28th International Conference on Health Promoting Hospitals and Health Services (virtual conference, October 12, 2021)

"Applying the HPH settings approach to specific target groups"

"From the outpatient clinic for migrants to proximity prevention and care"

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Background/Problem/Objective

- Association Camminare Insieme since 1993 in Turin, Italy: Outpatient clinic for foreigners and needy people, Mother and Child Health Center; about 5.000 patients per year.
- During the pandemic, planning to overcome the walls of the outpatient clinic and to initiate prevention and proximity care in the places where patients live

Methods/Intervention

- Since the beginning of 2021, participation in regional programs of free rapid antigen diagnostic tests for migrants and homeless people, vaccination of migrants and homeless people, prevention and health care interventions in favor of the people welcomed in the shelters of the Municipality of Turin, regular and nonregular foreigners, homeless people and, in particular, people with mental health and addiction problems.
- Collaboration to increase adherence to cancer screening programs for migrants and homeless.

Results (of evaluation)

- The Municipality of Turin is now requesting collaboration for homeless people on the street with the skills of volunteer doctors and mental health professionals of Camminare Insieme, who will use the relationship tool to bring the most "resistant" people together for personalized assistance projects.
- The Turin Health Unit is also requesting collaboration to support breastfeeding, starting with the discharge from the hospital of migrant mothers who have given birth.

Conclusions/Lessons learned

- The decision to go beyond the walls of the outpatient clinic to start proximity prevention and care activities in favor of migrants and homeless people was welcomed by the people we intend to assist
- The Turin Health Unit and the Municipality of Turin, requested the launch of further programs of proximity prevention and care

Relevance to health promoting hospitals and health services

- The Task Force on Migration, Equity & Diversity aims to ensure the identification and sharing of good practices in developing policies, systems and competences for the provision and delivery of accessible health care to patients from diverse populations.
- The activities and projects to overcome the walls of the outpatient clinic and to initiate proximity prevention and care in the places where patients live, are in this direction