



Südbayerische Wohn- und Werkstätten  
für Blinde und Sehbehinderte gGmbH

# Role diversity in a care institution for blind and visually impaired adults

Presentation at the 7th ICEVI European  
Conference on Psychology and Visual  
Impairment

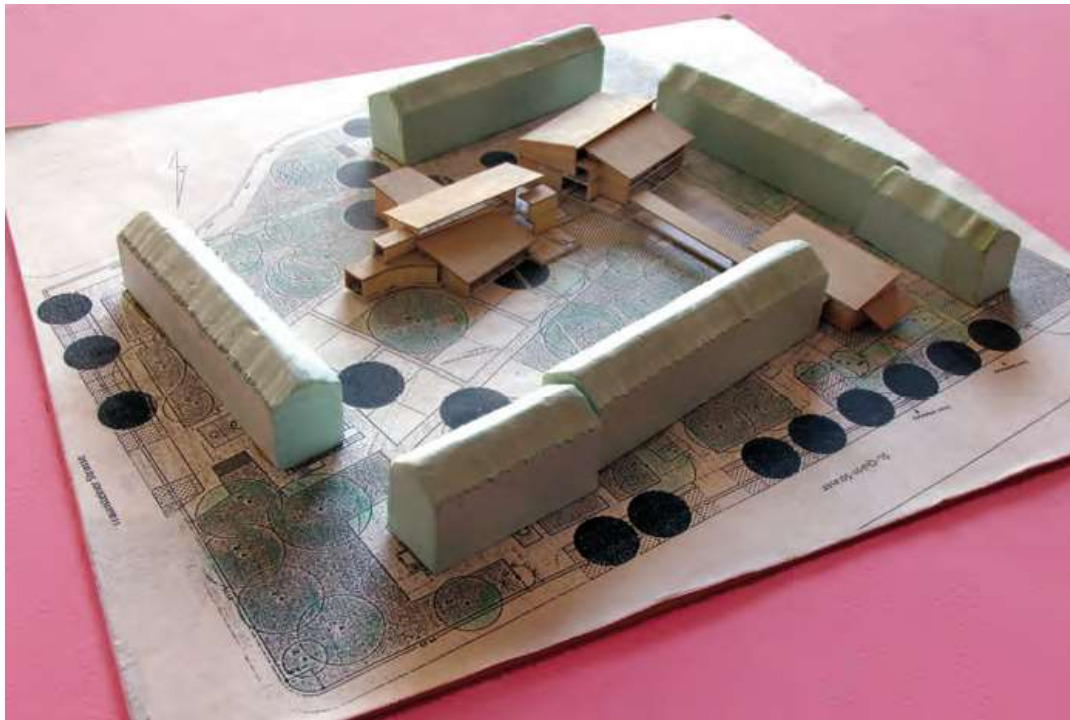
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# SWW

- a non-profit-making organization
- was founded in 1992
- about 50 residents in a nursing home + day support for their special needs
- about 65 residents in a sheltered accomodation + sheltered workshops

# 20th Birthday in 2012





# Living





# Working – day support and structure



# Working – file and data destruction



# Working - pottery





# Working - packaging



# Working – weaving mill



# Therapies

- physiotherapy
- speech therapy
- occupational therapy

# Leisure time

- hippotherapy
- sport activities (goalball, dancing, yoga, cardio training, swimming, jogging with a guide)
- (holiday) trips
- internal and external cultural activities
- group activities (singing, bible study group)





# Excerpt from the guiding principles

„ We accompany the paths of life of multiple handicapped blind and visually impaired adults. In our institution vitality and confidence can mature and grow – in awareness of being a unique and valuable character.“

# Residents' different social roles

- child, sibling, aunt or uncle (family of origin)
- flatmate (nurse home/sheltered accommodation)
- colleague (at work)
- employee with rights and duties (at work)
- adult with needs for intimacy / desire for a partner
- customer and employer (for the carers, instructors, the administration and the internal services)

# Professionals' different social roles

- carer
- educator
- instructor
- mentor
- leisure companion

# Approaches in coping with this issue

- one on one and group sessions for the residents
- if needed: psychiatric visits and external therapeutical treatments
- participation in decision-making
- self-determination: own budget/salery
- Intensive work with the relatives
- opportunities for the professionals

**Thank you very much for your attention!**