

## STORYTELLER – Making a difference

NEWSLETTER August 2019 No.5

### Welcome

#### STORYTELLER PROJECT

A project dedicated to the very core of working with stories. Towards working with vulnerable communities within a professional curriculum.

#### RESULTS

An overview of the main results and outputs of the project

**THE STORYTELLER PROJECT  
TEAM**



Partnership consortium information available at: <http://learnstorytelling.eu/>



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# STORYTELLER: "WORKING WITH STORIES" ... THE JOURNEY CONTINUES

**Dear StoryTeller friends,**

STORYTELLER started 3 years ago, with the dream of developing a new educational programme on "working with stories" for different professionals working with and helping people at risk.

At the end of the journey, we are proud of the results and outputs and the work developed over the last years, and therefore we would like to share them with you in this last newsletter.

But this is not a goodbye, as our journey continues, the STORYTELLER outputs and results will be used and enhanced by the organisations involved in the project, with the aim of extending the programme and the lessons learned to as many interested professionals as possible.

So, we hope to encounter you soon in this next stage of our journey,

SEE YOU SOON!

**Your StoryTeller team**

*"The participating professionals did not expect that the use of storytelling and narrative practice could be so powerful. The idea of using stories to help their target group was food for their thoughts. They asked for the possibility to gain more and more knowledge and competencies, and we will surely go on in disseminating our curriculum and our methodology".*

*A Volunteer used Unit 2 – Empathic Listening Competencies and learned the difference between empathy (empowering) and sympathy (disconnection) and see the social benefits of empathic listening and empathic behaviour. A retired professional (aged 70) she is now training as a Listener herself (and recruiting others) for a new call centre listening scheme attached to a large local prison in Limavady, Northern Ireland. Her background as a nursing professional who attended the Train the Trainer event in Ballykelly in October 2018 means she is very conversant now with the "story" that each prisoner tells*

# OUR RESULTS

## 1 - COMPENDIUM OF STORYTELLING TRAINING & CERTIFICATION INITIATIVES

It provides an overview of the theoretical background of the project, including a definition of the terms story, narrative and discourse, and the epistemological and philosophical stance from where the project started. It also reports the research results into the “state of art” of storytelling in the 6 EU countries involved in the project, providing insight into the current status of storytelling related training.

## 2 - STORYTELLER CURRICULUM

This result developed, tested and improved the development, testing, the innovative and (ECVET/EQAVET) aligned C-VET Curriculum for professional storytelling for all professionals working with disadvantaged groups to be able to recognize and use a set of storytelling techniques, methods and tools for empowerment of people facing risk of social exclusion situations.

*“The StoryTeller curriculum and guidelines have been appreciated as a welcome and inspiring additional approach by professional (and volunteer) caregivers and career guidance, and even more: educational professionals also see it as an important additional approach for the (personal) identity and social development of adolescent learners.”*

## 3 - STORYTELLER UNIVERSAL METHODOLOGY FOR PROFESSIONALS

This is a universal methodological guideline to equip professionals working with communities, regardless of their professional background, area, target group and purpose, with some basic universal skills, knowledge, methods, tools and techniques related to storytelling, to allow them to empower the disadvantaged groups they work with.

*“The provided material and practical implementation of numerous exercises instil hope and expectations, for the contents to be offered also in the future within a longer training or educational event. The information on project material is very useful also from the standpoint of awareness raising about the importance of personal stories, listening, reflecting own work...to put it shortly...we want more and will spread the news!”*

#### 4 - ON-LINE INTERACTIVE STORYTELLER LEARNING PLATFORM

The on-line interactive educational platform is freely accessible in 6 partner languages (SI, AT, IT, ES, NL, EN) to all interested stakeholders across Europe and serves as Open educational resources (OER), consisted of all Intellectual outputs: <http://learnstorytelling.eu/en/results/> and section that promotes self-directed learning with inspirational videos: <http://learnstorytelling.eu/en/>

*“The storytelling approach was appreciated as an enriching and helpful additional tool in working with clients. The provided material offers a variety of practical application possibilities for example to develop new perspectives or to encourage change. But it also stimulates to reflect and inspire one’s own action. The desire for more was tangible and so we intend to continue to spread the contents of StoryTeller”.*

#### 5 - BUSINESS AND PROVISION PLAN

The aim of this Intellectual output is to create, promote and maintain the StoryTeller brand in C-VET education on the long-term. It includes information of the steps taken towards an acknowledgment of an arising new qualification.

You can download/access these results here:  
<http://learnstorytelling.eu/en/results/>

