

ESC-30 MOVEMENT OF INCLUSION AND SOCIAL EMPOWERMENT TO PROTECT YOUTH FROM ADDICTION

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Problem Situation

Individuals in adolescence, which represents the transition from childhood to youth, are considered one of the groups at risk due to the high number of interactions and changes occurring during this period. Additionally, this period is seen as an important stage that may also bring along risky health behaviors. One of the health problems frequently encountered during adolescence, also called youth, is substance addiction (Hendekci, 2019). Creating awareness against this problem, which continues to increase among young people both globally and in our country, constitutes one of the most important steps in the fight against addiction. For this reason, the Ankara University Social Entrepreneurship and Innovation Society is being implemented the project titled “The Movement for Inclusion and Social Empowerment to Protect Youth from Addiction.”

Purpose

The objectives of the project are: to raise awareness to prevent substance addiction among disadvantaged individuals living in Altındağ; to ensure that families establish healthy relationships with their children; to support social integration by improving communication between generations; to increase the active participation of young people in social life; to create a culture of social solidarity; and to produce sustainable and inclusive solutions. Finally, in order to serve all these objectives, it is aimed to organize educational and awareness-raising activities.

Method

The studies within the scope of the project were designed using the qualitative research method. Qualitative research is a method that adopts an interpretive approach to examine the research problem, based on an interdisciplinary holistic perspective. The phenomena and events under study are considered in their own context and are interpreted in terms of the meanings that people attach to them (Altunışık et al., 2010). The participants of the project consisted of young people aged 13 and over. The project data were obtained

through surveys filled out in the workshops held within the scope of the project, multiple-choice tests, and interviews conducted with the young people.

Conclusion

The expected results of the project are grouped under three main headings. Firstly, within the scope of the expected results for families, the aims are to enable families to communicate effectively with their children and to reduce negative parental behaviors. Secondly, within the scope of the expected results for the community, the goals are to increase the social consciousness of young people as well as to enhance social cohesion and safety in their residential neighborhoods. Finally, within the scope of the expected results for young people, the expected outcomes are to gain awareness against substance addiction and to ensure they acquire knowledge about the fundamental rights of children.

References

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