



New activating methods for immigrants

4th of November 2019

Active Refugees in the Community project

- Concept "Seed 2 Pot 2 People". Immigrants grow pot plants to be sold in the unemployed job center next door.
- City cultivation activities organized in urban environment. The cultivation activities proved to be very integrating, especially mixing the locals in the group.
- Introducing new places to immigrants. Having the immigrants move outside their living areas to new places have expanded their living environment and vision how the locals live.
- Using multicultural teamwork. Inclusive design and builder team has lead to an employment of an immigrant architect and part time employment of a Swedish-Arabic translator.
- Use of service design methods in the beginning of the design project to ensure that the participants views, wishes and hopes are noticed as a vital part of the final design.
- Using variable technology for cultivation. Mini-aquaponics system was built with the immigrants to learn about aquaponic food growing.
- Pop-up restaurants organized by the farmers themselves. It was proved that bringing the immigrants to plan and produce events make them feel appreciated.
- Participating in the documentary film production. It was noticed that being part of a visible, long term production improves peoples' self esteem and dignity.
- Spreading the farming activities to different types of spaces. Besides greenhouse gardening, other types of farming were tried during the project. Field farming and raised bed farming proved to be an easy way to start gardening. They both can be done in local common areas where immigrants have possibilities to meet more local people.

- Creating local language program to re-skill and re-integrate the migrant participants in to the work place. It was noticed that immigrants need also individual language training, depending on their profession and future plans for employment. Learning specific vocabulary of the specific field supports towards employment or work experience practical training.
- Using WhatsApp as a method of sharing information. It was proved that Whatsapp group is a really good way to give peer support, to share posts (text, images, emojis) and to share general information about gardening, to ask questions and give virtual counseling.
- Founding an Internet based radio station. Radio programme making is an efficient way to activate immigrants to take part in the social discussion.
- Creating a Certificate to acknowledge skills. An Urban Farmer Certificate was created to motivate immigrants to join the activities.
- Creating E-learning materials. After attending the project activities, the immigrants could repeat the subject learned by watching gardening video tutorials made specific in plain language. Also, creating gardening vocabulary test is a good way to test the learned vocabulary.
- Offering possibilities to get study credits for immigrants. The students in construction team have been able to earn study credits by taking part of the project activities.



ACTIVE REFUGEES IN THE COMMUNITY



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