

Policies on addiction and substance abuse in the Emilia- Romagna Region



Mila Ferri - Officer in charge for Drug
Addictions

Department of Social Policies
Emilia-Romagna Region



Some statistics on the Emilia-Romagna Region

- n 3,960,549 inhabitants
- n Population ages 15-44 1,609,878
- n 44 Public services for addiction, within the Regional Health Service
- n Users served by Sert in the year 2001: 10,010 illegal substance addicts, 3090 alcoholics

Emilia-Romagna Region



Some images



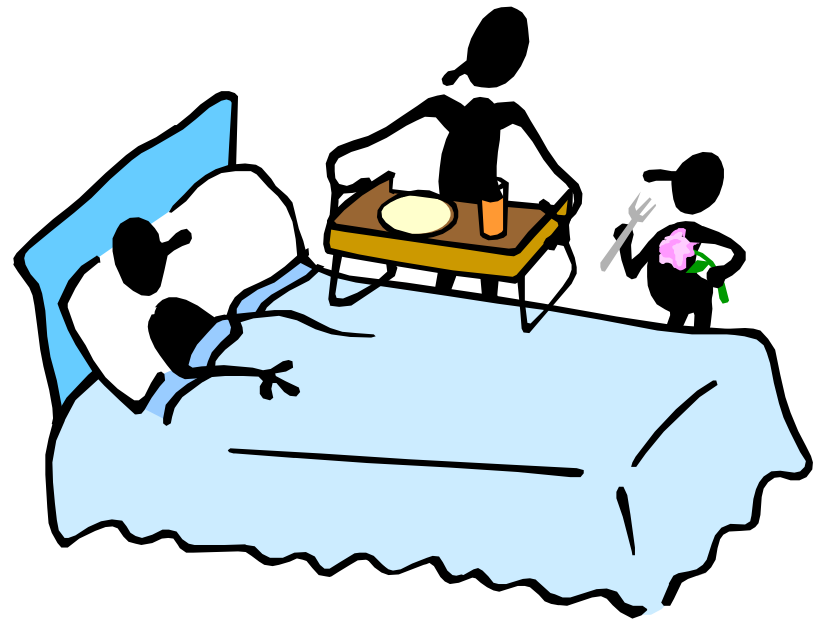


The State-Regional relationship in Health Services

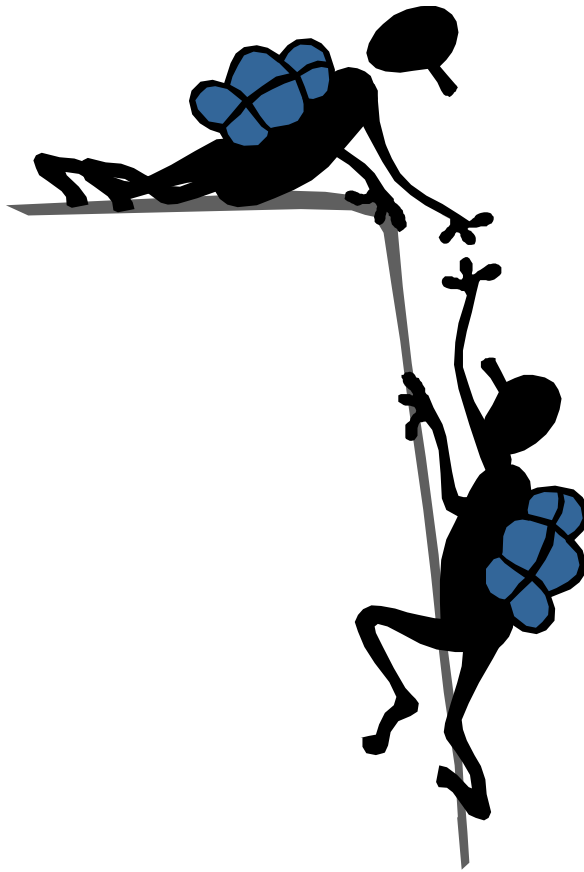
- n Recently, in Italy, there has been a constitutional reform
- n The State is responsible for guaranteeing health care at essential and uniform levels throughout the nation
- n The Regions are responsible for organizing the health services, in a system of federal taxation

