

VIP – Vocational training in Prison

Workshop Report 13 February 2014 - 9h-12h30

Participants:

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Lazzarelle coop. sociale a r.l. (Italy): Rosaria QUINTERNO, Imma CARPINIELLO, Paola MAISTO, Fernanda SPINA

France: Céline GIBERT, Pierre CARROLAGGI, Jérôme COMBAZ, Bertrand FRAISSE (Trainer in the prison), Michel WAGNER (Director of the prison), Luciano ELIA (Director of the probation services)



The prison employs 35 keepers and an administrative staff composed by 3 persons. The overall budget is 344 118 € (running: 335 093 €, activities: 7000 €, specific delegations: 2025 €).

In 2012 the prison was welcoming:

- 103 prisoners (including detainees, electronic watch and semi-freedom).
- 68 are accommodated (including nights).
- The theoretical space is 31 male cells and 4 semi-freedom cells. So the occupancy rate is of 189%.
- 45 prisoners have entered and 240 have left.
- The average stay duration is 3 months and 20 days.
- 89 % of the population have the French nationality (no statistics regarding the origin).

There is three daily meals and lunches are cooked by CAP trainees.

Cost of the three meal: 3,70 euros (invoiced on their personal account).

The Puy-en-Velay prison carries on various socio-cultural actions, with workshops and collaborations: library (opened 8 hours a day), creative arts, cinema (in collaboration with the local cinema), design workshop, music festival (3 concerts in 2012, annual music festival), writing workshop, computing workshop.

The referent organization for rehabilitation and preparation for release is the probation service called "SPIP" (Services for Integration and Probation), (needs are covered in 2012, at 60%). They have 2 offices, one in the administrative area, one in the closed area. They are present everyday of the week. Its main tasks are:

- preventing de-socializing effects of incarceration;
- maintaining family links, avoid isolation;
- preparation for release;
- handling "arrivals" circuits;
- coordinating interventions with "Mission Locale" (social integration services for adults under 26), "Pôle Emploi" (National Employment Agency) and visitors;
- developing career plans and penalty modifications, examining access to common law (increasing);
- coordinating socio-cultural activities and health education;
- accompanying vocational training.

The release preparation is done with the SPIP. It consists in the implementation of simplified procedures, modified penalty plans (electronic bracelets, outside placements, conditional releases), social and professional insertion plans, talking groups (inspired by recidivism prevention programs) and furloughs.

The prison has an education center (a priority for illiterate persons) with three goals: strengthening basic knowledge (key competences), providing access to education, developing links with integration partners. It leads in particular to a Certification of General Education (24 registered persons and 16 received in 2011, 17 registered and 11 received in 2012) and extramural health education.

A diploma to prove the mastering of the French language can be organised: the DILF (1 candidate in 2012). The B2I (Internet and computer certificate) is also prepared and delivered (24 in 2012). This certificate is an appealing product for training because of the computer use.

No demand for English learning.

Vocational training is the preparation of the cook diploma CAP (21 participants in 2012, 3 diploma validated).

In addition to training, paid activities for the administration are possible: cook, cook's assistant, office assistant, detention auxiliary, launderer, librarian, work auxiliary, sport assistant. There are 9 jobs offered paid from 8,30 euros to 14,87 euros per day (for the cook).

Now only 2 external companies provide works to inmates:

- a candle factory (The works consists in placing candles in small cups and to paste religious motives);
- a reseller of various articles (toys, souvenirs, decoration...) - the work is pyrography on sticks and pasting labels under plates.