



**Hogeschool van Amsterdam**

Maatschappij en Recht

# Recovery, empowerment & peer support

Research & Development

Amsterdam University of Applied  
Sciences

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# Overview

- Introduction (1): R&D at the Amsterdam University of Applied Sciences
- Introduction (2): Changes in the welfare state in the Netherlands
- Changes in homeless care
- Changes in practice: consumer run homeless care
- Research agenda for the coming years
- Specific questions for today

# R&D at the Amsterdam University of Applied Sciences

- Part of the institute for Law & Society
- Related to professional bachelor & master in Social Work
- Integrating education, research & development
- Multiple Social Work subjects, specifically:
- Research program Outreach work & innovation

# Changes in the welfare state

## Context of our work

- Social Support Act
- Withdrawal of state
- NPM: social work has become part of system world
- Working from life and perception world of citizens in vulnerable situations

# Changes in homeless care

- 2006: introduction action plan homeless care (phase 1): everybody of the street
- 2011: Phase 2: everybody out of homeless care
- Phase 1: shared interest of government, organizations, consumers
- Phase 2: conflicting interests. What is recovery? How does this relate to NPM?

# JES: craftsmanship between life world and system world

How to overcome 4 monsters created by NPM:

- a. paternalism (we know what is best for you)
- b. consumerism (give it to me, I'm entitled to it)
- c. Utilitarianism (values are non-existent unless they are measurable and transferable in cost effective products)
- d. fragmentation (cut wicked problems in small solvable fragments, without looking at the consequences for the wickedness of the problem)

# Changes in practice

- Your Own Spot (Je Eigen Stek): Self managed facility by (former) homeless people
- A peer group that is responsible for policy and implementation
- Incorporation of experience, talent, wishes of inhabitants to meet the support and structure needed by inhabitants
- JES gives inhabitants tranquility, time and perspective to give voice to their life stories
- Professional support and facilitate individuals, group and project
- Self management as a purpose in itself (organizational) or a means to an end (emancipatory)?
- Paradox of self management

# Research agenda

- Develop knowledge, experience and tools for: consumer run projects, peer support & working with experience experts. Examples:
  - WRAP
  - Recovery agency
  - Peerrun respite care
  - Consumer run homeless shelter
- Develop educational modules for bachelor & master students and for practitioners & experience-experts



# Specific questions for today

- How can we incorporate peers and social networks in the CTI approach?
- How can we introduce recovery for homeless without clinical mental health problems?