Regional Health Care

- n Local health care units, financed by the Region. The director is named by the head of the Health Department. Responsible for objectives, also budgetary, established at regional level



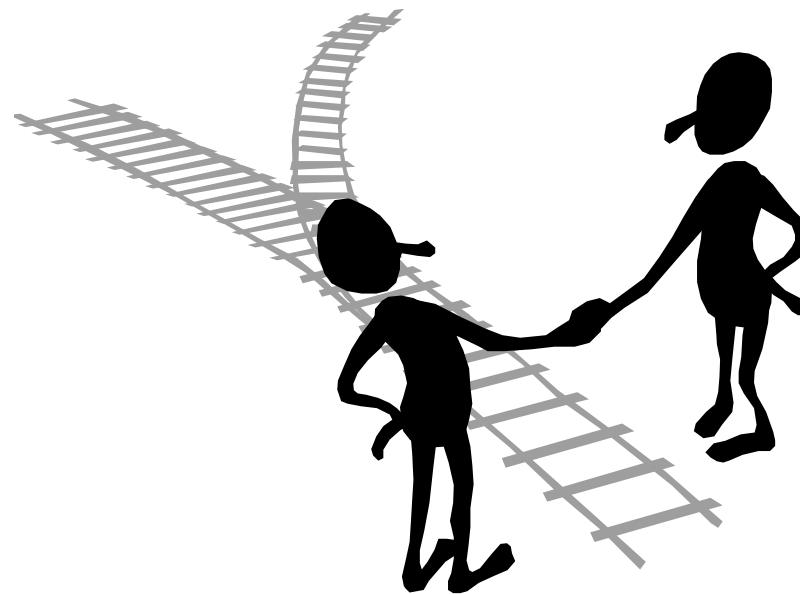
Regional Social System



- n Area plans, of a district size (involving various municipalities), financed by the Region both through special projects as well as current expenditures.
- n Still experimental

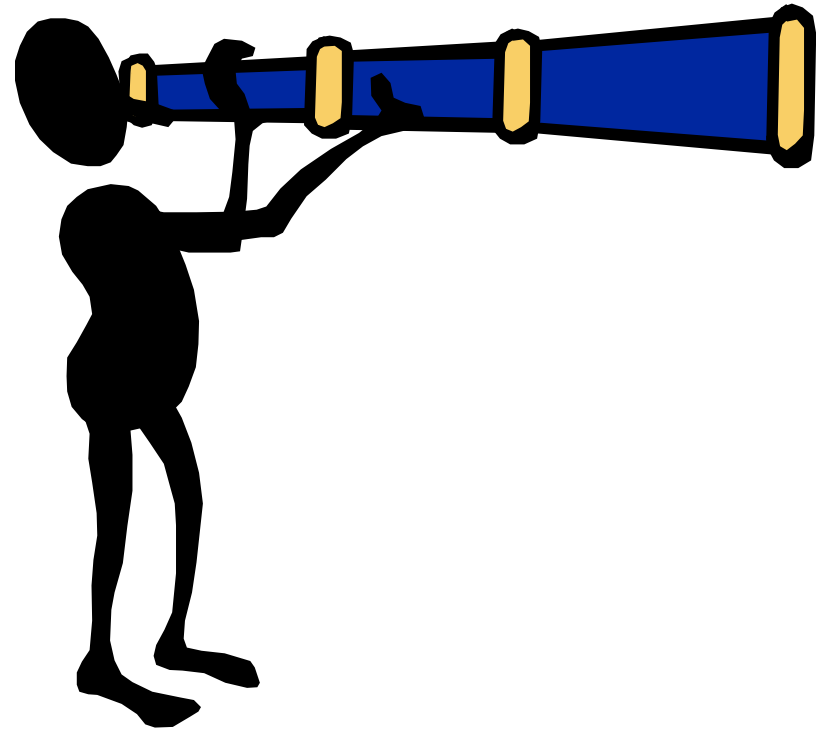
Social Health Integration

- n Territorial health and social services conference, coordinated by the municipalities and with the participation of the local health units (ASL)

