

Job Coach Supported Employment Program

I am independent because I have a job.



www.downturkiye.com

Down syndrome and Down Syndrome Association

- DS: A genetic disorder, caused by the trisomy of 21th chromosome, leads pyhsical and intellectual delays.
- DSA: The Association provides support to individuals with Down Syndrome, their families and experts from all around Turkey. It is based in Istanbul, yet has branches/representatives in Ankara, Tokat, Gaziantep and Kastamonu. It is a board member of European Down Syndrome Association and country representative of 4 other international bodies including research forces.



History

- First job coaching program in Turkey.
- 43 people with DS had full or part time jobs since 2012 in 13 different companies and 11 different cities. Success rate of the program is %88.
- First research that take opinions of people with intellectual disability about the employment process



Team

- A huge team behind the program
 - Youngster with Down syndrome
 - Family
 - Company and it's workers
 - A job coach
 - A psychologist
 - A psychiatrist
 - A Special Education Expert

SUCCESS: Full Cooperation of All!



Job Coach Supported Employment Program

- To create equal job opportunities in open market for the people with Down syndrome.
- Trainings for the youngsters with DS about work life and autonomy.
- Trainings for the families to make them support their children about being an adult worker.
- Trainings for the colleagues about DS and tips they can use while working together.
- Trainings for the university students, policy makers, companies, and experts.



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- Research about expectations of youngsters with DS, families and companies in order to identify needs of each group
- One book about the legal issues about employment of people with disability in Turkey
- One book about the whole process of job coaching project
- Public service ad on TV and social media



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- Interviews with managers and their workers with Down syndrome
- 121 news in newspapers, web sites and magazines.
- 49 seminars and trainings to 2012 people in 6 different cities.



Anectodes

- Funda-A worker: My job is very important, because I help my family in the renovation of our house. Earning money feels great to me, I bought a cell-phone to myself with my first salary.
- Kadir-A worker: I was very excited in the first day of job that was a different feeling for me. I save money up to live alone and to marry later.
- Canan-Mother of a worker: His self-esteem increased after the job. He began to go alone to work in the end of first year. He warns us that he is an adult and can give his own decisions.
- Ahmet-Manager of a worker: She was a little bit slow at the beginning, but she makes her job without any help now. We have too many common points and we work in harmony.



What is next?

- A trainer training program
- To extend the program all over the country
- To make Job Coach Supported Employment Program as a government policy



