

## K-MDRI & MDRI assisted *Ne per Ne* and *Surviving Together* on strengthening their Organizational Capacities

*Project: Strengthening the Participation of Persons with Mental Disabilities in Kosovar Society*

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With the goal of developing the *Ne per Ne* (We for Ourselves) - organization for and by people with intellectual disabilities, and *Surviving Together* - organization for and by people with psychiatric disabilities; as well as bringing people with mental disabilities together, and strengthening the participation of people with mental disabilities in Kosovar Society; **K-MDRI / MDRI conducted a four day workshop, named: "How to function as an organization?"**.

The main goal of the workshop was to build capacities of *Ne per Ne* and *Surviving Together* organizations' members to become better self-advocates of human rights of people with mental disabilities and learn how to make their organization function better.



The workshop was held in the Resource Center for People with Disabilities, during 6 & 7 of April, and 28 & 29 of April 2009.

During the four day workshop, the participants had the opportunity to learn from the workshop trainer, Mr. Ramadan Ilazi, about numerous important organizational concepts, including: how can *Ne per Ne* and *Surviving Together* function better, and which are the strategies that can help; organization's compilation of duties and responsibilities; designing the adequate strategy for communication between the members of the organization; how to become successful self-advocates and promote the organization; how to get funds for the implementation of the projects and function independently as an organization.

Moreover, the participants who were mainly members of *Ne per Ne* and *Surviving Together*, as well as students from the department of Psychology, members



of Club House *Deshira* and residents of Integration Center and Mental Health Center in Ferizaj, were also able to work together in the group sections and collaborate with each other.

Therefore in cooperation with each other they wrote and presented several project proposals.

The Capacity Building workshop was also considered as a very helpful tool in raising the awareness regarding human rights of people with mental disabilities among students of Psychology. In this activity participated 55 people with mental disabilities and 29 students of Psychology.



**K-MDRI & MDRI have continued the dissemination of Success Stories book and public awareness regarding human rights of people with mental disabilities in the**

**municipality of Peja.** K-MDRI staff together with three (3) self-advocates of Peja peer support group, held a lecture in "*Bedri Pejani*" gymnasium, from which benefited sixty-eight (68) secondary school students. In this lecture, K-MDRI staff in collaboration with the self-advocates of *Ne per Ne* - organization for and by people with intellectual disabilities, informed the participants of the effect of stigma in the life of persons with mental disabilities and about the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. K-MDRI and MDRI will continue with the panel discussions and dissemination of *Success Stories* book in the municipalities of Shtime and Kamenica.