

# Supported living flats for persons with intellectual disabilities

## Petagma, Parents Association for the Supported Living of Persons with Intellectual Disabilities

Petagma is a **family-led non-governmental organization**. It was founded by a group of families of persons with intellectual disabilities in an effort to fill the gap in the provision of services that their children will need, particularly when the parents will no longer be able to provide them with adequate support.

Their main priority is to develop and operate **Supported Living flats** where people with disabilities may live permanently in a socially integrated environment, which provides them with adequate support based on their needs and wishes.

### Beneficiaries of the service

The service users are **adults with intellectual disabilities** having different levels of support needs, from more complex support needs to individuals with higher levels of autonomy.

### The staff

**Administrative employees, support workers,** a social worker, a psychologist, a **manager/coordinator** of the service and five persons of auxiliary staff. Staff supports service users to live a good life in ordinary flats in the community.

Systematic staff evaluations, user satisfaction questionnaires and daily follow-up sheets are used to monitor the quality of the services provided.



Athens, Greece



### Contacts

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### The approach

- ① A person-centred plan is developed following a co-production approach.
- ② A risk management procedure enables users to take reasonable risks.
- ③ Petagma offers daily presence and active participation of the users in the community.

### The model

The organization implements a **person-centred approach** and provides flexible and tailored support to the changing needs and preferences of its users. Support is provided around a person-centred plan which is **coproduced with the users and their families** and is assessed and revised at least every six months reflecting its individualised and person-centred character.

Petagma supports eleven adults, living in groups of three to four persons in three separate apartments. **Support is provided on a 24/7 basis.** At least one member of staff is allocated for every 2-3 users, while 1:1 support is offered for persons with complex support needs and for specific programmes and activities.

Petagma also offers an innovative programme facilitating the creation and development of **social networks of support**, called the **Circles of Support programme**. This is a relationship-based method of organizing things around a person, which intentionally mimics the natural ways that people build and use social networks in their lives. The Circle members have the role of being **advocates** for the person and doing together ordinary things that make life better.



**24/7 Support**



**One staff member for every 2-3 users**



**1:1 Support for persons with complex support needs**



- Strengths**
- Independent living setting that resembles typical life in the community.
  - Safe and creative environment.
  - Respect of the personality of each individual.



- Weaknesses**
- Risk of creating an administrative deficit because of the main presence in the Board of parents of the users.