

Italy in European Collaboration to Support Single Parents in the Workplace for improving children wellbeing

In Ireland, Czech Republic, Germany, Italy and Scotland, new programmes promote work-family balance to support parents to enter and stay in employment.

(Rome, 27 August 2018) InterMedia Social Innovation has developed two professional learning programmes designed to support single parents and employers to work together to forge better work-family balance and child-friendly practices in Ireland, Czech Republic, Germany, Italy and Scotland.

InterMedia has collaborated with four other European organisations that provide supports and services for one-parent families: APERIO in the Czech Republic; Berufundfamilie in Germany; One Family in Ireland; and One Parent Families Scotland (OPFS). These innovative programmes, which involve parents and employers through online learning designed from child-rights perspective, have been created in response to the urgent need to improve access for people parenting alone to the job market in a more effective and fair way, benefiting in a sustainable way, their relationships with their children. The aim of the programmes is to contribute to lowering the risk of poverty for one-parent family households and to enable parents to unlock their full potential in contributing to their children wellbeing. This is phase two of a four year collaboration with four programmes developed in total.

Prof. Reynaldo Rivera, PhD, InterMedia Secretary General, comments: “Single parents want to make better futures for their children. In attempting to balance employment with parenting in a society where parenting requirements are often not recognised, many single parents become employed in less qualified, lower paying and precarious employment, sometimes on zero hour contracts. They often suffer in-work poverty as a result. InterMedia Social Innovation will be engaging closely with employers in Italy to design and implement the best approaches when working with single parents as employees. We are providing easily accessible tools which will benefit employers and single parents by supporting them to work more efficiently together which can achieve the potential of single parents as employees to benefit their families and their children.”

Two programmes have been produced and piloted over the two-year period from 2016-2018:

1. Online training for single parents in employment who struggle to stay employed and progress in their roles.
2. Online training for HR specialists and employers who want to benefit from the professional potential of single parents and retain experienced staff.

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Note for Editor

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For further information, visit www.intermediasocialinnovation.org and www.strongerfamilies.eu

We will be live tweeting at the launch event today using the hashtags #WorkFamilyBalance and #StrongerFamilies

Available for Interview

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