



Information Package for Applicants

Parenting Support Facilitation Training Program

Project Parenting+



roditelji u akciji



Aperio Healthy Parenting Association



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Call for Participants

Are you passionate about education and want to change the culture surrounding postpartum and parenting in your community? Do you have an entrepreneurial spirit? Do you want to become a part of a new, vibrant community of parent support facilitators Croatia, Czechia, Slovenia, Hungary and Spain? Read on!

Five organisations from five European countries - Roda from Croatia, Aperio from Czechia, Rumina from Slovenia, KNE (Hand in Hand Parenting) from Hungary, and Adresam from Spain are currently running an Erasmus+ project. The project is developing a curriculum for parenting support facilitators who will run parenting courses and provide support for parents of children 0-3 years old in their communities. A multi-disciplinary team from all five countries worked hard on the project, this is the first time it will be offered.

Our goal is to create a vibrant community of parent facilitation group trainers throughout the partner organisations who will work with national teams to train other facilitators. This will be a community of women committed to life-long learning and changing. Their mission is to help families get the information they need to make informed choices, without judgment.

We are offering you a free training program developed for the Central European / Mediterranean context – no copies of foreign programs. Experienced professionals will help you gain skills you need to support trainers and parents in your communities.

We are giving a lot, but are also asking a lot. Participants will have to work hard, stick to deadlines, be committed and bring their most positive self forward to help us test our curriculum.

If you're still reading this and are nodding your head thinking – Yes! These are my people! – then keep reading to learn more about the program and the application process.

Mission, Vision and Values

Our Mission

To provide evidence-based education opportunities to young families throughout Central and Mediterranean Europe by training and nurturing a community of parenting educators.

Our Vision

A vibrant community of parenting education trainers providing information and support for families to make their own informed choices.

Our Values

- A family is a unit of adult(s) and child(ren) where the adult(s) provide love, care and safety to the child(ren)
- Healthy emotional attachment between parents and children is valuable for families and society
- Equality of men and women, both parents can provide most care equally (except for breastfeeding); their experiences and perspectives are different, but equally important
- Society needs to support and heed parents' needs, and their right to free and informed choices
- Children are an important part of our societies, and since parents are central for children their well-being is should be valued

Our Work

- We facilitate a family's personal process postpartum and the first three years of life; each experience is unique and there is no right way.
- We value the dignity and worth of every person and family, no matter how they define themselves, and provide them with equal access to support and information.
- We value the normal, physiological processes of postpartum and responsive parenting.
- We value our community of trainers and work to lift each other up.
- We value collaboration above competition, among colleagues and in our communities.
- Giving back to our local communities is a core part of our work

About the Program

The Parent Support Facilitation Trainer Program is a parenting education program developed for Central and Mediterranean Europe. It takes into account the support systems and needs of families in the regions. The program's authors are a group of experienced organisations from the [Czech Republic](#), [Croatia](#), [Hungary](#), [Slovenia](#) and [Spain](#).

Because of the ongoing situation with the Coronavirus pandemic, this program, which is in reality two separate programs, will be delivered as one comprehensive training. All portions of the training are mandatory.

The training is a four-step process:

- 1) Self-study in the comfort of your own home (Program 1 – Postpartum)
- 2) Mandatory, five-day in-person training (June 2021)
- 3) Self-study in the comfort of your own home (Program 2 – Young Child)
- 4) Mandatory, five-day in-person training (September 2021)

Your teachers will be experts in women's health, psychology, parenting support, rights and adult education. You will learn how to design classes that engage adults and make your classes active and interesting.

Our goal is to train the first group of trainers who will work with their national organisations to run trainings for postpartum and new parent support in their own countries.

Geographic diversity is very important to us. We especially welcome applications from hard-to-reach regions. We also welcome applications from women with disabilities, minorities and women who face hardships.

Expectations

Participants must be open-minded, ready to learn, have to love people and be passionate about parenting support. You must also agree to comply with the [Vision and Values](#) discussed at the beginning of this document.

