



Centro Paideia

Centre for children and families

www.fondazionepaideia.it/cosa-facciamo/centro-paideia

Address:
Via Moncalvo 1,
10131 Torino

Target population

Children with disability and their families.

Mission

To provide rehabilitation, social activities and wellbeing for children, youth and the local community, through a multidisciplinary and integrated approach.

Funding

Donations, fund raising and participation fees.

Context

Paideia has more than 25 years of experience in social care and has supported more than 3000 families since 1993.

The activities offered at the newly renovated Center for Children and Families, located in downtown Turin, builds upon Paideia's long experience of community involvement, and include:

- systematic counselling by multi-professional teams;
- network of collaborative public and private organizations;
- a scientific committee where experts, professionals and families participate as equals.
- 10 family coordinators (social workers, psychologists, speech and neurodevelopmental disorders therapists etc.)

The building (3000 m²), which was originally a school, is completely accessible.



Governance & management

Fondazione Paideia is a non-profit organization founded in 1993 by the two Turin families Giubergia and Argentero.

The management of the Centre includes a CEO, a board of directors, an administrative director, an health-care director and an area director.

Every week there is a multidisciplinary meeting among the Centre's professionals to plan and evaluate interventions and personalized plans. They also coordinate their activities with public services (social, health and education).

What this initiative is about

Centro Paideia opened its new facilities in 2018 and offers access to courses, workshops, a swimming pool, a library, a café, a playground and different social, cultural and recreational activities to everyone in the city of Turin. Activities are supported by trained volunteers, who welcome families and help children with disability to participate in the activities.

For families with children with disability, the centre offers rehabilitation services based on individual needs and in collaboration with public health services.

Our strategy for people-driven care – The Family Centred Care (FCC) methodology¹

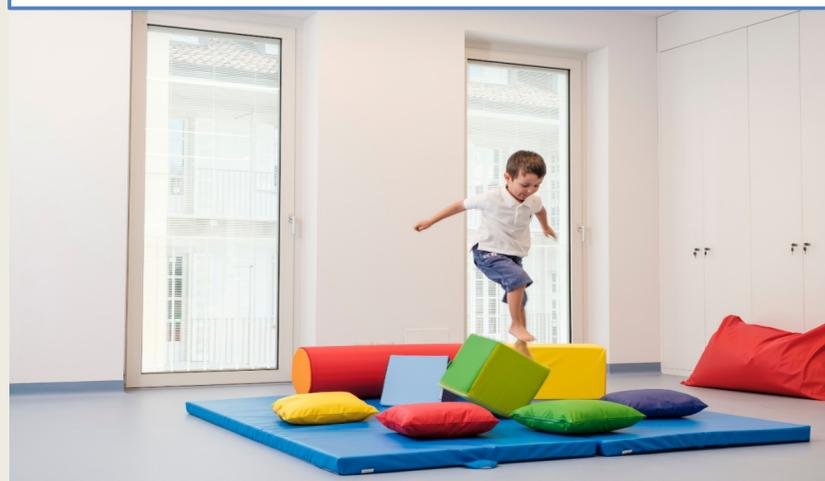
FCC is a partnership approach to healthcare, where families are considered as partners and experts in deciding on the child's wellbeing. Key elements of the FCC approach includes: information sharing; respect for differences; partnership and collaboration; negotiation and care in context of family situation and their community.

In FCC, health is defined according to WHO's definition of health: "a state of complete physical, mental and social wellbeing and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity"

How are families engaged and empowered?

Families with children with disabilities are supported through counselling, starting with the family situation, their resources and needs. Every family has their own coordinator (their professional background vary according to family needs) who is responsible for coordination of Centro Paideias services with other actors involved in the care of the child (specialist services, general practitioner, school etc.).

A flexible care plan is developed and practical goals are set based on parents' and children's challenges according to the public service guidelines. The whole family, not only the disabled child's needs are addressed.



Impact

- The Centre offers services to about 500 families – of which 300 are families with children with disability from Turin and the whole Metropolitan Area of the city.
- Staff at Centro Paideia are in the planning phase of defining the quality and quantity items for an impact evaluation. The evaluation will be performed in collaboration with Zancan Foundation.
- The scientific committee has been responsible for guiding the methodological and operative philosophies of the centre
- "Paideia's friends" is a family association founded by a group of families with children with disability after participating for several years in Paideia's activities. Paideia's friends give back to other families in the community, help with fundraising, during events and help spreading awareness of the centre's activities.

Insights (Key learnings)

- Services are provided based on the needs of the whole family, not only the disabled child through a non-institutional approach.
- An informal atmosphere and welcoming spaces are important for optimal rehabilitation. Recreational socializing opportunities are crucial for developing wellbeing of children and families.
- Training is a key component both for professional and volunteers.
- Providing FCC takes time. Time to meet with families and other professionals and to build common trust.
- When spaces and activities are open for all citizens it gives opportunity for a wider social inclusion.
- High quality services are provided at accessible rates and in case of financial vulnerability (means tested) families can receive services for free.



1. (FCC – Law M., Rosebaum P., King S., Burke Gaffney J., Monig Szkut T., Kertoy M., Viascardis L., Teplicky R., 2003).

