



SOS CHILDREN'S
VILLAGES



FICE
AUSTRIA

INTERNATIONAL
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COMMUNITIES

AUF JEDES KIND KOMMT ES AN

Co-funded by the Rights,
Equality and Citizenship (REC)
Programme of the European
Union



Care experienced advocates, SOS
Children's Villages International 'Leaving
Care' project – what is being done in
Romania and Austria to support young
people leaving care

13th October 2020 – online conference
Care Path - Eurochild





Fabienne – the situation of care leavers in Austria:

- No specific help for Care Leavers
- In General: „Short-work“ was established: 80-90% of salary, so that enterprises can keep their employees –
 - But financial aid primarily for freelancers , big and small businesses
- When student:
 - Family grant was once payed double
 - The last semester wasn't counted as a full semester, in case one's study time takes longer and a loss of the student grant is at risk
- The city of Vienna provided a 50€ voucher to go out for lunch





Fabienne – the situation of care leavers in Austria:

Problemes evoked by the coronavirus:

- Unemployment
- Depths
- Extension of education or apprenticeship time
 - Also often due to the lack of digital connection
- Higher drop-out risk
- Mental health went downwards
- Problems with their flat or house
 - Some even moved back to their parents





Fabienne – the situation of care leavers in Austria:

Goals:

- Care Leaver advocate in governmental area
 - When new laws are introduced, a Care Leaver representative should inform about and emphasize on the specific situation of Care Leavers – often they don't put CL into account when making new laws
- Psychological support for Care Leavers
 - In critical times (especially now during the Coronavirurs) young adults without a stable backup do struggle and are more likely to have mental problems than young people with a stable family situation they can count on





Fabienne – the situation of care leavers in Austria:

Goals:

- Creating a stable network of all Care Leavers
 - A lot of young people still doesn't even know that they take part of the „big family“ of Care Leavers and that we are all here to support each other
 - All Institutions should work together to grant every young adult access to this network
 - Youthlinks





Fabienne – the situation of care leavers in Austria:

Goals:

- An ideal Leaving Care process
 - Quality over quantity
 - Doesn't mean that we shouldn't support every young person who needs support!
 - When young people leave, they should feel safe in their new independent life
 - Even when they face obstacles, there should be a backup to turn to when they face them!
 - Voucher for some hours of Care Leaver support





Fabienne – the situation of care leavers in Austria:

Goals:

- ± 4000 new Care Leavers every 4 years in Austria
 - Neither only financial support nor only psychological support
 - Both is essential and should be provided if necessary
 - Both is mostly provided in the „emerging adulthood“ in Europe by one's one family
 - A small help from the government could change the life of many young people who had the unlucky situation to find themselves in dysfunctional families and therefore smaller chances in life

