

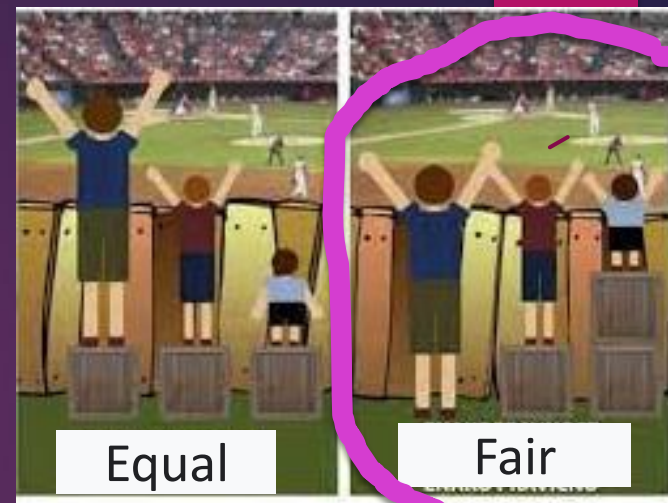
Plenary 4: The Economic Case for Community Care



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Economic case for community care

CARE WORK CENTER ZASAVJE

(www.vdc-zasavje.si; <https://www.facebook.com/vdczasavje/>)



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MACROLEVEL - SLOVENIA

Societal economic benefits of community care



2,1 mio inhabitants

0,9 mio working

4,2% unemployment rate

€1.319

Average monthly net salary

More people are needed in the labor market due to an aging society.

7.454

Adults with intelectual disability

with status under the **Social Inclusion Act.**

In Slovenia traditionally the family takes care.

Ca. 15.000 parents
need support

Day care centres available
Mon - Friday 7AM – 15 PM.

Community care enables parents to maintain an „ordinary life“ and continue working in their professions, **resulting in increased satisfaction** for them and their adult children.

Source: Statistical Report of the Republic of Slovenia, 2022

Source: Ministry of Labour, Family, and Social Affairs, Februar 2023

MICROLEVEL: Economic Case of Community Care

CARE WORK CENTRE ZASAVJE

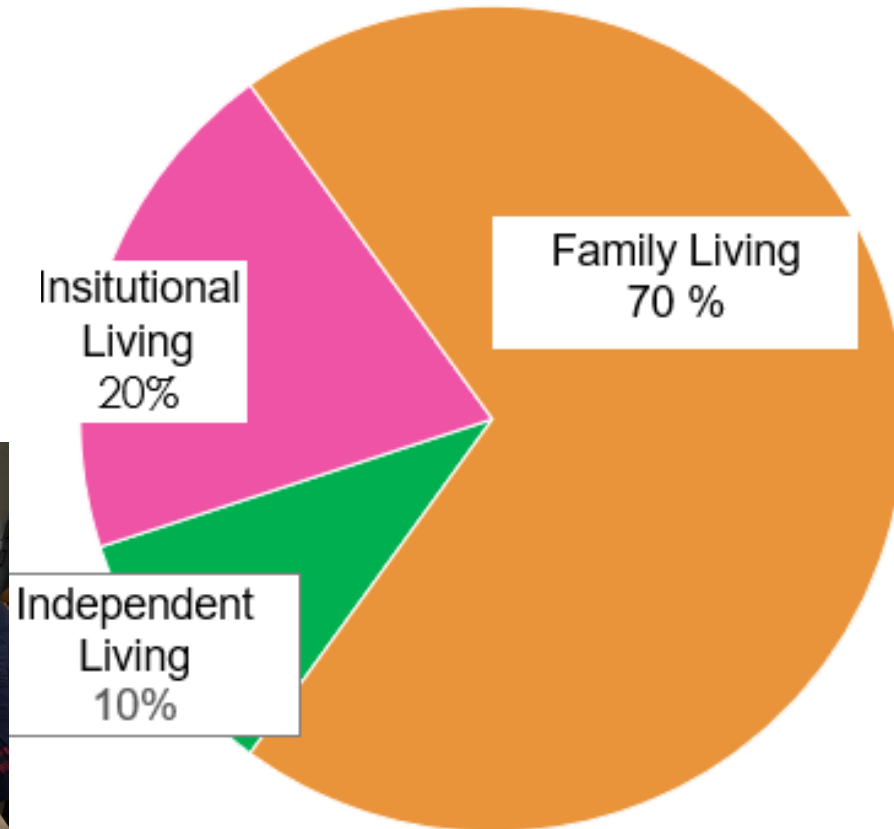
non – institutional organizational culture

