

Presentation Share net 27-9-2016

1. A motivation intervention for young MSM: making change happen (KIT)

What is a motivation intervention based on motivational interviewing?

A short film explaining what a Motivational Intervention (MI+) entails was shown. After that several exercises were done to give the participants a sense of what Motivational Interviewing on which the MI+ approach is based entails. The participants did amongst others an exercise to understand that if one pushes too much for change, there is more resistance. For counselling, one has to go with the flow and try to understand the client. The client has to be in the centre as he/she knows best. After these exercises, a short discussion on the intervention took place, whereby participants raised various questions, and the presenter further explained how the MI+ approach contributed to improved access to various services.

2. Youth Friendly Health Services for young people who use drugs in Ukraine

Aids Foundation East West (AFEW) Ukraine works with young people who use drugs and in particular focusses on 14-24 years old as this is the age youngsters come from lighter drugs to injecting drugs. AFEW tries to create partnership networks to ensure comprehensive package of services for underage and young Drug Users (DUs). The program focusses on reducing risky behaviour.

There are several highlights and barriers:

- Legal barriers
- Lack of youth friendly services
- Poor access to service
- Lack of/no trust to state service providers
- A lack of information about existing services

AFEW highlights it is important to specify who you are working with. The term 'young' is vague, it can be from 14 to 30 years old. AFEW specifically works with young people who have nowhere to go, who find themselves in difficult life situations. There is a need for parental permission as well.

The focus is on a client-centred approach. Case management is used (usually 3-6 months) to develop social sport programmes. Along with the case management approach AFEW tries to introduce more interactive and innovative instruments to be used in social bureau models (they are listed in the presentation, among them – family group conferences, prevention quests etc.)

In Ukraine, the state does not allocate any funds to the harm reduction programmes and all of them mostly are being supported via Global Fund (GF) grants. However, there is still no focus on young people. Moreover, most-at-risk adolescents (MARA) is not one of the key populations within GF and the gap has to be bridged with the additional funding. Luckily these activities are being covered within Bridging the Gaps programs funded through the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Hence, AFEW advocates for more prevention programs for young people, especially related to their sexual and reproductive health and rights.