



## **Idea for future projects**

**Birute Viskontiene, director of Day activity center**

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## About us:

Kretinga Day activities center operates since 2001 and is public equivalent body, funded by Kretinga district municipality. Day activities center works with young adults having learning difficulties, mental, physical and complex disabilities. Center provides 2 society based social services – day activities for 60 clients (Day activities center in Kretinga and branch Salantai) and temporary (short-term) accommodation for 6 persons (branch Salantai).



2001

Day activitie centre, Kretinga



2011

Branch Salantai



2022

Youth center

## Youth center and mobile work with young people

- Kretinga, one of the last municipalities in Lithuania without a youth center. The brunch is connected to the institution, the regulations have been changed, premises will be provided to the institution. Installation, creation of an attractive and innovative environment for young people to start a new activity is required. Mobile work with young people will be provided, working in rural areas. Tools and transport required.



- Idea:

Establishing a youth center.

Repair the planned premises, install an elevator or lift for the disabled, buy innovative equipment and bus (9 sitting places for mobile work), a vehicle, start providing services to the youth of the city of Kretinga. Exchange work experience with other youth centers.

Partners in future project: Day activity center, Kretinga (Kretinga district municipality).

This activity is a challenge for us, but we want to overcome this challenge!

# Social workshops

- Social services are provided to all disabled people in Lithuanian day activities centers. After 20 years of work, we see that it is time to initiate a change in the provided social services, to differentiate services in order to improve the quality of life of the disabled. Young people with disabilities who have intellectual disabilities do not find jobs after graduating from finish profession centers. In EU countries, working groups peoples with disabilities have been operating at day activities centers for 15 years, which carry out orders for businesses. Following this example, we also strive for such a change. Enable disabled people to work by concluding contracts with businesses.

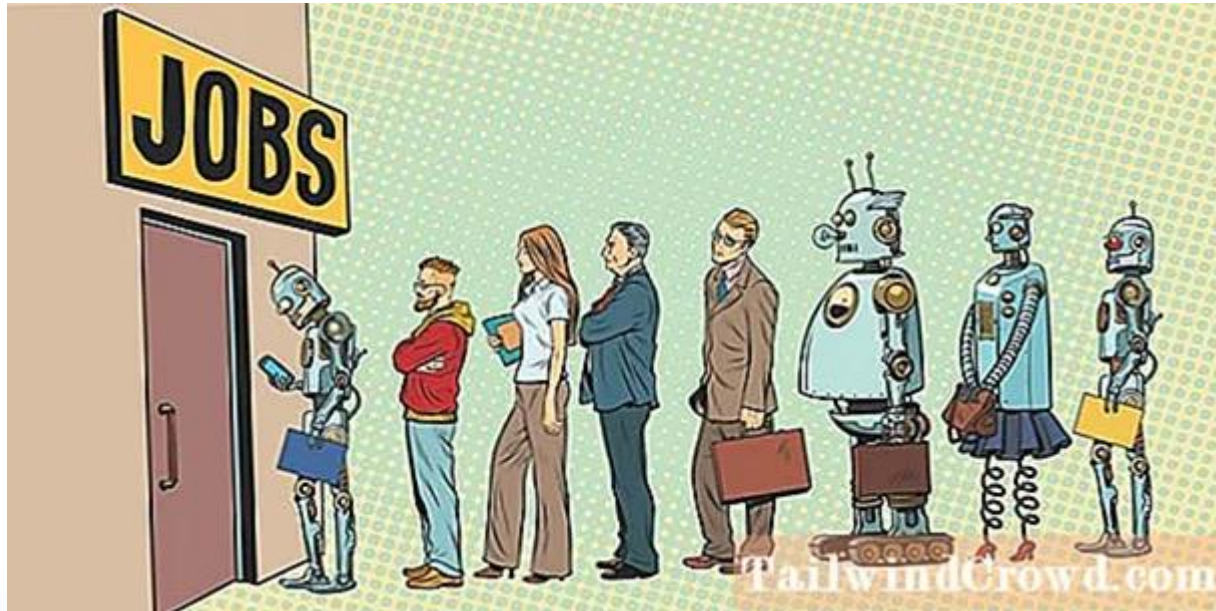
Idea:

"Social workshops"

- To create the space necessary for the performance of real works, to deliver the building with installation,
- Bring together people with medium disabilities to perform the tasks provided for by signing contracts with businesses,
- to create conditions for disabled people to participate in the labor market,
- to create social services based on the practical example of EU countries, where work groups are one of the most important areas of work of constituent social service institutions.

# Disability and the labor market

Data from the World Health Organization show otherwise - 14 percent all the people of the world have one disability or another. It is estimated that around one in five people in the European Union will have a disability this year. About one in ten people in Lithuania has a disability. People with disabilities make up a very large part of our society, but only a small proportion of people with disabilities are able to find employment. The gap between able-bodied and real-time disabled people is huge.





# Working group, pilot project with a business enterprise at 2021 January - May





- We can unite two ideas, youth and disabled. We have to develop social partnership from the school bench, so that the growing generation is not in ignorance of disability, and the responsible generation of future entrepreneurs grows up. Everything starts with an idea.
- The quality of life of disabled people is decided by people without disabilities!

According to the United Nations Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, in 2021 the number of disabled people of working age in Lithuania was 162,575, of which 47,133 were employed. Lithuania lags behind the EU average, as in the European Union it is about 50 % disabled people have jobs. The inclusion of the disabled in the labor market is a challenge for Lithuania.



## **Why people with disabilities need to participate in the labor market?**

The social services provided must be appropriate to the disability of the disabled and promote their personal development.

The developed world has been promoting the participation of people with disabilities in the labor market for 20 years ago.

When working in social services, we need to teach society about social responsibility. A person with a disability is an equal member of society who only demands more attention from himself.



The problems of people with disabilities must be addressed in a comprehensive way. First, people have a job, which means that they are less likely to be at risk of poverty. Secondly, their social horizons are expanding, social connections are emerging at work. Psychological problems are reduced accordingly, and the social exclusion between a person with a disability and a healthy person is reduced. Both economic and social challenges are being addressed at the same time, and the general mental health of society is improving.

But,

Being innovative, not afraid of challenges, we strive for this change from ourselves. We want to be the first message in Lithuania to change the concept, need and opportunities for the provision of social services with young peoples and with peoples with disabilities.

Good luck for all!!

