

<i>Tag: Young people; Country: Finland; Language: English; Year: 2016; Event: Youth workshop (Athens)</i>	
<b>Programme's name:</b>	<b>The 'Anchor' Team – A multi-professional early response team against youth offending</b>
<i>Original title:</i>	<i>Ankkuri-tiimi</i>
<u>Organisation / Country:</u>	City of Hämeenlinna, Finland
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<u>Summary:</u>	<p><b>Development of the 'Anchor' team</b> Targeted efforts towards youth offending (Ankkuri team) in Hämeenlinna region were initiated in 2004 as result of a project between the City of Hämeenlinna and the local police.</p> <p><b>Involvement with criminal procedures for minors</b> The 'Anchor' Team is involved at different stages of criminal procedures, including preliminary investigations, pre-trial stages, and the court trials.</p> <p>During preliminary investigations, the 'Anchor' Team is majorly involved in carrying out investigations. As part of this stage, the coordination of a restorative mediation procedure between the victim and the offenders falls in the scope of their work.</p> <p>The prosecutor receives support from the 'Anchor' Team, whilst the 'Anchor' Team at the same time works closely with the young user. The 'Anchor' Team is involved finding and assessing evidence of investigations.</p> <p>During court trials, assessments from the 'Anchor' Team support judges in finding appropriate rulings and in determining adequate sentences. Those sentences may include fines, conditional imprisonment, punishment of juvenile delinquents, and imprisonment.</p> <p><b>Management framework</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The cooperation between the professions has been agreed by the police and the municipalities.</li> </ul>

- The Anchor teams are as well supervised by multi-professional teams.

### **Team structure**

In the Municipality of Hämeenlinna, the multi-professional team based in the local police station consists of:

- 2 specialised police officers,
- 2 social workers,
- 1 social pedagogue,
- 1 psychiatric nurse, and
- 1 youth leader.

### **Roles of the different professionals**

- **Municipal police:**  
The police officer is responsible for the investigation of suspected cases of juvenile delinquency. The police officer forms a team with primarily the social worker and the youth worker.
- **Social worker:**  
The social worker is responsible for the assessment of the young person's social environment, the immediate provision of child welfare measures where necessary and the provision of family support.
- **Psychiatric nurse:**  
The psychiatric nurse assesses the young person's health and for the immediate initiation of treatment. The nurse contacts victims of domestic violence and initiates the corrective actions to stabilise the family situation.
- **Youth worker:**  
The youth worker maintains contact with schools, various sport clubs and other clubs. The youth worker develops group activity for young people, where they have an opportunity to follow their interests and develop skills.
- **Social advisor (authorised by the municipalities):**  
The social advisor operates together with all the team members. The Social Advisor also meets young customers alone if needed.

### **Main tasks**

- **Needs assessment:**  
Ankkuri intervenes the criminal behavior of young people under 18 years with the methods of social and health care and guidance and evaluates the needs of a young person and his/her family.
- **Intervention plans:**  
The aim is to make an intervention as early as possible.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Investigations:</b></li> <li>• Ankkuri also carries out investigations on domestic violence.</li> </ul> <p><b>Supervision</b> Four managers contribute to coordination and supervision, but work the team full time.</p> <p><b>The Ankkuri model and its procedures</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>First meeting:</b> At a first meeting, representatives of the Anchor team meet the whole family. At this meeting, the scope of needs and the necessary professional involvement are determined. At the same time, the Anchor Team carries out an investigation.</li> <li>• <b>Follow-up meetings:</b> Follow-up meetings may occur up to 10 times. The issues identified in the first meeting are addressed, which may involve representatives from child welfare services, family therapists, mediation practitioners.</li> </ul> <p><b>Multidisciplinary cooperation between authorities</b> The 'Anchor' team can be understood as a cooperation between four different services.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• police,</li> <li>• health care,</li> <li>• youth work, and</li> <li>• child welfare.</li> </ul> <p>The four different services seek to design their cooperation in a way that puts the user in the centre of their work.</p>
<u>Issues:</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Complexity of individual life contexts and needs</li> <li>• Reoffending rates of young people</li> <li>• High costs of public care and custody</li> </ul>
<u>Resources:</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The main resource of the team are the seven professionals, that form the team.</li> <li>• On top of that, four managers support the team with professional supervision. These managers do not work with the team full time.</li> </ul>
<u>Objectives:</u>	<p>The Ankkuri team has three objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Early intervention against juvenile delinquency</li> <li>• Prevention of domestic violence</li> <li>• Preventative police work at regional level</li> </ul>
<u>Outcomes:</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Effectiveness:</b> The Anchor team centres around highly effective community policing using the expertise of various authorities and helping them to better achieve their objectives.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Impact:</b> The Anchor team makes it possible to break the vicious circle of criminal activity and prevent young people from becoming marginalised.</li> </ul>
<u>Evaluation:</u>	It has been measured that a year of imprisonment for a young person costs the public sector up to 68,000 EUR. The study clearly supported the financial benefits of preventative work.
<u>Resources:</u>	A presentation about the practice is available upon request.