a Erasmus project.

Experience and Expertise of the organization in the project's subject area

In 1984 we started a nursing home especially and only for elderly with dementia, which was in that area quite unique and innovative. Since then we have always been pioneers in the residential elderly care for people with dementia.

That resulted in the last decennium in the realisation of 2 new nursing homes that were build according the principles of smallscaled normalized living.

The focus of these projects is to provide personcentred care for pwd, as well as citizenship for pwd in the local community, facilitated by dementiafriendly architecture inside and outside (urban architecture) the nursing home.

A dementiafriendly policy requires education of staff, families, local stakeholders, residents, caregivers, etc... So we have build up during many years a certain amount of expertise in the subject of education.

We also participated in projects on education of caregivers by the tool 'd,oede doze' (=a tool so people can experience how it must feel to have cognitive disorders by doing certain tasks). We helped to develop the tool in collaboration with VZW Mentor the lead partner in this project.

Contributions that can be provided to the project

- Expertise on the subject of dementia
- Research on the field with people with dementia and their caregivers
- Research on the field with professional caregivers for pwd

Reasons of involvement in the project

We experience the need for alternative educational tools, certainly now in this period of COVID.

Contact Person's Experience and Expertise

In finished my bachelor nursing in 1990. I finished my master degree in 1993 and made my thesis on the subject of the influence of relaxing music on agitation of people with dementia. Since then i've worked on the field with people with dementia, and later as a director of 2 nursing homes for people with dementia. I'm also involved in several other projects on this subject in my free time, like VZW Heartbeats and In het Wiel van Het Ventiel. Both organisations that work on the wellbeing and citizenship of people with dementia and young onset dementia.