4 living units in community

(4 -12 users in the unit)



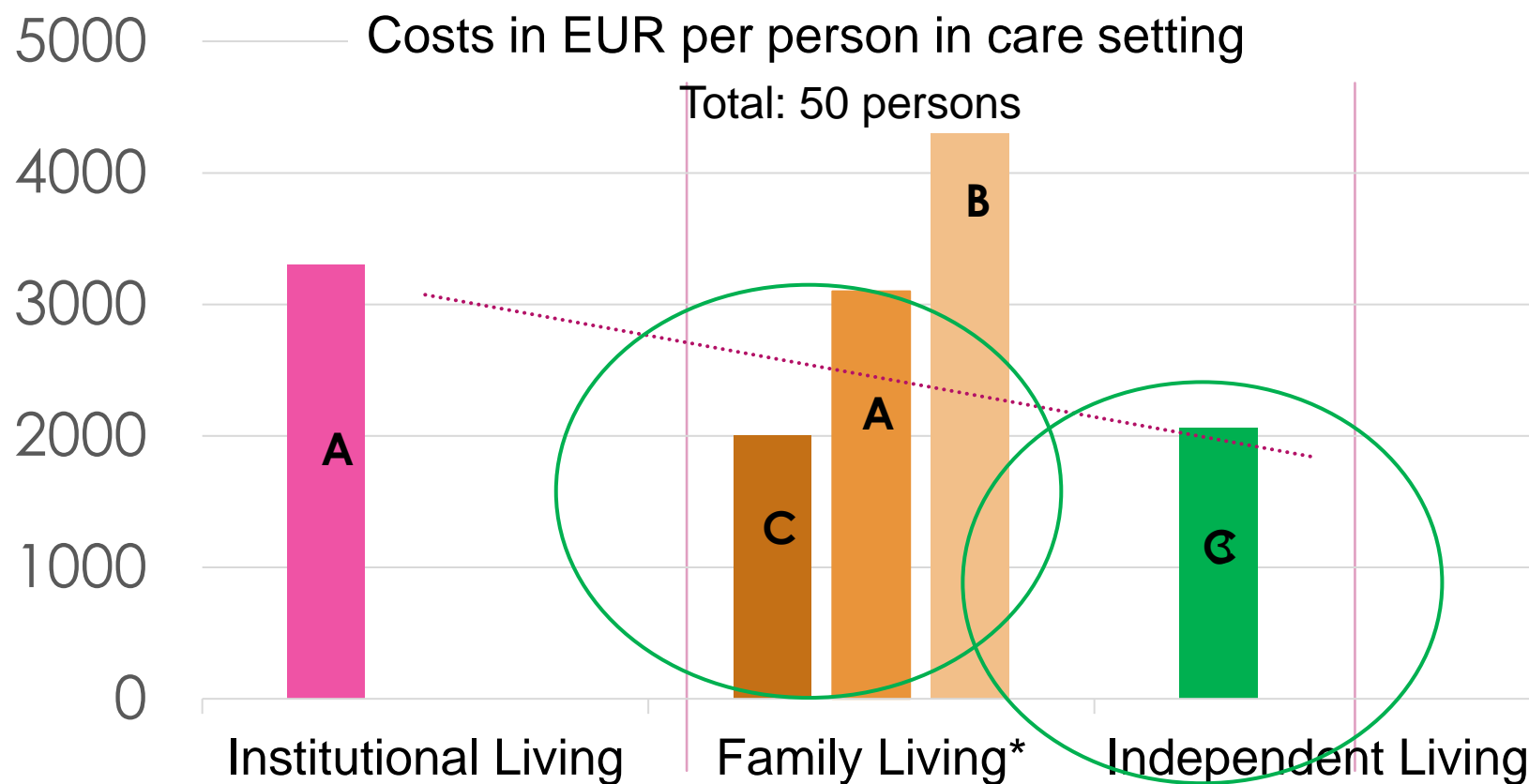
Distribution of Clients in Care Settings



- 150 clients
- learning disability moderate to severe
- majority lives with family
- only 10 percent lives in independent living settings

MICROLEVEL: Economic Case

Moderate intellectual disability



Costs for **Family Living** vary depending on hours of care, on 3 different laws - standard needs assessment tool:

- A. Social Welfare Act (1992),
- B. Personal Assistance Act (2017),
- C. Social Inclusion Act (2018)

Independent living is the **most economically** viable option.

