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SZABINKA

DUDEVSKY,

WIETEKE VAN DAM,

LISBETH BAKKER,

TOBY WITTE

EDITORIAL

In the second issue of 2022 we proudly present you a generous selection of interesting peer reviewed articles, book reviews and an IWO contribution (Innovation in Social practice and Education). Last but not least we also present a beautiful Student work publication. The first one in a long while.

Despite the wide variety of contributions there are some unifying themes to discover: resilience is a common thread in the papers, ranging from the resilience of illiterate women in Bihar, India to the resilience of a family living in a situation of forced parenting support on the South side of Rotterdam. Also discussed is how to support the resilience of victims of human trafficking in Belgium. Finally the whole book section of this issue is dedicated to this topic with reviews of books on *resilient governance* and *resilience and citizenship*. A second connecting theme in this issue is the willingness to listen to the voice of people with lived experience. The social intervention *AlzheimerWhispering* is an arts-based method to open up to the inner world of people with dementia. The research contribution of this issue covers a literature review on the impact of experts by experience in one-to-one care and support services. Experience experts are also the subject of the exciting IWO contribution discussing what is needed for real inclusive governance.

Resilience and working together with people with lived experience are both highly topical issues and one could state that they are intertwined. Not only the resilience of service users is under

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discussion but also the resilience of social work, research and policy itself. More and more voices are raised arguing that resiliency in these domains is unviable without the courage to share the power with the service users themselves. Their participation in research, policy, development and practice of social work (education) is no longer to be ignored.

The first paper of this issue *The Self-Help Group Resilience Project: developing and piloting a resilience intervention in Bihar, India* is written by a team of authors (Gracy Andrew, Katherine Sachs Leventhal, Lisa DeMaria, Loren Toussaint, Ananya Tiwari and Steve Leventhal) of whom most are connected to CorStone, an NGO based in Baltimore, US. In their elaborate and vivid paper the authors take us to the daily lives of illiterate women in Bihar, India. Existing microfinance self-help groups are mostly targeted on women's economic, social, family and political empowerment. However, these benefits do not extend to their psychological empowerment: the ability to make choices and act on them. The Self-Help Group Resilience Project developed a curriculum for a resilience-based self-help group intervention. The meticulous way the curriculum was developed in good cooperation with the women is very inspiring to read.

The second contribution of this issue is a research paper titled *What is the impact of experts by experience? A literature review of their impact in one-to-one contacts*. The authors Saskia Keuzenkamp and Ed van Hoorn, both connected to the Dutch knowledge institution on social issues Movisie, address the topic of working with experts by experience. In (mental health) care and support services their deployment is increasingly popular. But what do we know about the effect of their efforts on care need and use, goals on different life domains, and psychosocial aspects? In their crisp text the authors list the insights about this, limiting to their effect in one-to-one contacts.

The last peer-reviewed article *Conceptual description and philosophical underpinning of the social intervention AlzheimerWhispering* is a contribution in the category Practice. Marlou Otten and Anne Goossensen, both connected to the University of Humanistic Studies in Utrecht, offer a rich practical and conceptual description as well as a philosophical underpinning of the intriguing method AlzheimerWhispering. This arts-based method, developed under direction of Dutch theatre maker Adelheid Roosen, aims to improve and enrich social interactions between people dealing with Alzheimer's, their family members and professional caretakers. The 'whispering' refers to the art of making contact with the inner world of the person with dementia. The method shifts the focus from a diagnostic-behavioral deficit based approach to an approach aiming at relational connection with the otherness of the other.

The Student work paper is a contribution of Lien de Leeuw, criminologist with a master degree in Social Work. The paper, based on her master thesis, is titled *Een transitieprogramma voor slachtoffers van mensenhandel in Antwerpen: de werkzame mechanismen*. (A transition program for victims of human trafficking in Antwerp: the working mechanisms) She gives a clear account of the key factors in this European pilot program. The results show that a coherent human rights based program in which empowerment, an outreaching and generalist approach as well as offering custom-made solutions contribute the most to a sustainable integration of the women into their new living environment.

The IWO contribution of this issue focuses on the position of experience experts at administrative level. Annica Brummel, researcher at Stichting Disability Studies and Jonna Dorst, representative and researcher with lived experience, wrote a thought-provoking contribution named *Ervaringsdeskundigen aan het stuur (Experience experts at the helm)*. Their paper is based on research in the STERKplaats, a collective work-study program for people with and without an intellectual disability, and on experiences in a social care organization. Their main point is that a high level of diversity is not enough to achieve real inclusion. Genuine inclusion requires a cultural shift where the power to govern is shared with people with lived experience and where experience-based knowledge, practice-based knowledge and scientific knowledge are equally valued.

This JSI edition closes with an inspirational contribution by JSI editors Yke van der Schoor and Charlotte Vissenberg, both researcher and lecturer in the social domain. They explore the popular concept of resilience by reviewing three books; *Achter de voordeur. Vijf jaar meekijken bij gedwongen opvoedondersteuning aan een Rotterdams gezin* (Nijboer), *Veerkrachtig bestuur. Voorbij neo-liberale drift en populistische kramp* (Trommel) and *Veerkracht en burgerschap* (Peeters). Is resilience an individual feature or a social process? Is it always a positive force or are there negative sides to it? And what is the significance of resilience for social work practice, research and education?

We hope you'll enjoy this JSI summer issue and we are looking forward to welcoming you back next fall.

Szabinka Dudevszky, managing editor

Wieteke van Dam, managing editor

Lisbeth Bakker, assistant-editor

Toby Witte, editor-in-chief