Methodology of the Care of Drug-using Mothers and Their Children in the “Sunflower Garden” Project

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SUMMARY: This article deals with the screening of children who were influenced by drugs during pregnancy and with early intervention. In addition to working with parents’ competences, it focuses on developmental disorders in children. The findings come from frontline work. The cases were not originally intended for research. The group of children whose mothers abstained is therefore very limited. 104 children were examined from 2010 to 2015. The information was obtained from the facilities of Drop In, o.p.s., a centre for the prevention and treatment of drug addiction, specifically the Centre for the Family and the Outpatient Addiction Treatment Clinic. The methods used were documentation analysis and interviews. The Developmental Scale according to Hošková was also used to assess the children. Worksheets designed by the implementation team were used in work with the children. A system of exercises and physical activities was employed as part of the sensoric integration therapy. It was demonstrated that the use of a multi-disciplinary approach to monitoring and screening these target groups is very effective. It has been proved that biological mothers should be supported in taking care of their children, as this approach appears much more effective in preventing the latter’s risky development in comparison with children in foster care.

KEY WORDS: ANAMNESIS – DRUGS – SCREENING – CENTRE FOR THE FAMILY – DROP IN

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