



Strengthening the Capacity of  
Professionals Working in Schools with  
Children and Young People with ASD

# Strengthening the Capacity of Professionals Working in Schools with Children and Young People with autism spectrum disorder

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**Romanian Angel Appeal Foundation**, together with the **University Medical Center Groningen (UMCG)** from the Netherlands, **Consorzio per Valutazioni Biologiche e Farmacologiche (CVBF)** from Italy, **Babeş Bolyai University (UBB)** from Romania and **Fundacja SYNAPSIS** from Poland launched the project called ***Strengthening the Capacity of Professionals Working in Schools with Children and Young People with autism spectrum disorder.***

**The project is implemented under the Erasmus+ program and it proposes to strengthen the teacher's knowledge and skills in conducting inclusive classrooms and dealing with complex classroom realities.**

Offering equal opportunities for children with autism spectrum disorder is a main concern in all the countries involved in the project. Current EU policies also reflect this approach and stipulate that *“people with disabilities, in particular children (incl. those with autism spectrum disorder), need to be integrated into the general education system and provided with individual support in the best interest of the child”* (European Disability Strategy 2010-2020).

In this context, the number of children with autism spectrum disorder who are enrolled in mainstream education and whose needs should be addressed by a system that is not yet prepared to serve them is ever increasing.

As there is evidence that training teachers increases the chances of children with autism spectrum disorder for school inclusion, the current project targets school teachers. Teaching practices and strategies for children and young people with ASD have been identified as a key 'gap' in the knowledge base for students with learning difficulties integration.

During the next two years, 800 teachers are expected to enroll in the e-learning program where four quality courses will be available in five languages. Schools and local authorities will be involved in the project implementation in order to ensure a wider distribution of the information and a more direct feed-back in the implementation activities.

Throughout the e-learning modules developed in the project, teachers will receive general information on autism spectrum disorder and will be taught how to work with and involve parents of children with autism spectrum disorder in order to build an inclusive classroom environment, combat early school dropout and increase school integration of children with autism spectrum disorder.



This project is coordinated by the  
Romanian Angel Appeal foundation

Co-funded by the  
Erasmus+ Programme  
of the European Union





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The project is expected to produce the following results:

- Four e-learning courses for primary and secondary school teachers available in English, Italian, Dutch, Polish, Romanian
- 800 certificates issued during the project for the whole training program
- 800 children with autism spectrum disorder and their families positively affected by the program in all four countries
- Over 120 key stakeholders involved in the project (representatives of school and regional school authorities)

Each partner will select at least three schools as associated partners, based on interest and willingness to participate in the program, but also based on the number of children and young people with autism spectrum disorder integrated in the school.

For more information about the project please visit RAA and its partner's websites.



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