

Dementia in Cultural Mediation

NEWSLETTER # 1

Newsletter Dementia in Cultural Mediation #1 May 2020.

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1. What is the status of Dementia in Cultural Mediation?

After several months of preparation, we were finally able to meet all partners in the DCUM-project at the Kick-Off meeting in Odense during the last week of a rainy November. We finally got to meet the people behind the email addresses and to put words into the project outlines. Together we unfolded all the phases and elements of the project in the form of Intellectual **O**utputs (IO), Learning Teaching Training (LTT) and Dissemination Strategy and at the same time we got an overview of the project's overall timeline and finances. On the same occasion, the Project Group, Steering Committee and Reference Groups also had the opportunity to meet and agree on the content and structure of their tasks in DCUM-project.

One of the pillars of the project is the three Learning Teaching Training seminars, where we meet alternately in the individual partner countries. Invited Cultural Mediators, experienced in mediating a variety of different cultural activities for people with dementia, presents and discuss a number of these activities. These presentations serve as inspiration and qualification for other mediators. Attaining new qualifications and inspiration to improve the services for the end user group is crucial for these seminars, which also forms the backbone of the DCUM-Toolkit, that the project subsequently delivers for free use.

However, a Corona crisis got in the way of the planned first LTT seminar, which should have been held in Denmark in March 2020. Due to the general shutdown of both institutions and borders, we have subsequently chosen to conduct this as 3 webinars, where the Cultural Mediators in the partner organizations present their activities online. Reimbursement has subsequently been applied for the expenses incurred by the partner countries in connection with the cancelled LTT.

The Corona crisis will also have an impact on the second LTT, which should have been liquidated in Belgium in October 2020. To be on the safe side we have postponed this to January 2021, as we have not been certain that it would be possible to travel across borders in October 2020.



Kick-Off, Odense, 2019, Photo: Anne-Mette Kjærsgaard

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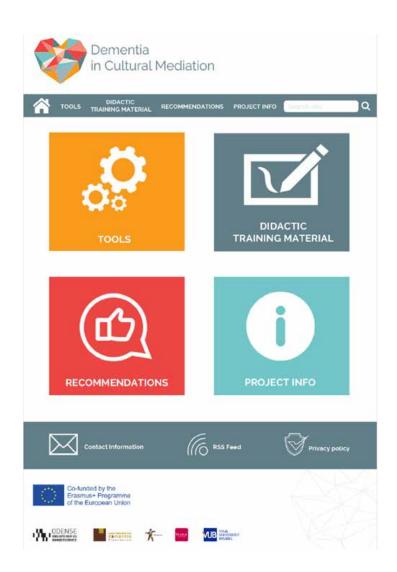
12. DCUM Website and Toolkit

The DCUM project is developing a website, which is also a 'Toolkit' that will show different tools for use in cultural mediation for people with dementia.

The target group for the site is Cultural Mediators, such as librarians, museum guides, who disseminate culture to people with dementia. Content and data is developed by the project working group.

The project endeavors to make the website and content as visual as possible, both in terms of content / data on the page, but also in appearance and graphic expression. This supports content and function and meets the needs of the target group in color, mood, design, and typography.

The tools on the website become visible as short video spots, where Cultural Mediators show and explain what methods they have used in cultural dissemination for people with dementia. Written guidelines and didactic considerations will be attached to the video tools. Take a look at a Mock-up of the website right here:



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T3. The DCUM Reference Group- Project relevance and quality assurance

An important element of the DCUM-project is to ensure a direct link between the end-user group, interest groups and various experts on culture and dementia. The project wants to ensure both target groups and end-user groups input and recommendations on the 3 Intellectual Outputs.

The aim of the creation and composition of the DCUM-Reference Group is to ensure relevance of the project outputs as well as to ensure the quality of the entire project.

Therefore, the DCUM- Reference Group is composed of 10 experts on dementia and culture, cultural mediators, interest groups and representatives of the end-user group. The participants are appointed by the 5 partner organizations plus an additional seat for an observer from the Southern Denmark EU Office.

The concrete tasks of the Reference Group members are differing and based on the individual members, profession, interest and network. But all members of The Reference Group play the role as project ambassador and contributor to the dissemination of the project.

The Reference Group had their first Skype Meeting in May 2020, where they among other things, discussed their various interests, professional approaches and opportunities to contribute to the project both locally in the partner organizations, in the future meetings in the group and in their professional networks.



4. Next steps

In the coming months the project partners will work on the following elements:

- Webinars in June
- Launching of the DCUM website
- Dissemination on SOME
- Video production of the Tools
- Development of the Training Material to support the Tools

5. Follow us on Facebook:

www.facebook.com/DementiaInCulturalMediation

6. Contact:

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