PWS Network Switzerland
6th International Prader-Willi Syndrome Caregivers’ Conference
21-23 May 2024, Berlin, Germany

Bastian Bühler
Introduction – or who am I?

Bastian Bühler
Switzerland
Social educator worker

Working with people with disabilities since 2007
Group home team leader for individuals with PWS since 2018

Board member of the Prader-Willi Syndrome Association Switzerland

Caregiver Delegate Switzerland
Structur

- About Switzerland
- Parts of the PWS network
- Co-operations and synergies
- Benefits
- Outlook to the future
About Switzerland

Switzerland is located in the middle of the European Union.
About Switzerland

• A population about 9 Mio.
• 41.290 square kilometres
• Four languages (german, french, italian, romansh)
• 26 cantons
• Based on the population: 400-600 people with PWS
Parts of the PWS Network Switzerland

- Residential Group Homes
- Association
- Institutions without a specific residential programme for people with PWS
- PWS specialised medical Doctors
Residential Group Homes for People with PWS

Residents: 8 (german)

Residents: 5-7 (french)

Residents: 7 (german)

Residents: 15 (german)
PWS Association Switzerland

- Founded in 1991
- 144 members
- mainly consisting of parents, but also medical specialists
- 7 board members (parents and professionals)
Non specific residential group homes
Co-operations and synergies

- No official cooperation between the residential groups until 2015
- Intervision with case discussions
- Possibility for residents to swap institutions
- Possibility for residents to join the holiday programme offered by other institutions
- Job shadowing of staff in the other teams
- Joint organisation and implementation of pws-specific training courses
- National waiting list for people with PWS who are looking for a place in a PWS residential group
Co-operations and synergies

• Joint participation at conferences in Ireland

• Development and realisation of a parents' seminar
Co-operations and synergies

- Joint participation in the unified run
- Family Day of the PWS Association
Co-operations and synergies

• Mountain hut weekend
Benefits

• We know the different residential offers
• We can share and exchange experiences and knowledge
• Mental hygiene
• Exchange among defined contact persons
• Residents know each other well, have a network, maintain friendships with each other
Outlook for the future

• Expanding connections to Austria and Germany
• Use of the common language German for cross-border exchange and cooperation
Thank you

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