Participants accepted into the program will receive a **free, high-quality parent support facilitator training program** that will begin in April 2021.

Between April and September 2021 participants must complete an online self-study programme and participate in introductory and final Zoom colloquiums (meetings).

Two mandatory in-person trainings will be held in Zagreb, Croatia from 14 to 18 June 2021 and Bled or Ljubljana, Slovenia from 13 to 17 September 2021, at locations that are accessible by public transportation. Travel, accommodations and food **will all be paid** by the project.

Language Requirements

Due to the international nature of the project and the reading materials, **the training will be in English**, so a good knowledge of English is required for all participants. Although readings and trainings are in English, any materials the participants produce can be written in national languages.

Babies and Young Children at the In-Person Training

The in-person training is intense and requires participants active participation. At the same time, we encourage women with babies and young children to apply.

Participants with babies who are not yet mobile (up to 8 months old approximately) are welcome to have their babies in arms. Participants whose babies are mobile (crawling or walking) or have high needs are also welcome, but are requested to have a support person with them who can provide the majority of the care to the baby and bring him/her to mum on breaks. In either case, we expect that participants with babies will take care to make sure all of their babies' needs are met so that all participants can fully engage in the activities.

There will be accommodations available on-site for support persons and/or young children; the cost for accommodations for support persons must be covered by the participants themselves. More information will be available to participants accepted into the program.

In-person training during a pandemic

Because of the epidemiological situation in all of the partner countries, we expect that our participants will adhere to agreed-upon epidemiological measures at the training - this can include wearing a face mask, depending on the situation at the time. **Please be prepared for the possibility that we will have to wear face masks at the training.** If a coronavirus test will be required for travel, we will agree on this beforehand and cover the costs from the project funding.

Living in a pandemic has changed all of our lives and made things unpredictable. In our case that means that we've put our in-person training during months when we expect travel to be possible and the pandemic situation to be under control. However, keep in mind that if there are problems we might change the in-person training into a virtual one or change the date. This is a last-resort option, and we will do our best to make the decision on time to minimise any disruptions.

Fees and costs

The costs of the program for participants are covered by the Erasmus+ program. This includes the cost of the training, travel to the venues, lodging in double rooms (two participants per room), three meals and two coffee breaks per full-day. If any participants require single-room accommodation this can be arranged, but participants must cover the cost themselves.

Your accommodations and food will be paid for directly, and we will make arrangements with you about how we will cover your travel expenses. Keep in mind that you will need to provide documentation for your travel including ticket receipts and proof of travel in order to be reimbursed.

Please note that women with disabilities will have their full travel expenses covered, as well as the expenses of an accompanying person, if needed.

Once you are accepted into the training program, you will be asked to sign a contract outlining your responsibilities and the costs that the program covers. Participants are responsible for sourcing the books required for self-study (an estimate of max 50 EUR), although we will make copies available from our lending library as well. A book list will be provided.

Next Cohort Training Dates

There are no plans yet to run another group. This is a unique opportunity.

Dates and deadlines

2021

15 February – Sending of Call for Applications

20 March – Deadline to [submit application form](#)

30 March – Notification regarding acceptance to the program

10 April to 30 May – period in which you must complete the self-study course for training one (postpartum)

14 to 18 June – In-person training in Zagreb, Croatia

Please note, all days of the training are mandatory. Plan the day before and the day after for travel.

20 June to 10 September – Period in which you must complete the self-study course for training one (young child)

13 to 17 September – In-person training in Bled, Slovenia

Please note, all days of the training are mandatory. Plan the day before and the day after for travel.

30 November – Deadline for final assignment - national curriculum with group colleagues in national language (group-study)

2022

May – Final conference and presentation of project results, awarding of diplomas

How to Apply

In order to apply for the program, potential participants must complete [this online form](#).

Final Checklist

- I am a member, staff or collaborator of one of the partner organisations
- I have checked my calendar and am available for travel to the two in-person trainings
- I have submitted my information via [the online application form](#).