

# ROMANIAN THENAPA FINAL REPORT

## **There were two main aims of the work at national level:**

- To raise awareness of the rights of people with disabilities to full and equal enjoyment of their rights through promotion of APA concept
- To implement this concept among undergraduate and postgraduate PE and PT professionists.

## **Achievements**

The biggest achievement of THENAPA at national level is the APA Master Programme, going-on at the University of Oradea. The annually number of graduates would be the tool to monitor this activity.

They have been trained and have had direct contact with the activity of protection of the rights of the persons with special needs.

## **Organisational approach and structure**

THENAPA is represented at national level by FUKO, who is part of FRAK – Romanian Federation for Physical Therapy (Kinesitherapy).

FRSK is constituted of three associations representing the main historical regions of the country:

- FUKO- University Foundation for Physical Therapy Oradea, partly representing Transilvania;
- “Muntenia” Association from Bucharest, representing the southern region of Romania;
- “Moldavia” Association from Iasi, representing Moldavia.

FUKO has tight connections with the other two associations within the National Federation.

On the other hand, FUKO has strong links with all Physical Therapy Faculties in Romania: Bucharest, Bacau, Iasi, Galati, Pitesti, Craiova, Timisoara, Cluj, Oradea.

## **Methodology, tools and technology used**

- All PE Faculties included in their basic formation curricula PT basic courses, including APA knowledge. (4 credits).
- Within the Teacher Training Department of the University of Oradea, the initial professional education for all students, regardless their profile comprises orthopedagogical courses (4 credits).
- Initial PT training includes coaching in sports for disabled people; the first book about coaching in sports for disabled people appeared in Romania in 2000.

## **Products and results, their dissemination**

In Romania, THENAPA project had a huge impact in the development and dissemination of APA concept among the population and the profesionists.

FUKO was involved in TINC program, aiming to support the Implementation of the National Child-Care Policies in the Bihor County -Romania. This program tends to train and to support the workers, the authorities, the services and the volunteers, involved in the improvement of the working-conditions of the children and of the youngsters with disabilities and/or suffering from social exclusion in the Bihor County.

FUKO has had permanent contacts with the Local Directorate for Protection of Children Rights and with local Department for Handicapped People. Having the support of THENAPA, FUKO published the book "Sport for handicapped people", authors: Vasile Marcu, Mirela Dan, Maria Milea, a very useful tool for PE teachers, PT and disabled people.

### **Results and outcomes:**

- APA Master Program (four semesters), going-on at the University of Oradea. Every year graduates 20 students
- Another outcome is attending the third Congress of Romanian-American Academy, where were presented three articles about APA.
- TINC program for the training of professionists overall Bihor county working with children with special educational needs.
- Five articles about APA were published in the annual scientific publication of the University of Oradea in years: 2000, 20001, 2002
- At the II-nd Romanian National Physiotherapy Congress- Mamaia 2000 the first workshop on APA was organized.
- At the III Romanian National Physiotherapy Congress- Slanic-Moldova in 2002, 18 articles and scientific researches on APA were presented.
- 6 graduation theses are going to be finalized at the end of this academical year.
- The first "Foundation of Sports for Handicapped People" set-up under the umbrella of the University of Oradea in 2001, has won a European Union project on integration of disabled people through sport.
- At the moment FRAK together with the University of Oradea are developing a basic educational program for Occupational Therapist, a profession that doesn't exist in our country. This idea was promoted through the THENAPA strategy.
- There is a tradition by now to celebrate the "Day of handicapped people" every year, together by children and their parents, at the disabled children setting in Oradea "Casa Minunată". A film was realized on this occasion two years ago that was presented on the occasion of the THENAPA meeting in Porto.
- This film, joint with the THENAPA and DEUAPA report and with other materials, including the integration CD, have been of great help in disseminating the APA concept in Romania.
- Recently, we became coordinators of a new Socrates Project "Interculturality in deaf education" with participation of students and teaching staff from several universities in Europe: Oradea, Gent, Kokola, Kortrijk, Parma.
- During the three THENAPA project years, we have had many successful international contacts with University of Lahti from Finland, Nice in France Gyor in Hungary, where our students attended APA courses.

Considering the following:

- we have had a lot of difficulties in making our selves understood and heard by the authorities
  - we have had a lot of difficulties in obtaining financial support
  - the wide range of the achievements of the THENAPA project at the national level in Romania,
- we would like to emphasize the necessity of continuing the development of an APA based European Union thematic network.