

Professorship: Care for People with an Intellectual Disability

Professor: Petri Embregts

Why was this particular professorship called into life?

The professorship Care for People with an Intellectual Disability has been established by the *HAN* for a period of four years. This has been done in cooperation with a number of the care organizations for people with an intellectual disability within the region. The care organizations clearly have a desire to invest in the professionalization of the sector. The care for people with an intellectual disability is characterized by individual requests and needs of clients and thus a dialogue between the client and a professional. The professional provides the help and support requested by the client. It is thus of critical importance that the competencies needed to do this be clearly formulated.

What is the focus of the professorship?

The professorship will devote attention to clarification of the competencies which professionals must have to provide the required care for people with an intellectual disability, especially:

- Which competencies are needed to handle such changes as the extramuralization of the care for people with an intellectual disability?
- Which competencies are needed to guide clients with special care needs because of their behavioral problems?

In addition to this, training and coaching trajectories will be developed for the different competencies. These trajectories will be applied to not only actual practice but also within the educational curricula for the relevant professionals themselves: special education teachers, social workers, nurses.

What research will be conducted as part of this professorship?

The members of the team being led by Professor Embregts will devote themselves to projects within the care sector. The following two areas of attention can be distinguished for this purpose.

- *Explication of competencies.* To start with, the competencies needed to work with different target groups within the care sector for people with an intellectual disability will be explicated. Applied research will thus be undertaken in which the knowledge and expertise of not only care providers but also the *HAN* will be systematically used to clearly delineate and describe the necessary competencies.
- *Establishment of training and coaching trajectories.* The second area of attention concerns the design of various training and coaching trajectories for the development of the necessary competencies. The effectiveness of the training and coaching trajectories will be evaluated. Evidence-based products will be developed for both training and care purposes. In doing this, attention will be paid to all of the building blocks which jointly constitute the competence of the care provider: knowledge, skills, insight, attitudes and personality.

Where is the professorship located?

The professorship Care for People with an Intellectual Disability is part of the Faculty of Health and Social Studies at the *HAN* University of Applied Sciences.

Contact

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