



## Futuro&Co.

Futuro&Co is an action-research housing project financed by the Next Generation EU European funds in the field of social innovation that is carried out between 11 organizations in 7 Spanish cities from all over Spain united in the FACIAM network.

During the pilot phase, Futuro&Co project provides a home and offers multidimensional support to 179 young persons between 18 and 29 years old in homeless situation. Futuro&Co 's aim is to generate a deinstitutionalization model that covers 5 areas (housing, health, participation and community, access to rights and training/employment).

Futuro&Co's offering youth social and residential exclusion a comprehensive and specific answer, providing a specific analysis of the phenomenon, and providing a set of innovative tools that promote full inclusion of young people.

The approach to the phenomenon is multifocal and requires strategies for not only access to housing but also for generation of resilience and strategies for self-government and full exercise of citizenship rights, as well as tools that allow participation and generation of community.

The specific objectives of the project are:

- Develop a specific social intervention model for the eradication of socio-residential exclusion of young people that allows their emancipation, innovating in decision-making approaches by young people to increase their leading role.
- Promote processes of full inclusion for young people based on principles agreed between all the organizations involved in the project.
- Generate a dialogue process with public administrations and other actors for social services' transformation and generation of public policies to end with social and residential exclusion of young people.

The intervention model is based on 5 vector principles that are developed throughout the project execution period:

- Case management model with an intersectional approach: the model aims to consider different variables that have an impact on vulnerabilities of young people both in the diagnosis of reality and in the tools that emerge from the intervention model (gender, administrative situation, disabilities, etc.).

- Initiatives for access to rights: we consider that a good part of youth homelessness is due to a violation of rights, or violence that has occurred, or to administrative situations in which fundamental rights are not recognized.

- Dealing with health with a comprehensive approach: emotional health, integrity and personal balance are fundamental elements to take into account in a population group that is in stages of transition to adult life.

- Right to participate to the community: The approach to youth homelessness is not only focus in the generation of economic incomes but also in the ability to satisfy this innate need for affiliation and security as well as helping young people to be critical citizens

- Insertion from training and work: For the model to be sustainable in the medium and long term. It is necessary that young people develop processes of autonomy within the framework of training and work and that through these means have the necessary tools for future emancipation.

At the same time, other transversal dimensions are also contemplated such as discrimination or access to the digital world focusing in social protection benefits and in participation in community networks.

These dimensions as well as the social support are carried out in shared housing inspired by housing first principles. Processes of autonomy and emancipation of young people is based on small coexistence units. Home is the natural setting to develop life, experiment decision making and positive collaborative relationships.

Within the intervention model, innovative tools are implemented as mentoring, self-narrative tools, guides to labour rights and community participation, tools to work on health in an integral way, tools to measure young people's degree of deinstitutionalization.

Social support for young people is carried out by a team of social workers to ensure the application of the social intervention model and to become referents to the people ( 1 social worker for 5 to 8 participants) .

The educational team also take care of the coexistence units and ensures the dynamism of the group within the community. The project also contemplates participation of young people in the whole process, from elaboration of their support plans, decisions about coexistence regulations, to participation in the generation of the social intervention model itself.

Throughout the project implementation process, an action research evaluation is carried out by the Complutense University of Madrid which, based on questionnaires and in-depth interviews with the project participants as well as a control group, will help to validate the social intervention model and the tools applied.

This social research will provide the design of measurement instruments and a monitoring mechanism for data collection and specific evaluation of the project itself. A final research report will be elaborate with data collection, analysis and comparison between the application group and the control group.

The results expected with this new model of social intervention following the logic of the theory of change are:

- That young people in socio-residential exclusion situation will know their rights and have built personal capacities and skills for independent living.
- That young people access training and educational itineraries.
- That young people improve their self-concept and strengthen their response and emotional management in risky situations (consumption abuse, violence, self-injury...).
- That a new institutional strategy will be promoted to guarantee access to the rights of the vulnerable young population.
- That young people increase their support networks and benefit from community dynamics.

If these results are achieved, the project will be contributing to promoting independent life projects for young people because:

- Young people will recognize themselves as legal subjects, strengthen their empowerment and leadership thanks to support with a gender focus, life cycle and intercultural under an intersectional view.
- Young people will have a community and social support network that will allow them to participate as actors in community advocacy initiatives.
- Young people will have the capacity to identify and activate preventive mechanisms against any possible future problems.
- Public institutions will improve their capacities to identify risks, prevent situations of violence and offer an effective response and protection.
- Young people will discover their personal identity, through relationships of trust with professionals, encouraging positive experiences of participation and decision-making.