

Working with high risk offenders in the community

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Rehelistä
elämää

**KRITS**
KRIMINAALIHUOLLON TUKISÄÄTIÖ



Municipalities
320

NGOs who provide social and health services

NGOs that promote welfare for released offenders

Peer support NGOs and communities

Christian churches and parishes

Social and health care
■ General services
■ Special services
■ Bought services
■ Judicial aid
■ Responsibility to provide also aftercare services

■ Alcohol and Drug abuse Services
■ Housing services
■ Work rehabilitation
■ Dept counselling
■ A-Clinic Found. etc.

Professional service providers and developers
■ Krits
■ Silta

Christian NGOs
■ Blue Ribbon
◇ Street Mission
■ Salvation Army
■ Settlements

Civic organizations
■ Red Cross

KRIS-Finland
KRIS-Tampere
VAO- Relatives

AA-movement
NA, AL ANON

A-guilds

Ev. Luth. Church
■ Welfare services
■ Criminal work

Other religious communities

Conciliation
■ Conciliation offices

Funding assistance for NGOs
Municipalities
RAY
KRITS

Criminal work agents in Finland 2013
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Unofficial help
■ self-help
■ relatives and friends

Private enterprises
■ Advocates
■ Private Housing services

The Criminal Sanctions Agency
3 criminal sanctions regions

Research, development and education
■ The National Research Institute of Legal Policy
■ Prison Personnel Training Centre
■ National Institute for Health and Welfare (THL)
■ Pikassos Centre of Expertise
■ Universities, polytechnics
■ Krits
■ Silta-Valmennus

Government
■ Government, Parliament
■ Ministry of Justice
■ Ministry of Social Affairs and Health
■ Crim. Sanctions Agency
■ THL
■ Advisory board for the field of criminal sanctions
■ Council for Crime Prevention

