

Year for Combating Poverty and Social exclusion

In the European Union the year 2010 is a theme year for combating poverty and social exclusion. In Finland, the main themes are participation and solidarity. The year will be carried out in form of happenings, events and seminars. Also distributing information and collecting the best practises are part of the year. Our aims are to:

- improve the knowledge about poverty and social exclusion,
- improve the actualization of the rights for the people who live in poverty and social exclusion,
- support solidarity and common responsibility
- support and improve voluntary action, build up active participation and the possibilities of participation and to reinforce commitment.

The National Institute for Health and Welfare is the coordinator of the year. The partners are Finnish Federation for Social Welfare and Health (STKL) with EAPN-Fin, Finnish Center for Health Promotion, the Social Policy Association and Association for Healthy Lifestyle with Who Listens to the Poor? –network.

STKL and EAPN-Fin are responsible especially for organizing regional theme days and local events. The theme days include different happenings, open forums for discussion and happenings in different institutions. Information will be collected at these events and passed to the decision-makers for example at a seminar in the parliament house.

Theme days:

- 10.5.2010 Seinäjoki, theme "Fragmentally poor" (contact person tuula.peltoniemi@stkl.fi)
17.9.2010 Jyväskylä, theme "Life –here I come. Childhood in poverty" (contact person anne.astikainen@stkl.fi)
30.9.2010 Joensuu, theme "Being sick and poor" (contact person ville.elonheimo@stkl.fi)
18.11.2010 Vantaa, theme "Being poor for the whole life" (contact person ulla.saastamoinen@stkl.fi)

Other happenings:

- 29.3.2010 Helsinki: "Know your Social Security" (contact person marja.eronen@reumaliitto.fi)
21.7.2010 Pori: SuomiAreena "Many faces of poverty"
18.8.2010 Kouvola (contact person heidi.puumalainen@stkl.fi)
14.10.2010 Oulu (contact person anne.mustakangas-makela@stkl.fi)
20.11.2010 Kuopio: "Beat poverty with a wood" (contact person ismo.linnus@ms-liitto.fi)
Kemijärvi (contact person Nina Peronius nperonius@hotmail.com)
25.11.2010 Helsinki: seminar at the parliament house

www.stopkoyhyys.fi



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We would like to encourage other organizations to use this opportunity to increase knowledge about poverty and social exclusion also in your own events. If you are planning to organize happenings associated to the theme, we would like you to contact us and tell more, so that we can spread information further. Our contact person Eeva Ahtee (eeva.ahtee@stkl.fi) is willing to answer your questions.

More information (posters and other material) :

www.stopkoyhyys.fi

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Contact person:

Eeva Ahtee

projektisihteeri

puh. (09) 7747 2212,

040 552 4088

eeva.ahtee@stkl.fi

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