But **ONLY 10 %** of our clients receive this support

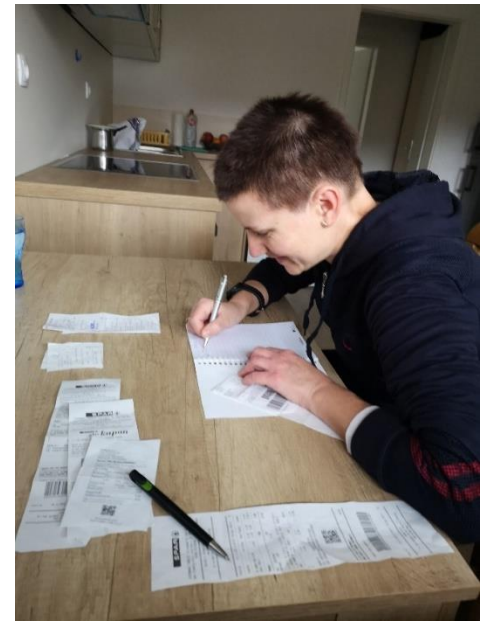
Why not more independent living?

Insufficient Hours

- **Max. 5 hours/week** professional social support.
- Often **insufficient** to meet needs of the person.

Economic dependency

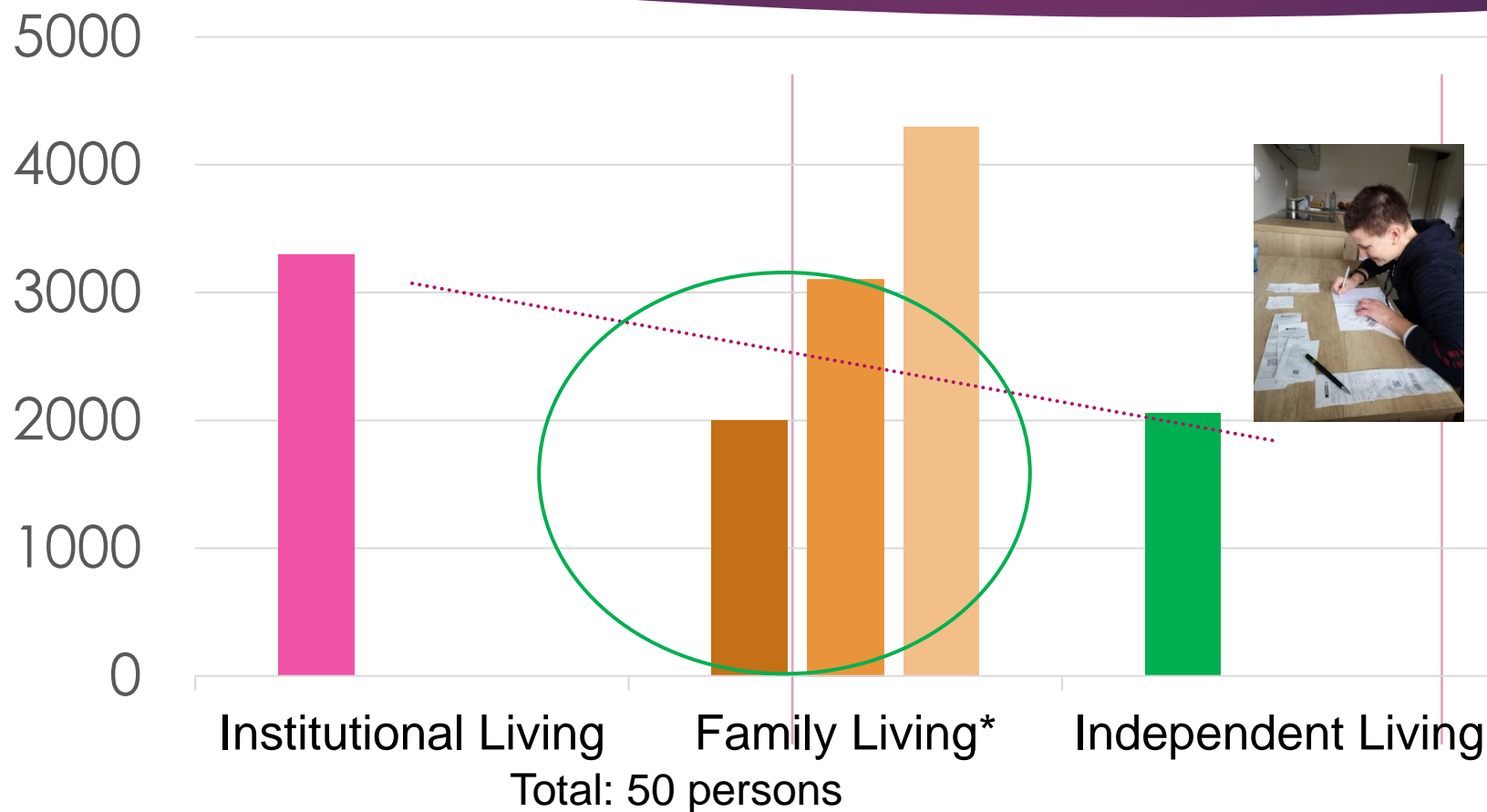
- **Family carers remuneration & disability allowance** combined higher than net **average salary**.
- Families want to **keep their adult children** in their homes.