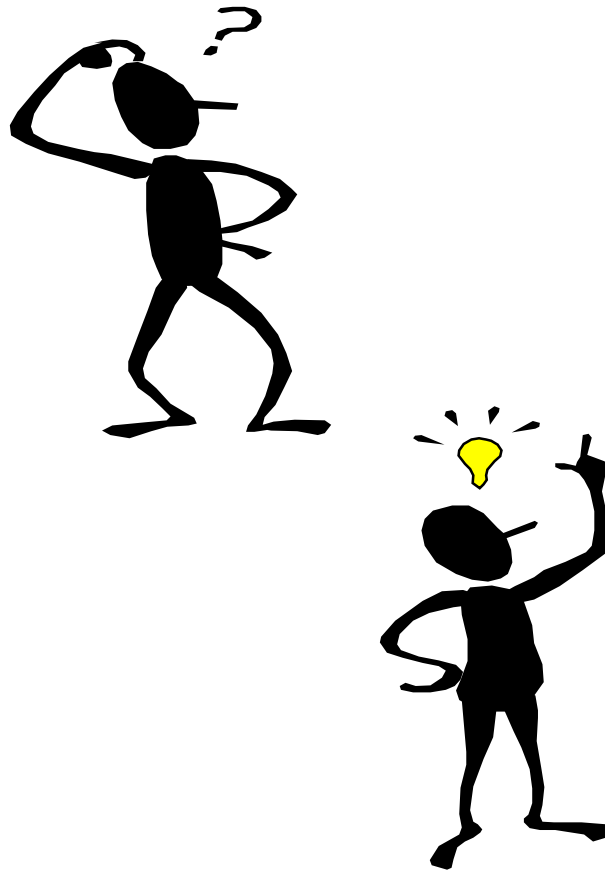


Project revision

- n Changes in the phenomenon
- n Changes in the therapeutic and rehabilitation services
- n Changes in the legislative framework



Revisional approach



- To work by settings: re-interpretation of intervention recipient, and types of intervention, within the contexts to which they refer



The identified settings

- n Young people and their relationship with substances: the “non-use” and use of substances
- n Substance addiction
- n Social alienation related to substance abuse/addiction

table n. 1 - *Intervention methods*

	Young people and their relationship to substances	Psycho-active substance addiction	Social alienation linked to substance abuse addiction
Population target	Mainly young people	Young people and adults	Mainly adults and young immigrants
<i>Preventive measures</i>	• • •	•	•
<i>Therapeutic and rehabilitation measures</i>	•	• • •	• •
<i>Damage reduction measures</i>	•	• •	• • •

Table n. 2: involved players (public and private)

	Young people and their relationship with substances	Psycho-active substance addiction	Social alienation linked substance abuse-addiction
<i>Drug Addiction Services (SerT)</i>	•	• • •	• •
<i>Emergency</i>	•	• • •	• •
<i>Other Health care unit services ad hospitals</i>	•	• • •	• •
<i>Auxiliary Bodies</i>	•	• • •	• •
<i>Local Bodies</i>	• • •	•	• • •
<i>Third Sector</i>	• •	•	• • •
<i>School</i>	• • •	•	•
<i>University</i>	• •	• •	• •
<i>Prison</i>	•	• •	• •
<i>Police or Armed Forces</i>	•	•	• • •
<i>Magistracy</i>	•	•	• •
<i>Prefecture</i>	• •	•	
<i>Private people (disco owners, bar, driving schools, social centres, self-help groups, opinion leaders, educative and sport agencies, etc...)</i>	• • •	•	•



Role of care system

- n The “traditional” system of the services (Sert and therapeutic services) which deals with treatment and rehabilitation, expert in the field of pathological addiction, is placed at the centre of the network with various roles depending on the context.



Young people and their relationship to substances

- n Sections of the population that use substances without having or without feeling that they have an addiction to them.
- n Measures following health service models that turn out to be inadequate.



