

Working with Experience Experts in Research

Neighborhood network interventions for social inclusion of people with disabilities

Author(s)

van Zal, Stefanie; van Schravendijk, Merel

Publication date

2019

Document Version

Final published version

[Link to publication](#)

Citation for published version (APA):

van Zal, S., & van Schravendijk, M. (2019). *Working with Experience Experts in Research: Neighborhood network interventions for social inclusion of people with disabilities*. Poster session presented at International conference of Sociology and social work, Porto, Portugal.

**General rights**

It is not permitted to download or to forward/distribute the text or part of it without the consent of the author(s) and/or copyright holder(s), other than for strictly personal, individual use, unless the work is under an open content license (like Creative Commons).

Disclaimer/Complaints regulations

If you believe that digital publication of certain material infringes any of your rights or (privacy) interests, please let the Library know, stating your reasons. In case of a legitimate complaint, the Library will make the material inaccessible and/or remove it from the website. Please contact the library: <https://www.amsterdamuas.com/library/contact/questions>, or send a letter to: University Library (Library of the University of Amsterdam and Amsterdam University of Applied Sciences), Secretariat, Singel 425, 1012 WP Amsterdam, The Netherlands. You will be contacted as soon as possible.

WORKING WITH EXPERIENCE EXPERTS IN RESEARCH

Neighborhood network interventions for social inclusion of people with disabilities

Stefanie van Zal

(s.d.van.zal@hva.nl)

&

Merel van Schravendijk

(m.m.van.Schravendijk@hva.nl)

THE CARE AND SUPPORT RESEARCH GROUP

FOCUSES ON FULL PARTICIPATION AND INCLUSION OF PEOPLE WITH LONG TERM CARE NEEDS IN SOCIETY

Care IN and BY society

Central themes:

1. Informal care and professional care cooperation
2. Social networks of people with disabilities
3. Social inclusion and the role of care professionals

NEIGHBORHOOD NETWORK INTERVENTIONS FOR SOCIAL INCLUSION OF PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

Background

In Amsterdam there are many small and big interventions to improve the network of people with disabilities in their direct neighborhood. Sometimes they emerge spontaneously and sometimes they are more structural.

Goal

The goal of the research is to get better understanding of the working elements of the interventions so that we can better predict how new interventions should be set up in order to achieve their intended effect of improving neighborhood networks of people with disabilities.

NEIGHBORHOOD NETWORK INTERVENTIONS FOR SOCIAL INCLUSION OF PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

Research question

What are the working elements of different group oriented interventions to improve the neighborhood network of people with a disability?

Method

This is a multimethod research project in which professionals, people from the neighborhood, participants and management will be involved to together determine what works when working on improving neighborhood networks of people with disabilities.

WORKING WITH EXPERIENCE EXPERTS

DEVELOPING RESEARCH TOOLS

How:

The experienced experts receive a training by cliëntenbelang amsterdam. They learnt about the research project, the targetgroup, and interviewing skills such as listening, summarizing, and investigating further. In part of the training the researchers and experience experts together worked on developing a research tool for the interviews.

Benefits:

- Working together on the research tool ensures that the questions that are asked, feel natural for both the researchers. This makes the interview much easier for both parties.
- The questions are more attuned to the experiences that respondents have to the subject
- The way the questions are formulated is clear, simple, and well targeted.

Take into account:

- It takes a lot of time to recruit and train experts by experience.
- About half of the recruited experts quit before the start of the project.

WORKING WITH EXPERIENCE EXPERTS

INTERVIEWING

How:

The researcher makes an appointment with the respondent, then posts the appointment in the groupchat with experts so that someone can join. If the expert cancels the interview continues without expert.

Benefits:

- The joint experience with an intervention or a theme creates a communal bond and makes the conversation more easygoing and natural.
- The joint experience with a theme of an expert triggers different questions to further investigate. Often more specific and targeted.
- More personal and easy conversation.
- Two researchers see more than one.

Take into account:

- match respondents and experts on the basis of their shared experience with a subject, (not on a shared experience with a disability)
- Some experts can navigate the city independently, but others need assistance
- Make your role as co-workers clear, don't pretend to be caretaker and caregiver.

RICHARD IS ONE OF THE EXPERIENCED EXPERTS WHO PARTICIPATES IN THE RESEARCH

“For me it was an opportunity to learn to interview and communicate with different kinds of people. It was really interesting to learn about the different views and experiences of the respondents”