



Bremerhaven

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## Final Report AILA Project AWO Bremerhaven

### Introduction

This report summarizes the work process by AWO Bremerhaven (Germany) and our vocational school for elderly care in Bremerhaven from 2008 to 2010. In 2008 AWO Bremerhaven agreed on participating in the AILA Leonardo da Vinci Project together with the coordinating Institute for Work and Techniques (IAT) in Gelsenkirchen (Germany) and seven other partners from three countries (Poland, Rumania, and Turkey). This project, called AILA, was about the transfer of an education concept and credit points to strengthen the mobility and transparency of elderly care. The team from Bremerhaven consisted of staff and teachers from the vocational school of AWO Bremerhaven. In the same year as the project started, a complete new school for elderly care started in Bremerhaven.

### Our activities

Firstly, we have started this project by integrating the cultural elements of care in our **basic plan for elderly care** for Bremen and Bremerhaven. We have discussed this plan with the other project partners. This document is called: “attachment 1: Rahmenlehrplan der Altenpflegehilfeausbildung- Ausbildungsinhalte und – Ziele sowie Stundenverteilung für die Altenpflegehilfeausbildung Kultursensible Pflege.

During the first year of the project **the curriculum** that is used in Bremerhaven and Bremen has been adjusted and tested several times. We have worked together with the other international partners on a common curriculum. This was not easy, because the profession of elderly caregiver has different meanings in the various countries. It was interesting to learn about various cultural elements of care in Poland and Rumania that we have fitted in as can be read in the attached working document called, “learning goals and learning contents” (attachment 2). The credit points for all process steps and dimensions have been completed. The curriculum has been tested and can be integrated into the qualification for “supporter of elderly care” (one year). Together with all other project partners we have adjusted the several international curricula into one document. All recommendations given by the AILA project partners have been integrated into this document. This document can be the start for developing and qualification in other countries as well.

Before we had a seminar with our students, we organized a **workgroup** with people from AWO Bremerhaven, our school and the university Bremen. We discussed about cultural sensitive care and the way we all could integrate the subject as exhaustive as possible in our educational system of elderly care. In the beginning we as project partner experienced some objections and as a group we had interesting discussions together. One objection was that a teacher told us that they were already teaching about various cultures and that they did not need a new plan. After thoroughly working through and explaining the Cultural Sensitive Care plan with pBIA's they finally got enthusiast and said they were willing to offer an advanced training on Cultural Sensitive Care in the nearby future.

At the end of our project period a **seminar** was held in Bremerhaven with our students on cultural sensitive care. The list of students who participated can be found in attachment 3. This seminar was very useful for us as project partner, the teachers of our school and, last but not least, our students from the elderly care supporter program (one year education). Interestingly, we experienced great enthusiasm of the students. One reason can be that we have many students of various cultures and countries. In Bremerhaven, which lies in the very north of Germany, many people

from various cultures live together. This means that lots of our students in Bremerhaven are migrants and come from many different countries. They bring along their various ideas on intercultural caring.

For the project we have experienced support from our **network** and informed them well about the AILA project: the Bundesland Bremen, the Senator for Education and Science, Bremen, and the Senator for Work, Women, Health, Youth and Social affairs, Bremen. In the region Bremerhaven, we have informed and discussed with the City council social affairs Bremerhaven, the City council health Bremerhaven and the Study group Welfare Bremerhaven. As mentioned before, for next year our goal is that we would like to start with an **advanced training on Cultural Sensitive Care** (pBIA) for our students.

**Conclusion:** Working two years on the AILA project was very instructive. It was both difficult and interesting to start a new school and integrate the AILA project at the same time, especially due to the absence of the person who first was leading the project in Bremerhaven so well. Finally, we were able to get back in the saddle again and finish the project successfully. We are grateful that we had the opportunity to work together with the coordinating institute IAT in Gelsenkirchen and with all the other project partners, who offered new dimensions on working with cultural sensitive learning and they were all great partners to carry on this job!

Dr. M. Brugman, Project leader

AWO Bremerhaven

V. Tegeler, CEO

AWO Bremerhaven

Enclosed:

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| Attachments 1: | Rahmenlehrplan für die Altenpflegehilfeausbildung Kultursensible Pflege |
| Attachment 2:  | learning goals and learning contents                                    |
| Attachment 3:  | list of students participating in seminar                               |