MICROLEVEL: Economic Case

Moderate intellectual disability

CARE WORK CENTRE ZASAVJE* - 50 people with moderate dependency



*Costs for Family Living Vary

2.000 EUR

3 hours per week
professional support
(Social Inclusion Act 2018)

3.100 EUR

Caregiver member of the family
(Social Welfare Act 1992)

4.300 EUR

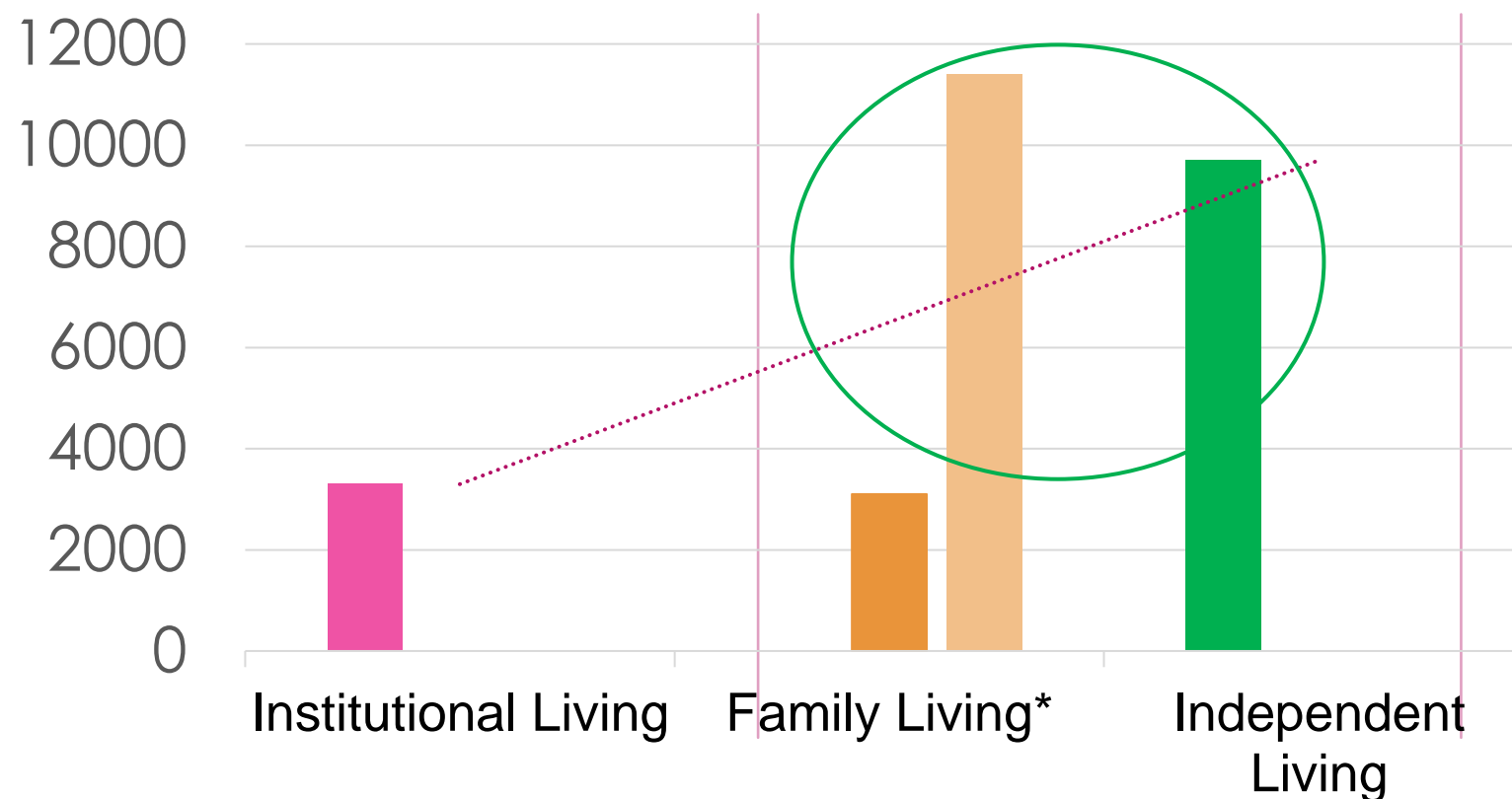
1 Personal Assistant – family
member
(Personal Assistance Act 2017)



