

Franziska Paul

Gesundheitskollektiv Berlin

The "Gesundheitskollektiv Berlin" (Berlin Health Collective) is developing a community health center in the Rollberg area of Berlin-Neukölln, an area of significant social and economic deprivation, with a large migrant community.

The main goal is to take into account the great relevance of social factors on people's health.

The collective is combining medical care, health promotion, and disease prevention with social and political risk factors - such as low income, rent increases, precarious employment, racism, or poverty in old age.

The center is based on four main conceptual "pillars": -primary medical and psychotherapeutic care, community organizing and projects in the neighborhood, self-help, and counseling, and -research and evaluation.



Governance team

There is a multi-professional team of psychotherapists, nurses, social workers, health and social scientists, physiotherapists, and doctors. The team tries to challenge dominant hierarchies within and between occupational groups in healthcare by promoting shared equal decision-making. The team regularly meets for collective case discussions and knowledge transfer. There is no formal hierarchy between professionals and volunteers, they meet in plenary sessions once a month. The team is embracing a basic democratic grass-root approach.

Research and evaluation officer

Franziska's vision is to have different people from different backgrounds, acting differently, collaborating for the greater good. She would like to change a part of society and part of the neighborhood at the same time and also change one's mind by learning other perspectives. She can share her expertise in the needs and social space assessment, how to discover the real and true needs of the community, acknowledge complexity and biases.

- How to reach the people that are the most in need and empower them?
- How to evaluate the effectiveness and the impact in the community?
- How to share the ownership among citizens?

Values and expertise

Questions to the Forum