

APRIL 2021

Overview of the programme

Towards more inclusive retirement homes or alternative structures!

Implement continuous progress plans in a participatory manner.



An initiative supported by Adélis, Résolis and France Bénévolat

Issues and approach

1 The French situation

The quality of the approximately 11,000 French retirement homes is very heterogeneous, but on average mediocre (several official reports – sometimes very severe – highlight this). We have ageing structures, insufficient and understressed staff, lack of anticipation of the consequences of demographic ageing... **But, overall and above all, the way our country looks at the elderly, which often leads to phenomena of exclusion!**

The pandemic crisis has both revealed the situation and accelerated the need for change.

2 The three levels of quality

There are three levels of quality in institutions for the elderly :

1) The basic functions (accommodation, hygiene and care) are correct : otherwise, it is clearly abuse, passive or active. This is a matter of personnel, organisation and management which our programme is not about ;

2) A posture of benevolence (care) : this is already a posture shared by all the staff, sometimes reinforced by a policy of voluntary work (but more often than not the resident remains passive) ;

3) The will to make the institution or alternative structures an "open space of life", where residents remain full citizens and have the feeling of being still useful to Society. It is this third level that we are aiming at with our programme.

Scope of the work

What we mean by 'more inclusive retirement homes'.

- ① **Citizens of the territory who have a different view of institutions** for the elderly: as "normal places to live", with specific constraints, where one can go;
- ② **Institutions or alternative structures where all the actors are mobilised together** for "good living": care staff, non-care staff, families, volunteers and, of course, the residents themselves;
- ③ **or alternative structures that are open to their environment** : schools, associations, residents, etc. and know how to cooperate with them on concrete intergenerational projects and actions. Therefore, ecosystems of solidarity that are built over time;
- ④ **Residents considered as adults and citizens in their own right**, whose usefulness is recognised and who feel useful.



Our program

The desire to make progress through a pragmatic approach with volunteer institutions.

Our objective is to show that this is possible through an experimental, highly structured approach with volunteer establishments or alternative structures (**at least 20 in 2021**), with the following stages :

- ① A shared self-diagnosis, focused exclusively on the **situation of volunteering and socio-cultural activities** ;
- ② **The provision of "turn-key" socio-cultural animation materials**, to possibly reinforce these actions, especially in a context of greater or lesser closure due to the pandemic ;
- ③ **The identification of concrete intergenerational projects** (priority to cooperation with schools), where residents are actors, not consumers;
- ④ **Individualised support by ADELIS**, as and when required ;
- ⑤ **The creation of a network for the exchange of good practices and actions carried out** ;
 - Such a network is being created between the voluntary establishments or alternative structures. It is in this context that a wider exchange at European level makes sense (always on the basis of field practices).
 - We already have examples of innovative actions (which we call "Nice Stories"), some of which are already included in the animation tools (available on request, subject to reciprocity).
- ⑥ A European benchmark, focusing on reference countries (Germany, Holland, Denmark, Sweden, etc.) is underway with the support of quality partners (see after).



Our partners

Acquired French partners and a steering committee

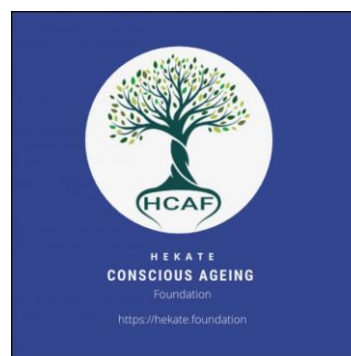
From now on, the programme is supported by the SNCF Foundation and AG2R LA MONDIALE :



It is also supported by the Futur Âge association, which is well known to gerontologists (links with the Charles Foix- Val de Marne Hospital, a reference in this field) :



An operational component on the "life memory" of the elderly, which is particularly innovative, is proposed by an "ad hoc" mechanism designed and led by *Passerelle de Mémoire* :



A Steering Committee (COFIL) is made up of national partners, volunteer establishments and the dedicated team (ADELIS, supported by RESOLIS and France Bénévolat Ile-de-France).