Young people and their relationship to substances

- n Local bodies, not the only protagonists, responsible for actions of prevention and promotion of the citizens' well-being
- n Sert System and private bodies: technical experts, providing support in the planning and management of interventions
- n Those responsible for case consultation
- n Those responsible for, where necessary, swift and professional measures

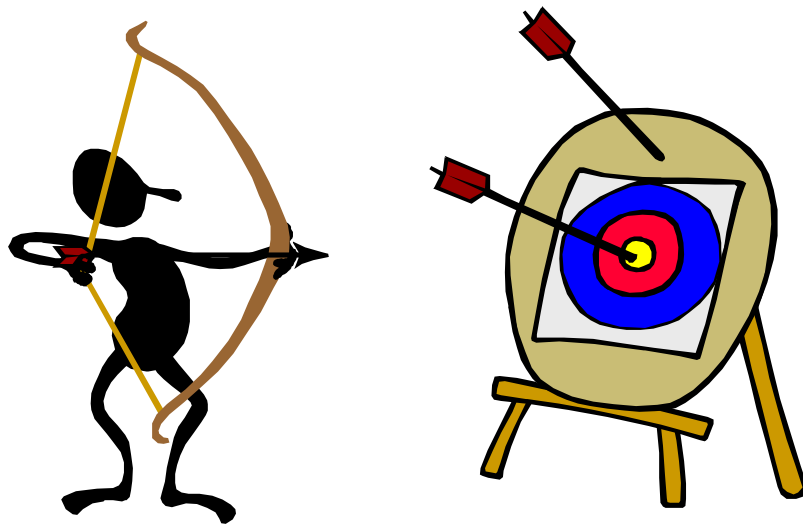
Verificare la
necessità di
inserire punti di
approfondiment
o o se lasciarli
solo alla
dipendenza

Young people and their relationship to substances

- n *The family*
- n *School*
- n *Gatering settings*
- n *Entertainment
places*
- n *Work places*



Young people and their relationship to substances: general objectives



- n promote health and well-being of young people, supplying tools for gaining autonomy and responsibility
- n support to families, school and the significant adults
- n build an intervention network

Young people and their relationship to substances: involved players

- n Local Bodies +++
- n Street educators+++
- n School +++
- n Dance club owners
++
- n Employer++
- n Drug addiction
Services (Sert)++



