

Presenter's name: Metka Demšar Goljevšček

Degree, affiliation: Master's Degree, Pedagogy and Sociology

Curriculum vitae:

Metka Demšar Goljevšček, a pedagogist and sociologist of culture, skillfully intertwines her professional expertise with a passion for horses, fostering lifelong learning opportunities in natural settings. During her studies, she was involved in the establishment of the non-governmental organization "Nazaj na konja", where she later became regularly employed as the professional head of pedagogical, andragogical, and therapeutic activities. She has dedicated herself to the development of the educational system in the field of equine assisted interventions, where she lectures and coordinates educational programs for professionals. She is also the coordinator of the Family Center Objem (Hug), which operates within the framework of the "Nazaj na konja" institute. She has participated in numerous national and international projects and conferences, but she devotes most of her time to direct work with people.

Category: Oral presentation

Topic: Education: Education for Specialists

Authors:

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Title: THE ROLE OF COMMUNICATION SKILLS OF EAI TEAMS

Keyword 1: education

Keyword 2: team development

Keyword 3: communication

Abstract:

The 'HOPE4HEALTH' project is a partnership project implemented by the Association for Equine Assisted Therapies 'Pegaz' from Croatia, and Institute 'Nazaj na Konja' from Slovenia, as part of the Erasmus+ program (KA210 - Adult Education) with an implementation period from October 1, 2023, until October 31, 2024.

Objective: The main goal of the article is to introduce HETI Congress participants to the activities and intensive training program of the 'HOPE4HEALTH' project. Working together in an Equine Assisted Intervention team requires a lot of teamwork. We have developed an intensive program focused on strengthening team bonds and teamwork for more effective Equine Assisted Intervention work. We will present the most common challenges within the therapy team and present some of our developed tools for strengthening teamwork. The training program emphasizes the importance of communication and teamwork of team members involved in EAI and consists of three modules: Module 1- Key competencies of therapeutic team (team's values, tools for assessment of their team) Module 2- Practical presentation and sharing of team's challenges (reporting of individual work)

Module 3- Safety at work (including challenges Equine Assisted team may face, conversations with the parents, the influence of the environment).

Results: This presentation will present an intensive new program available to EAI teams. It will give the participants practical questions and tools to assess their team's cohesion and strengthen their teamwork. It will also highlight possible challenges and opportunities for conversation of one's Equine Assisted Interventions team.

Design: PowerPoint presentation with interactive activities.

Conclusion: Team dynamic, team cohesion and effective communication are of utmost importance for effective EAI sessions. We will present an intensive training we have developed within the 'HOPE4HEALTH' project.