EAPN Iceland

• Since 2011
• 10-12 Organisations are partners
• Our biggest project is making the documentation PROSPERITY
Prosperity
Aims to

• Gathering people in the social sector to say how we want human rights in Iceland to be
• New angles to the social system and labour market
• New working methods
• Empowerment
• Spokesmen
• Contribution according to ability
Serving the community – social responsibility in the society
The community
The beginning

• US naval base evacuation on Keflavík airport
• The crisis 2008
• Increased demand for help to public in Suðurnes area
• Cooperation with foodbank at church aid increases
• Founding of Suðurnes Welfare fund – gathering all sources under one “hat”
A big demand

- Around 200 families came to our church during the first two weeks of December in 2009, 2010 and 2011
  - 60% came from Keflavík
  - Young people in the age of 18-29 years old are 60% of those who come to us where 50% of them is in the age of 18-19 years
  - The church/welfarefund want to turn this around and help them become better functional members of our community by educating and encouraging
- A great number of volunteers helped in various fields of the work
- A new aspect in the Parish work in an Icelandic Church
The aim is to help where the church aid stops.

With the fund all the sources are at one place.
Paid for school meals, activities for children, education, medical help, medicin etc.
Number of supplying families with foodcards in Suðurnes area
2007 - 2013
Month by month
Diaconal service

- Started with seminars about the habits in life, selfempowerment, finances and happiness, health and welfare in 2010
- It was hard to get to people
- Low educational standard, school dropout
- After evaluation we saw this was not working
Vendipunktur

- Christmas food aid 2010 showed us that the age distribution was that 65% of those that applied was under the age of 30
Change of methods

• Should we continue giving out food/foodcards and help with basic needs or should we change methods?
Time for new focus
Energy and faith

aims to encourage and motivate young people in Suðurnes to independence and action.

First we worked with music along with a teacher for Guildhall music school in London and showed on town festival.

Held the seminar To live life - where young people get non formal education in life skills as well as aimsettings and taking lead in their lives. Cooperation with the YMCA

Increased cooperation with The Church

In October 2011 we held the conference Higher Me and You where young people took part and discussed their interests and thoughts for the future in our area. Funded by YIA programme.

Funded by the National Church of Iceland, companies and NGO in our area.
Moving forward!

• After the seminars “to live life” we found need for young people to come together and have a place of their own to chat and meet

• We also found that it was good and fun to have a place for skillbuilding, practical non formal education like design and redesign

• Cooperation with the Salvation Army

• Discussion with an owner of an old industrial house- (a bank)

• Community center „Gamla Grágás”- the old Grey goose

• A lot of goodwill in society both companies, organisations and individuals
Svona leit þetta út!
Beginning in summer 2012, volunteers—young people—“owned” the project.
A lot of projects
more cooperation

• Baking and cooking
  • Youth exchange
  • Redesign of old clothes

Asylum seekers came to take part!
Gamla Grágás-community center for young adults
Users references

Young women 25 years old

• We first participated in E&F in 2011. Then we had been unemployed for a while. The seminars gave us self-esteem and more confidence.

• We were volunteers in Children/parent days and then our confidence increased since we got responsible for the event.

• Now we both have got jobs more or less because of the work in Grágás and references from the place.

Asylum seeker 21 years

• I in Grágás has. very happy. I happy to find more friends. enjoy play card. Happy that the Hjördís-Marta- Linn Miriam met. And my mother in Iran. Marta same my mother i love. iceland Lovely and kind people