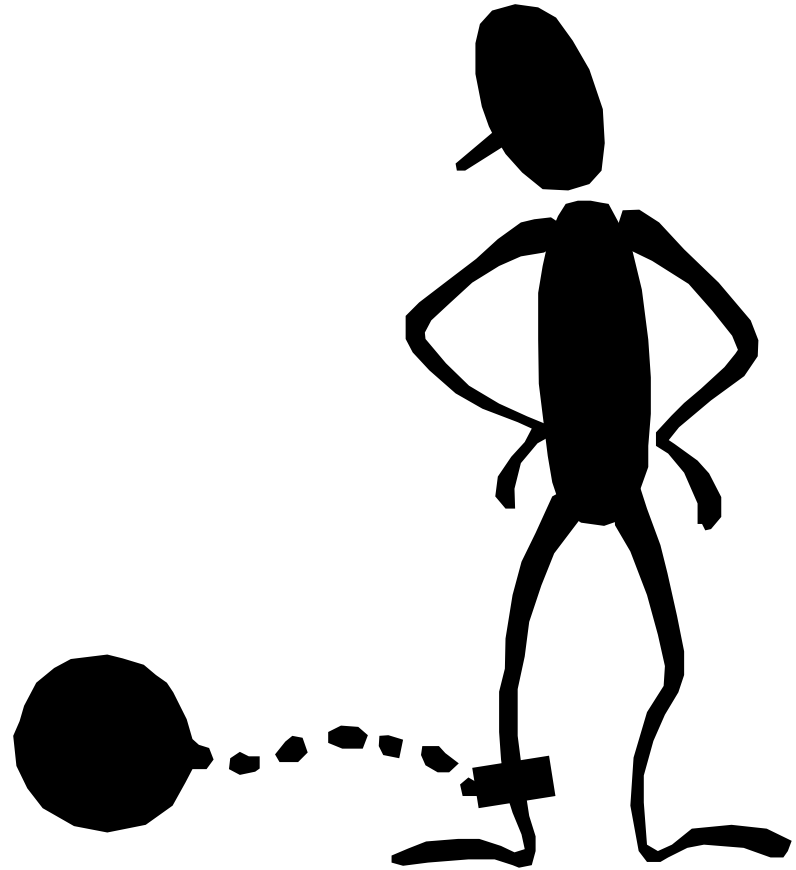


Substance Addiction

- n Sert social health services
- n Quality programme to promote Sert's visibility within and outside of the Health Care system
- n Identification of flexible clinical and residential programmes
- n Effectiveness and appropriateness of measures in the public and private social services, both during the treatment phase and re-integration into society

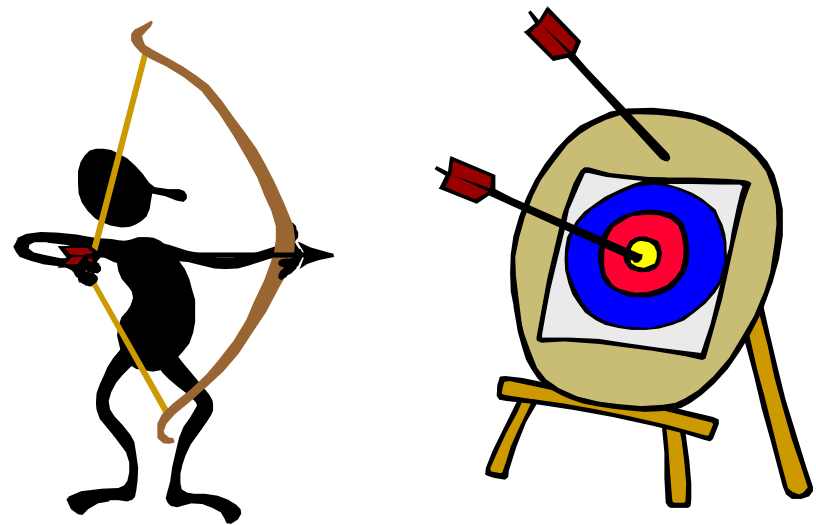
Substance addiction

- n Pathological addiction and serious mental disorders*
- n People addicted to cocaine*
- n Adolescents and young adults*
- n Foreign immigrants*
- n Homeless people*
- n People in prison*

