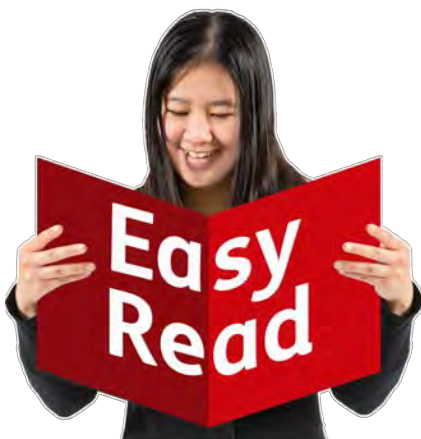


# From institutions to community living



## Part 2: **Funding and Budgeting**

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# From institutions to community living



An **institution** is where people with disabilities live together away from other people.



The **community** is where all different people live close to each other. They live close to their families and friends.



This report has been written by the **European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights**. We are called FRA for short.



The **European Union (EU)** is a group of 28 countries in Europe who work together.



**Fundamental rights** are things that everyone has. For example, the right to vote and the right to get married.



We help to make sure everyone in the **European Union** can use their rights.



FRA is looking at how to help people with disabilities move from living in institutions to living in their local community with support.



This report is one of 3 reports which look at different parts of this issue.

This is the second report. It looks at the money that is needed to help people move.



This first report looks at what the European Union and the 28 countries have agreed to do.



The third report looks at the lives of people with disabilities who are living independently in their local community.

# Rights for people with disabilities

The United Nations has agreed that people with disabilities have the right to:



- Live independently



- Be included in the community



The **United Nations (UN)** is where all the countries in the world meet together to agree things.



This agreement is written down in Article 19 of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD).



The UN says that 'Living in the Community' includes:

## Choice:

Choice means having the chance to choose:

- Where you live
- Who you live with



It is also having the choice about how you are supported.

## Support:

Support means you have access to a range of services, including personal assistance, which help you to live and take part in your community.





This support should:

- Respect you as an individual person



- Help you to take part and be included in things that are going on



## Accessible services:

Accessible services means that people with a disability should be able to use the same services and **facilities** as everyone else.



**Facilities** are places, buildings, transport or bits of equipment.

# Funding and budgeting



**Funding** is money that has been given so you can do something.



**Budgeting** is when you plan what money you need and how you would spend it.



This report is looking at how countries should spend money to help people move out of institutions and live in the community.



When we looked into this we found that:

- We need a big change in how services for people with disabilities are funded
- Instead of funding institutions the money should go to help services in the community







- The EU could insist that part of the money that it gives to countries is used to help move people out of institutions



- Local communities and local organisations can help to make sure that countries use funding from the EU in the right way



- The different regions and local areas of countries may move people out of institutions in different ways



- Many countries in the EU are still giving a lot of money so that people with disabilities stay in institutions



- Countries need proper plans that show how the move from institutions to the community will be funded



- Most countries do not keep good information about people with disabilities

# Using EU money to move people from institutions to the community



The EU gives lots of money to some countries to help people leave institutions and go to live in the community.



It is not easy to be sure that money from the EU is being used in the way we want it to be used.



Part of EU funding is meant to be used to move people away from institutions and towards living in the community.



But some countries have used the money for building new institutions.



Countries don't keep enough information about how this funding is spent so they can say how much is being spent on people with disabilities.



The UN Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities thinks that the EU should:

- Write clearer rules about how funding from the EU should be used



- Get better at checking how funding is spent



- Ask for money back if it is not used properly

# How funding is organised



Different countries organise the funding of community services in different ways.



In some countries community services are organised by the national government. They control the funding for local services.



In other countries regional groups control the funding.



Some countries use mostly money from the EU to fund the move from institutions to community living.



Other countries use money from different parts of their own government, like health, housing, local government and so on.



In some countries local community services are all run by the local government.



In other countries community services are run by other organisations.



In some countries the other organisations must be '**not for profit**'. For example Ireland, Hungary and the Netherlands.



**Not for profit** means that all the money is used to help people with disabilities. None of it goes to the people who own the organisation.



In other countries companies run local care services. In the UK most care homes for older people are run by for profit **companies**.



**Companies** are usually 'for profit'. They make money for the people who own the company.

# Money for community services

There are a lot of differences between how money is spent on supporting people to live in the community:



- In some countries a lot of money is spent on people living in institutions but only a small amount is spent on community services



- In some countries different local areas spend different amounts on community services for people with disabilities



In Denmark some local councils are spending ten times as much as others on services in the community for people with disabilities



- Some countries are spending lots of money to help people with disabilities leave institutions and move to the community



Finland is spending €30 million each year on housing for people with disabilities.



- Many countries in the EU have been cutting spending on services over the last few years.



This has meant less money for people with disabilities.

# Better information



One of the reasons why countries are finding it hard to move people from institutions to live in the community is because they don't have the right information.



Many countries are not collecting good information about people with disabilities living in institutions and living in the community.



Some countries do have information that shows how much money is being spent on people with disabilities living in institutions and people with disabilities living in the community.





Some countries do not have information which shows how much money is being spent in the community on people with disabilities.



In some countries the information is collected in different ways in each local area.



This means that they cannot give clear information for the country as a whole.



In other countries the information is collected by the country's government and is easy to understand.

# What we think



FRA thinks that:

- Countries in the EU should stop funding institutions.

Instead they should give enough money to services in the community.

People with disabilities should be able to decide how their support services work.



- The EU should work with countries to set up committees to check how EU money is being spent.

These committees should include people from the organisations of people with disabilities



- If EU money is being used to keep people with disabilities in institutions, the EU should ask for its money back



- When it is checking how the funding is being used, the EU should listen to organisations of people with disabilities in each country as well as the national government



- The countries of the EU should make sure that organisations inside each country work together properly



- The people who are responsible for the money from the EU should have training about the UN CRPD



- The countries of the EU should collect information about people living in institutions and people living in the community

# For more information

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