



”Breaking down barriers”

Conference invitation

Dear “key person”

In order to focus on the barriers young people with special needs encounter when they enter the labour market, you are invited to a conference Thursday **the 6 of March 2014 at 9 o'clock to 4 o'clock at Hotel Niels Juel in Køge**.

You have been chosen to participate in this conference because you hold a key position in connection with getting young people with special needs moving on and entering the labour market. It is an important job and about time we set a new agenda for this group of young people, who for years has been forgotten and it ties with the intentions of Mette Frederiksen's new assistance reform. We can all be part of carrying this agenda out in life and make things happen, as ripples in water.

The **Poseidon project** is an EU project which aim is to increase the job opportunities for the target group of young people with special needs as well as other disadvantaged young people. The aim of the project is also to transfer innovative skills and techniques and share work experiences cross-border, involving you (partners) and develop projects to curb unemployment and improve labour market measures for young people with special needs.

The program is designed so it allows **you** to get all the way around some of the key issues. You will be able to experience the reality (the system) from the young people's point of view, both from **Fremtidslinjen** and **Koppelsberg** – as well as the possibility to meet them and their employers and hear more about their challenges and successes. You will be able to meet a local company, **Junckers**, which takes a social responsibility and wants to make a difference.

You also get the chance to hear about the project, how far we have come, as well as an presentation from **Thomas Szulewicz**, lecturer at the Institute for Communication at Aalborg University.

In addition to this you will also be presented to two exciting projects from Austria, **Wien Work** and **Atempo/Nueva**. Both projects are helping to set new standards regarding how you involve and include young people with special needs on the labour market.

We hope you will be part of setting a new agenda for young people with special needs. An agenda where dignity and equality is the main focus, and where we together can set new standards for inclusion at the labour market.

We have put together a program with lots of vitamins and inspiration.
We hope to have aroused your interest.
We will be seeing you!

With kind regards

The Poseidon group

Information about the presenters

Thomas Szulevicz has written a PhD thesis based on a multiannual research project at Havredal Praktiske Landbrugsskole (Havredal Practical Agricultural School). Among other things Thomas focuses on how the school has the success to educate students, who are not able to be part of the ordinary educational system. He points out four aspects which have essential importance for the group of students: the Havredal project shows that there is learning potential and resources in practical situations; this is also known as situated learning. Therefore it means a lot for the students that the school is a real farm with meaningful work in order for them to see the purpose of the work. Responsibility is a third significant element in order for success. The students are assigned responsibility and that in itself is a form of recognition, which allows successful experiences. Last but not least, consideration is given to the students' individual needs and desires. Fremtidslinjen and JAW Koppelsberg is based on the same values and approach to learning as they do at Havredal.

The goal for **Atempo** is to treat all people in society equal. There are 80 employees and 25 % of these have some sort of a handicap. This makes the organisation to one of the leading companies in Austria. Atempo has focus on education, job and good workplaces. They work with user-driven evaluation of quality of service, information in "easy-to-read" language and consultation and support for open access. **Atempo** also organise many projects where they test new things and participate in research projects.

Wien Work is an innovative non-profit, social financial organisation, which makes and finds jobs for people with handicaps. People with handicaps, chronic conditions or long-term unemployment get the possibility to participate in financial and social projects. Right now about 600 people are employed through **Wien Work** and two thirds of the employers and apprentices have physical or sensory handicaps, learning disabilities or have been long-term unemployed. The organisation function as any other private company and the employers receive payment according to collective agreements. They offer a comprehensive high quality of services and products and the organisation is dedicated to achieving strong performance as a company in order to fulfil their social responsibilities. With their activities, they help to raise public awareness when it comes to questions of fellow citizens with handicaps.

Program for the conference Thursday the 6 of March 2014

Timetable

09.00-10.00	Breakfast
10.00-10.15	Welcome by the mayor of Køge, Flemming Christensen
10.20-10.50	Opening speech by deputy mayor of Greve and MF, Liselott Blixt <i>"It is extremely important to ensure employment for young people we are used to put on permanent support. Not just for society's sake, but also so that they become part of the social community and the surrounding society"</i>
10.55-11.15	Presentation of the Poseidon project
11.15-11.30	Break
11.30-12.30	Presentation and questions for Thomas Szulevicz from Aalborg University <i>Tells about a research project from Havredal Praktiske Landbrugsskole (Havredal Practical Agricultural School) and comments on what works for the target group</i>
12.35-12.50	Lars Plechinger, maintenance manager, from Junckers <i>A short orientation about internship and cooperation with Fremtidslinjen</i>
12.55-13.15	Cases with students from Fremtidslinjen and Koppelsberg
13.15-14.15	Lunch and the possibility to talk with the students from the two institutions
14.15-14.45	Presentation of Wien Work <i>Presentation of their organisation, as well as how they contribute to fulfil their social role</i>
14.50-15.25	Presentation of atempo/nueva <i>Presentation of their organisation, which is one of the leading social companies in Austria</i>
15.25-15.40	Coffee, cake and networking
15.40-16.00	Summary of the day, questions and thank you for today