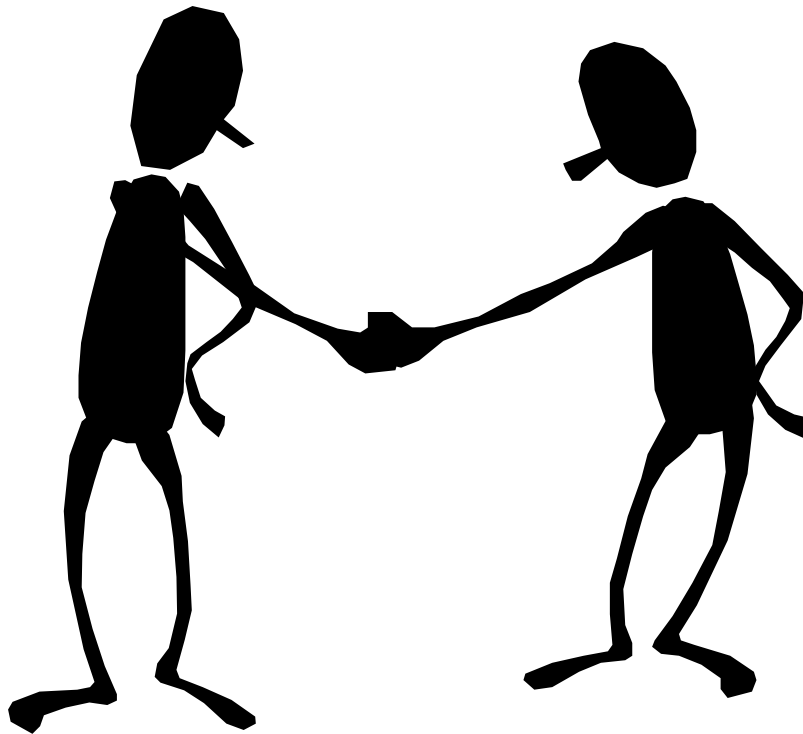


Substance addiction: general objectives

- n Foster access to effective, efficient and professional treatments
- n Diagnostic framework
- n Person with a will
- n Support
- n Tools for abstinence and reduction of damage
- n Evaluation tools



Substance addiction: players involved



- n Drug Addiction Service (Sert)+++
- n Auxiliary Bodies +++
- n Other service agencies, firstly DSM (**Mental Health**)++
- n Third sector ++
- n Local Bodies ++



Substance addiction: the need for further examination

- n Coherence between diagnostic evaluation and treatment
- n Flexible therapeutic treatments involving periods in clinics and residences
- n Accompaniment to social re-integration
- n Treatment of cocaine addiction
- n Therapeutic services for immigrants
- n Non-pharmacological addiction (gambling)



Double diagnosis

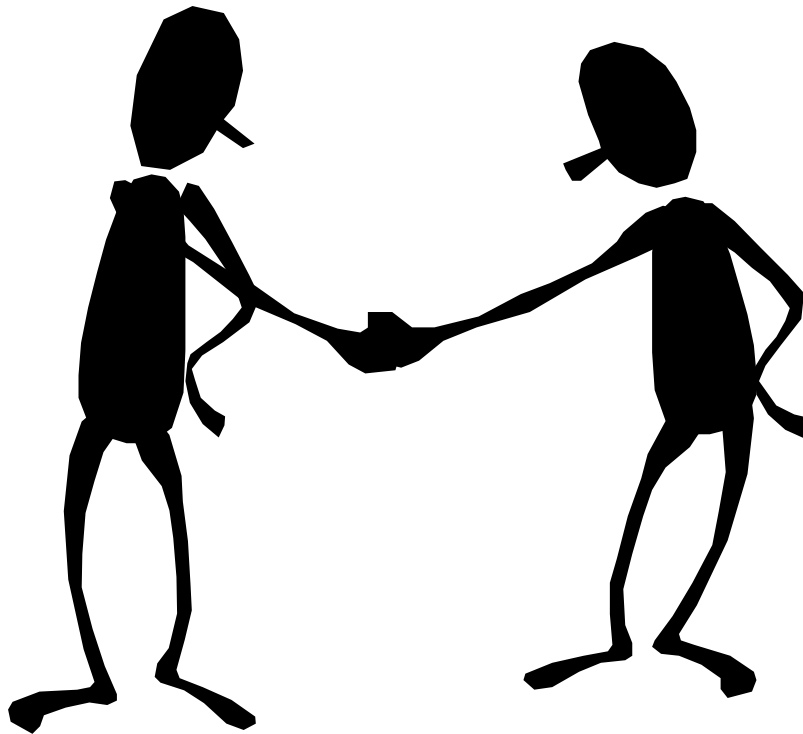
- n Serious Axis I disorders (psychotic and mood disorders)
- n Serious personality disorders
- n Psychiatric episodes linked to substance abuse

Double diagnosis: problems

- n “Difficult” users
- n Psychiatric system’s lax attitude toward addiction
- n Psychopathological competences widespread in the Sert, but lacking tools
- n Diverse paradigms between the two structures



Double diagnosis - operative proposals



- n iSerious Axis I disorders:
psychiatric residences with Sert collaboration
- n Others: Auxiliary structural bodies, with collaboration from Sert and DSM (Mental Health)
- n Common training programmes



Social alienation related to substance abuse/addiction

- difficulty in satisfying basic needs;
- health problem with social relevance in terms of public health;
- presence of pathologies linked to substance abuse;
- problems of social compatibility;
- difficulty in gaining and maintaining access to treatment services and social assistance.