MICROLEVEL: Economic Case

Severe intellectual disability

CARE WORK CENTRE ZASAVJE* - 40 people with severe dependency



Community Care has higher costs.

Up to 11.400 EUR in **families**:

- ✓ 4 Personal Assistants (2 family members + 2 externals)
- ✓ 3.100 EUR Caregiver member of the family

Up to 9.700 EUR in **independent living settings**

- ✓ 3 Personal Assistants (external and care-work center)

*Costs per **person & month** for housing and care of people with disabilities in different settings. Source: Own calculation August 2023

REFLECTIONS

Community care for people with **severe dependency**

- Community care has rather **high costs** for people with severe disabilities, dependency.
- **ONLY 2 %** of our clients receive this support.
- Many families **depend** on the family carers **remuneration** and disability allowance which together are much higher than the net average salary (economic dependency).
- **Is living independently truly independent living** for an individual with a severe intellectual disability?
- Can we guarantee them '*with all necessary means to enable them to **exercise choice** and **control** over their lives and make all **decisions** concerning their lives*'*?
(*Comment No. 5, UNCRPD)



HOW CAN WE GUARANTEE THE MORE PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES CAN LIVE AND PROPERLY PARTICIPATE IN THE COMMUNITY?

**A person-centered,
realistic national strategy for
deinstitutionalization.**

Money!!!
Competent employees
Suitable housing
Public media

Television, radio, newspapers, social networks



Culture shift

**“I want to move out to live
with my friends, in a
supported independent
living setting, but my family
won’t let me. “**

- Inclusive **school system** – inclusive work, society
- **Organisational shift** – non-institutional culture
- Families - **from safety to risk**
- **Assistance from „a third person“** in families with a child with intellectual disability from birth.

FROM WORDS TO ACTIONS!!!

Quality, transparent community care

- **one law - standard needs assessment tool** (questionnaire) for adult people with intellectual disability
- **Integrated information system**
- **Service quality indicators**
- Clear, measurable individual goals
- Monitoring - timely action/change...



FINAL ELABORATE ON THE ECONOMIC CASE



- **ONLY 10 % of our clients live truly independently.** What if more families would want to let their adult child live independently - would you have the means to provide this solution?

At that moment, in Slovenia, NO.

- We **need higher government funding rates** (more money) to finance independent living for more persons with complex needs and more hours for care.
- We **need more staff** to provide **community care** (also intensive care required).
- We **need more suitable housing**...

Does Slovenia have enough money for this?



WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF COMMUNITY CARE BESIDES ALL THE ECONOMIC ASPECTS?

The story of IRENA, who has become so much more **independent and happy.**

The courage to live independently in her own apartment, to cook, to shop, to join society, to talk with people, to travel by plane...

Better mental health.

„Being who I am, not what parents or professionals want me to be."

Responsibility = Dignity.

