

Outreach youth work

2020

Young people in outreach youth work

20,223



Came to outreach youth work



- 36% through other services
- 32% from educational institutions
- 27% by themselves or via a close friend or relative

Age distribution



Typical situation in life

- unemployed
- student (at risk of dropping out/has dropped out)
- dependent on social benefits
- not accessing services



Experienced improvements in

- 78% life skills
- 77% life management
- 75% learning abilities and employability
- 66% social skills



Young people's paths to other services

- subsistence services
- housing services
- mental health services
- registration as an unemployed jobseeker

93% of participants felt social empowerment during outreach youth work



Young people directed toward education and work

5,899

education

3,844

workshops, work trials and paid employment



What is outreach youth work?

Outreach youth work supports young people under 29 years of age who are not reached by education, labour or other services. Outreach youth workers work together with young people to offer them opportunities to acquire skills, knowledge, and social capital to help them along their path toward adulthood. Outreach youth work is regulated by the Finnish Youth Act. There are more than 550 outreach youth workers in Finland.

Goals

- to create internal motivation and help young people set goals.
- to promote growth and independence, thus allowing young people to forge their own future.
- to develop skills to help young people access services and move forward in their lives.

Values

- **Voluntary, confidential, youth-oriented**
Outreach youth work supports and stands by young people, but does not make decisions or take action on their behalf. Cooperation is based on trust.
- **Holistic approach, multi-disciplinary cooperation**
Young people are treated holistically, and support is provided with other services as needed.
- **Accessibility**
Outreach youth work services are always free of charge, and easily accessible – without thresholds or walls.

What young people seek from outreach youth workers

1. someone to talk to
2. support for dealing with authorities
3. support in job search
4. support for studies

Young people rate outreach youth work highly at

4.6

on scale of 1 to 5

Into – Association for Outreach Youth Work and Workshop Activities supports capacity building of outreach youth work and workshops.



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