

Transforming senior centres into civic and community centres

<u>Organisation(s):</u>	Regional Government of Catalonia - Department of Social Rights	
<u>Country:</u>	Spain	
<u>Contact:</u>	policy@esn-eu.org	
<u>Theme:</u> Choose at least one option	<input type="checkbox"/> Ageing & Care <input type="checkbox"/> Asylum & Migration <input type="checkbox"/> Young People <input type="checkbox"/> Support for Children & Families <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Community Care <input type="checkbox"/> Integrated Care & Support <input type="checkbox"/> Co-Production <input type="checkbox"/> Disability <input type="checkbox"/> Housing & Homelessness <input type="checkbox"/> Artificial Intelligence <input type="checkbox"/> Digitalisation <input type="checkbox"/> Quality Care	<input type="checkbox"/> Labour Market Inclusion <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Social Inclusion <input type="checkbox"/> Technology <input type="checkbox"/> Workforce and Leadership <input type="checkbox"/> Social Benefits <input type="checkbox"/> EU Funding <input type="checkbox"/> Social Service's Resilience <input type="checkbox"/> Mental Health <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Person-Centred Care <input type="checkbox"/> Research & Use of Evidence <input type="checkbox"/> Management & Planning <input type="checkbox"/> Other, please specify:
<u>Principles of the European Pillar of Social Rights:</u> Check the 20 principles here .	<input type="checkbox"/> 1. Education, training, life-long learning <input type="checkbox"/> 2. Gender equality <input type="checkbox"/> 3. Equal opportunities <input type="checkbox"/> 4. Active support to employment <input type="checkbox"/> 5. Secure and adaptable employment <input type="checkbox"/> 6. Fair Wages <input type="checkbox"/> 7. Transparent employment conditions <input type="checkbox"/> 8. Social dialogue <input type="checkbox"/> 9. Work-life balance <input type="checkbox"/> 10. Healthy, safe work environment	<input type="checkbox"/> 11. Childcare and child support <input type="checkbox"/> 12. Social protection <input type="checkbox"/> 13. Unemployment benefits <input type="checkbox"/> 14. Minimum income <input type="checkbox"/> 15. Old age income and pensions <input type="checkbox"/> 16. Health care <input type="checkbox"/> 17. Inclusion of people with disabilities <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 18. Long-term care <input type="checkbox"/> 19. Housing and assistance to homeless <input type="checkbox"/> 20. Access to essential services
<u>Current status of the practice:</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> Concept and Design Phase <input type="checkbox"/> Testing or pilot phase <input type="checkbox"/> Temporary practice that has terminated <input type="checkbox"/> Temporary practice that is ongoing and has a termination date <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Established and ongoing practice <input type="checkbox"/> Scaling Up and Transformation Phase <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify)	
<u>Summary:</u> Please summarise the practice in maximum 3 sentences. This	The Catalan Government's civic and community centres serve as essential community hubs, providing resources and services to improve quality of life. Open to all, these centres encourage intergenerational living, community empowerment, and citizen participation.	

<p><i>will be the disclaimer of your project on our website.</i></p>	
<p><u>Context/ Social issues addressed</u> <i>Please explain the problem you attempt to solve with your practice.</i></p>	<p>Transforming senior centres into civic and community centres implied pursuing the following challenges:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promoting multigenerational, intergenerational and multipurpose spaces that become meeting points for everyone. • Build a model of civic and community centres characterised by versatility and intergenerationally, without displacing anyone and avoiding isolation, that integrates and helps social cohesion and assumes inclusive policies and equal opportunities for everyone. • Train the leading staff in the centres to assume the new character of multigenerational relationships. Assist the participants through the centre's transformation and new ways of understanding it and its relationships. Create synergies between territory agents, coordinating shared programs and projects. <p>The civic and community centres find their primordial mission to be the community's backbone. They put diverse resources and services at people's disposal that improve the citizens' quality of life, support social cohesion, equity, rootedness and the feeling of belonging, and transmit civic values. They are non-religious, public spaces open to everyone.</p>
<p><u>Objectives:</u> <i>Please provide a maximum of three objectives in bullet points.</i></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The civic and community centres aim to promote intergenerational coexistence and seek the empowerment of people and associations, fostering partnership, a humanitarian spirit and citizen participation.
<p><u>Activities:</u> <i>Please describe the activities put in place to achieve the objectives (maximum 300 words).</i></p>	<p>The new Decree 46/2022, of March 15th, on civic and community centres comes at a time when almost all facilities have become community spaces. Despite this, it was necessary to redefine the objectives of these centres to configure a model that would provide services and respond to the ever-changing realities and needs of the population while also consolidating this transformation from senior centres to civic and community centres.</p> <p>This new model is based on community methodology, inclusive policies and practices, and equal opportunities. It also promotes the strengthening of generational and intercultural ties and seeks to reinforce the culture of civility by offering welcoming and meeting spaces with appropriate services and resources. The Unit of Programming and Dynamisation of Activities, bearing the responsibility of this task, decidedly works to increase the quality of the service these centres provide to all citizens in Catalonia, considering the specificity of each territory and connecting it to the world. Considering that this task and services have been satisfactorily consolidated, we believe that the project becomes a historic institutional opportunity, especially for older people, to move towards the development and improvement of the quality of life and inclusion in the community.</p> <p>Some activities that have been particularly successful are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Intercultural and intergenerational project "Beware the Jabberwock", in collaboration with the entity "La Víbria Intercultural" (https://vibria.org/) - Intergenerational project "(S)àvies" (meaning: Wise/Grandmothers), in collaboration with La Sagrera – Sant Andreu High School.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Intergenerational artistic activity “We paint together”, in which participants from different generations and origins created a work of art. - Participatory activity, video, conference, and debate called “Athenaeums, seeds of freedom”
Outcomes: <i>Please explain what the results were/are so far and how you evaluated this.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of senior centres transformed into civic and community centres: 100% of centres converted (85). • Number of new/intergenerational activities: 2,539 • Evaluations of the participants and the professional teams: in the process of data collection • Incorporation of participants from different age groups in the centres: 36,734 new participants
Links to supporting documents: <i>e.g. website or report of the practice</i>	Here is the webpage where you can find all the relevant information about the project.
Comments and tips i.e. for people willing to use your Practice	<p>Our project aims at the integral development of every individual and the prevention of social exclusion by guaranteeing the reinforcement of intergenerational and intercultural relations, civility culture and adequate services and resources in welcoming and meeting spaces. It also tries to give an answer to new realities and social needs, guaranteeing dynamism and adaptability to the territory’s characteristics, preventing social isolation. We firmly believe that this is possible by putting different generations in contact, and allowing the centre to be the space where these relations take place.</p> <p>To achieve these goals, we recommend:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Actively accompanying the centres’ heads, which translates into careful attention to their needs, diagnoses and understanding of the territory. - Implementing programs specifically for children and youth, in order to guarantee their presence in the centre. - Promoting intergenerational activities such as those presented above. - Carefully considering the environment’s needs (whether the neighbourhood, municipality, or broader territory). - Securing equity in treatment independently from origin, age, gender, sexual orientation, etc. - Keeping a close contact with entities from the social sector localized or working in the territory of adscription of the centre.