



# Peer Mentoring and Building a Community

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# TALK CONTENTS

Main goals

Building blocks

Experiences



# THE PEER MENTORING PROGRAM

The main goal of the peer mentoring program is to **lower the rate at which students leave school** before finishing it and to motivate them to study more.

The program relies on the **age proximity**, the **positive peer examples**, the **power of the community** and an atmosphere of **trust**.

All these lay the foundations for the peer mentor students to be **prepared**, be **present** and be **active**.



# PEER MENTOR TEACHERS

Preparation of the peer mentor teachers:

- **30 hours** of training
- Preparation includes **leading** the group of peer mentor students and **managing** the institutional support
- **10 - 16 participants** per each VET center (81 people as of now)
- **'OTR' certified** (Teacher Professional Development System)



# PEER MENTOR TEACHER TRAINING

The training **focus** on these units:

- Concepts, terms, causes, target group
- Peer mentor student competencies, skills and tasks
- Role of the peer mentor teacher, competencies and tasks
- 30 hours worth of training materials for teachers how to educate and develop the peer mentor students.



# ABOUT PEER MENTOR TEACHERS

*„Peer mentor teachers are capable of preparing the peer mentor students to successfully fill their roles.”*

*„Being a mentor teacher is an opportunity to learn new things about myself”*

*„I was able to pay attention to all my students.”*

*„As a mentor teacher my relationship with the students changed.”*



# ABOUT PEER MENTOR STUDENTS

*„Peer mentor students voluntarily involve themselves in actively shaping their school environment.”*

*„We have a cozy atmosphere, so it will be a good opportunity!”*

*„We understand what we have to do, so now we have to do it.”*

*„What do we tell our students?”*



# ABOUT BUILDING A COMMUNITY

*„Communities are born from communities.”*

*„Where can we find good examples for that?”*

*„A good community is worth a fortune.”*

*„You want something that we used to have back in the old days?”*



# PEER MENTOR STUDENTS TRAINING

## Features of the peer student training:

- Organized by the mentor teacher
- 30x45 minute training material available
- 6 blocks:
  - Getting to know each other, cooperation
  - Empathy
  - Emotions and non-verbal communication
  - Conflicts and bullying
  - The peer mentor student role
  - Peer mentor student tasks
- Goal: create a good community so mentor students can also create good communities



# VET CENTERS INVOLVED SO FAR





- Active communication with the mentor teachers
- Support for the mentor student groups
- Involvement of 14 further VET centers
- Strengthening the peer mentoring network
- Professional support for mentor teachers



Thank you for  
your attention!

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