Social alienation related to substance abuse/addiction

- n Joint responsibility between Local Bodies and Local Health Units ASL, each with their own competences
- n System of Services actively involved in planning and managing intervention, eminently social health measures

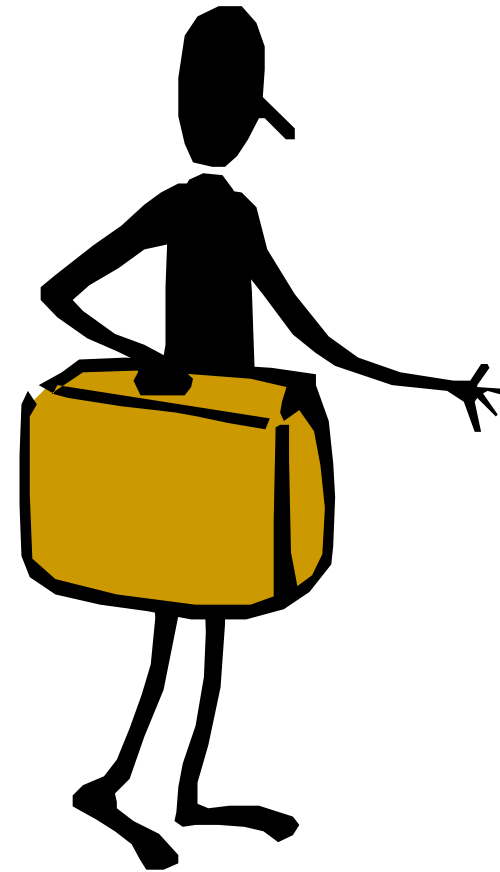


Social alienation related to substance abuse/addiction

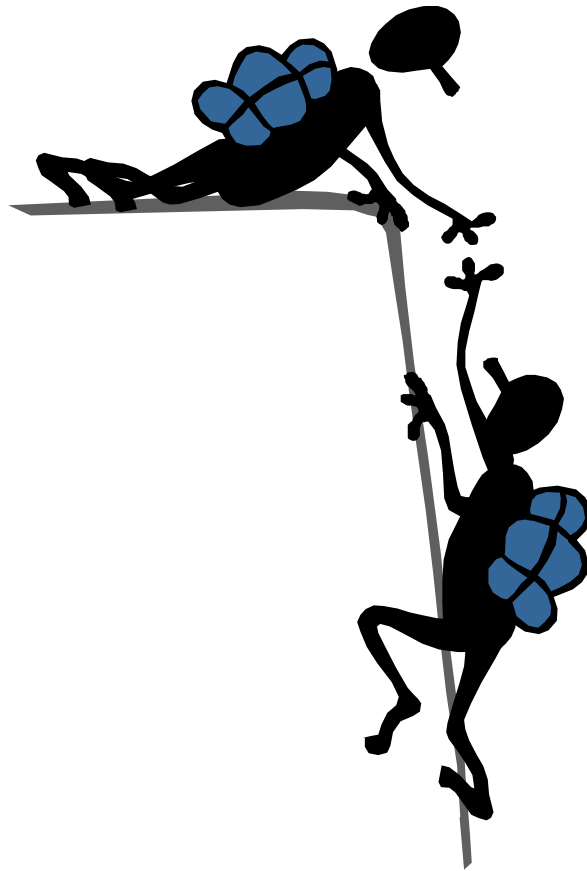
- n Measure in the reduction of damage
- n Street intervention and low threshold services and strongly integrated access to treatment
- n Socially compatible intervention measures

Social alienation related to substance abuse/addiction

- n *Chronic cases*
- n *Foreign immigrants*
- n *Homeless people*
- n *Prison*



Social alienation and substance abuse: general objectives



- n Improvement in the quality of life
- n Measures to safeguard health, reduce damage, social inclusion
- n Social Mediation
- n Intervention Networks

Social Alienation and substance abuse: players involved

- n Local Bodies +++
- n Drug Addiction (Services SerT)+++
- n Auxiliary Bodies +++
- n Third Sector +++
- n Public Safety Organisms ++
- n Penitentiaries++

