

NGO KHAM - DELČEVO

Promotion of Mental
Health in Local
Communities



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- Who are we?
- What do credibility and legitimacy mean?
- Does the community really need Mental Health?



KHAM from Delčevo is a non-governmental, non-party and non-profit organization established by free association of a group of citizens for the purpose of improving the socio-economic status of the Roma population and other marginalized groups. We have been operating since 1999 and have implemented about 80 projects. The organization has about 120 members and the executive office has 12 people. In the community we have been recognized as an organization that acts in the field of health and education and quite frequently realizing social and infrastructural projects.

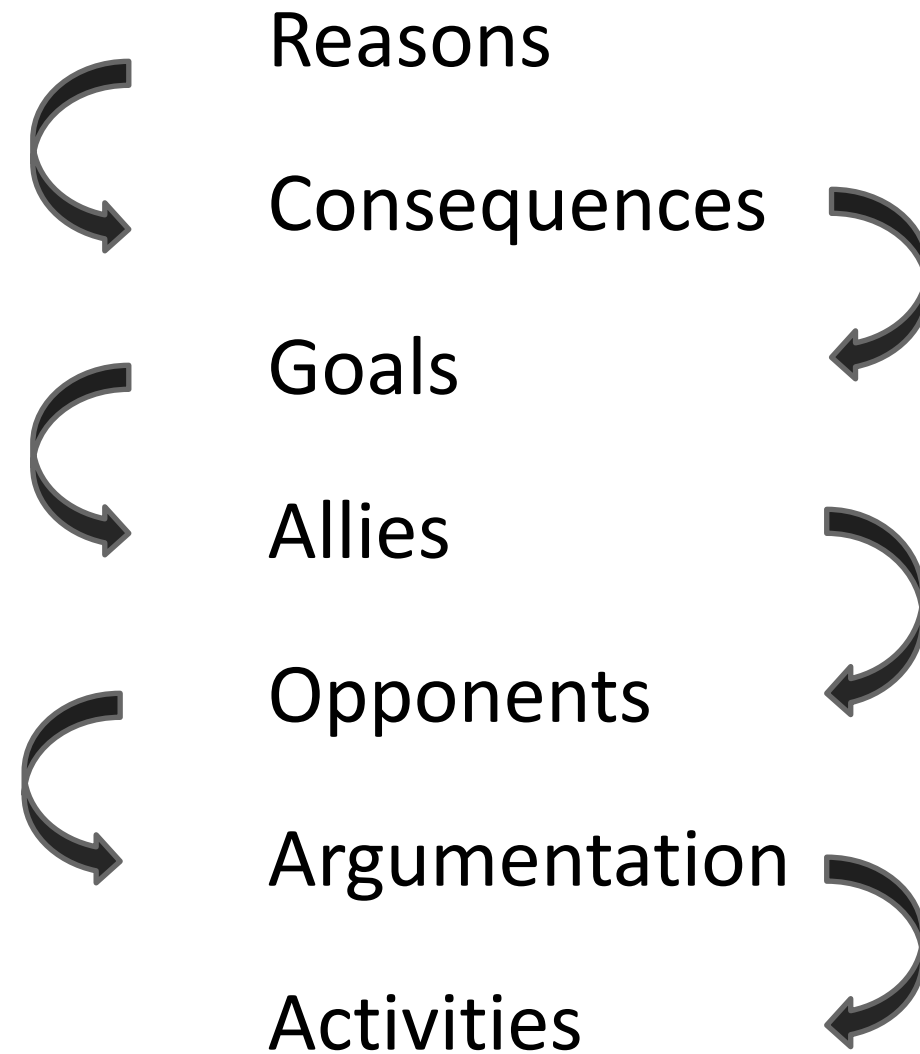


Selection of priorities

- Raising awareness among Roma parents about the importance of preschool education
- Reducing the barriers between Institutions and the Roma community
- Access to health services during COVID 19



Steps leading to change



Selection of the authorities:

The values of the individual or the institution as a basis

- Lobbying is done at the **Institution** where a representative is usually appointed as their substitute or a counselor. The values are humanity of profession and stimulation of willingness to help.
- With the **Leaders**, there is often a goal of maintaining the position of leader, advancement in career; values are the sensibility within the own community, responsibility.



Building common (informal) body:

- The **informal body** is the place where the Roma authorities and public authorities talk of the real obstacles
- Every possible obstacle is planned to be addressed with the objective to implement **empowerment** of the community
 - This is done through **education** where the same will be practiced
 - Another question is what time would be the most convenient and who will be invited.



Legal empowerment and community mobilization (teach the law, understand the law, 'shake' the law)

- Door to door visits
- Delivering Education material
- Hanging up posters in public places in the Roma settlement
- Organized workshops
- Internet campaign



Survey

- Individual surveys in the community
- Focus group
- Data from reports filed with the Paralegals
- Request for information from public characters



Advocacy plan creation and implementation

- Meetings with Decision makers
- Campaign
- Involving community in process of Advocacy and creating sustainability of action for changes



Education for Health rights



Dealing with fake news



Results of the team approach are the following:

- The number of Roma children in preschool education has increased by 60%
- Increased number of social rights beneficiaries and employees by 20%
- Confidence of the community towards the health institutions has increased
- Empowered living together



Challenge

- Confusion in informing about government decrees, impunity of institutions for unprofessional work, disinformation and fake news
- High degree of motivation at Roma leaders
- Political influence



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Thank you for your attention

Zoran Bikovski

Contact: z_bikovski@yahoo.com

