



Mental health awareness in criminal justice

Of the 9 million people in prison worldwide, at least one million are diagnosed with a mental health problem. Many more remain undiagnosed and struggle with mental illness every day.

Imprisoned offenders and those under probation suffer from the double stigma of a criminal record and mental health problems, which hinders their social and vocational inclusion, crucial for effective resettlement.

AWARE aims to help criminal justice staff and volunteers working in these contexts by giving them the tools and knowledge based on the Europe's best mental health practice.

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To achieve this, we will:



Step 1 – Network

Create Community of Practices that encourage prison, probation, mental health and NGO practitioners to share experiences, knowledge and ideas



Step 2 – Ask

Ask 500 prisoners with mental health problems across Europe their thoughts and views on what works best for them to feel supported. Ask 500 practitioners on the most successful ways to achieve this goal



Step 3 – Learn

Bring criminal justice and mental health practitioners from all over Europe together to exchange good practice



Step 4 - Share

Share every outcome and result with the European Network and broader audiences

What is the AWARE project?

AWARE is an integrated response to non-discrimination and social integration of prisoners and offenders under probation. We will research best practices, develop needs assessment tools for both offenders and practitioners and deliver a training methodology and training resources to successfully address mental health needs in the prison and probation settings.

Who are the AWARE project partners?

We are civil society, research and criminal justice organisations from across Europe with extensive experience in the social, vocational and economic barriers which criminal records and mental health problems can create. Our collaborative, transnational and cross-sectoral approach will generate

Our collaborative, transnational and cross-sectoral approach will generate innovative responses to a common problematic and will give a fresh look at how agencies and civil society can integrate and transfer knowledge.