Prisons

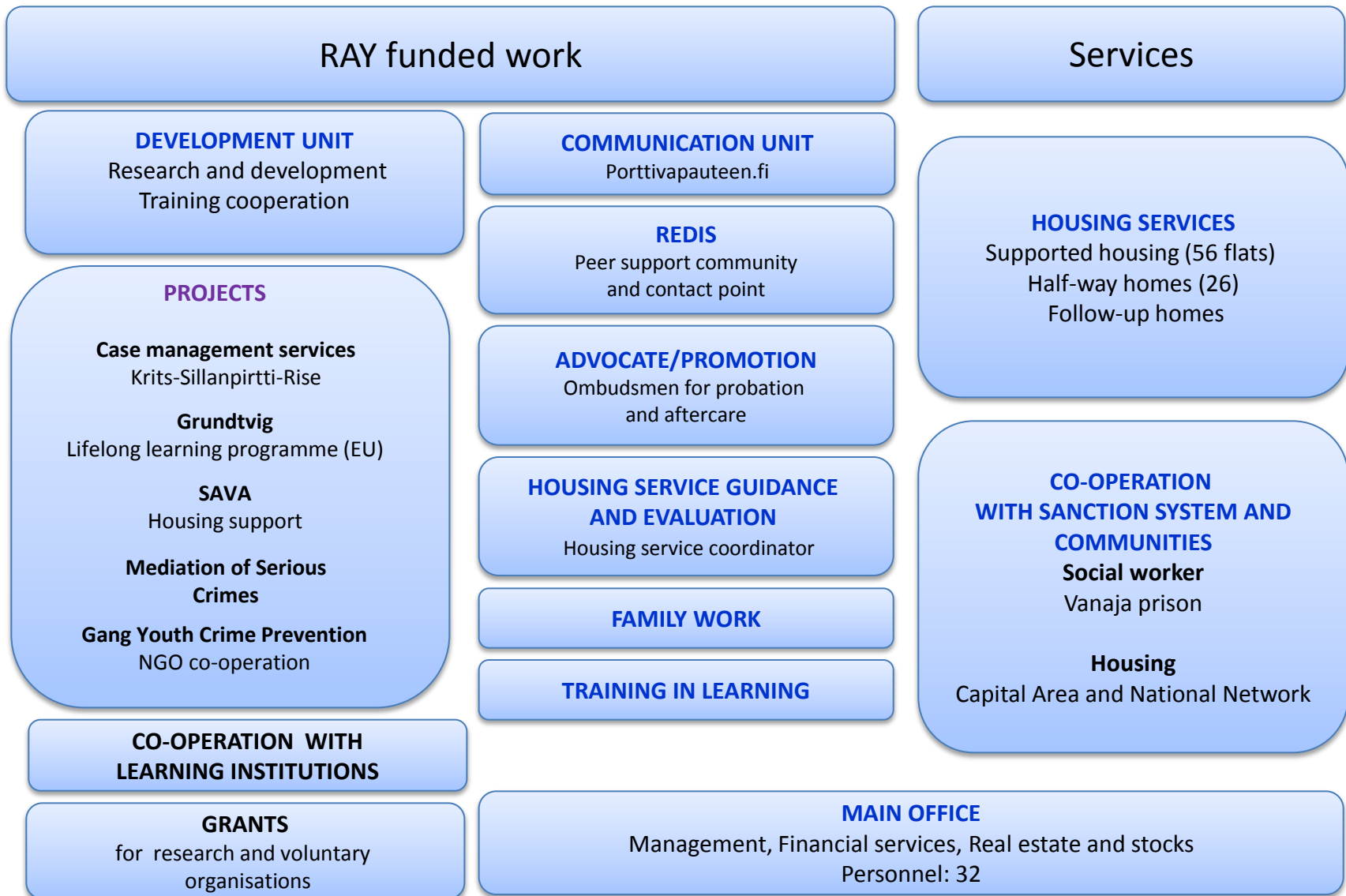
Community sanction offices

Courts of law
Prosecution Service

Police

Distraint office

Judicial system



Supported housing in Krits

- The most important area of working with high risk offenders in Krits
- The usual path is
 - supervised probationary freedom in half-way home
 - time in half-way home is decided individually (2-3 months optimum, usually around 6 months)
 - supported housing is decided also individually, usually around 2 years

Case Henry

- Came to Krits from another housing project after a year from previous release from prison
- In his forties, times in prison around 10, all violent offences and was known to be violent
- Very clear rules in Krits, any violence or using alcohol would lead to termination of his housing
- On the other hand it is the same rule for everybody, no special "fuss" or precautions because of him ← preventing the counterreaction
- Was motivated to change his life and stay sober because he knew he would be violent when drunk

Case Henry

- Individual working in Kritis according to his own agenda
 - discussions with the instructor couple of times per week: "you cannot be violent or drink, how are you going to do it", the good elements in his thinking were reflected back and reinforced
 - supportive network: church workers, mother, friends who were in maintenance treatment, occasionally AA
 - meaningful doing: collecting metal junk with a car and selling it, "it is fun and I can't do it while drunk"
- Was given an independent home after 4 months, no need for contact after that

Case John

- Was guided to Krits from a day center, had been homeless for 3 years after previous release from prison
- In his fifties, 12 times in prison, all violence, altogether in prison around 20 years
- Was married and the couple applied an apartment together but they were given separate half-way homes → training to live together, could meet between 09-21
- John's first own home in his entire life
- Clear and simple rules: no alcohol, no violence, but also no extra pressure or fuss
- Had a relapse with alcohol, was obligated to go to A-clinic, settled down after that

Case John

- Working elements
 - had completed CSC-program in prison and Krits' instructor had been his tutor, the instructor could pick up harmful elements in John's thinking and recall them
 - supportive network: wife and her social network, uncle, A-clinic
 - lack of meaningful doing makes the biggest risk, nothing really interests, has learned to be passive in prison
- The couple got supported home after 7 months, have been living together now for 2 months, no trouble so far even John is suspected to use alcohol occasionally, wife is a very strong supportive element

Case Thomas

- Came to Krits from prison and from STOP-programme which he had completed twice, STOP-tutors were very worried of his risk of reoffending
- In his fifties, several times in prison, violent and sex offences
- Was given a halfway-home, Krits' instructor met daily: discussions about organizing everyday life but also about his social relationships, no special concern was openly shown from the instructor's part
- Co-operation network: police, mental health care, A-clinic, A-guild Association
- Reoffended after two months, but did not complete the offence, was caught almost straight away

Case Thomas

- Krits' instructors kept contact with Thomas during his new period of imprisonment
- Was again given a half-way home after his release and a supported home after 4 months
- Got married and moved to an independent home after a year, applied to Krits again after 8 months because of marital problems, lived in a supported home for 4 months, the marriage got better and Thomas moved away to an independent home again, no need for contact for 2 years now
- Working elements: discussions with instructors with no fear, supportive network (A-guild Association, mother), meaningful doing (voluntary work in parish), long term support of Krits (over 4 years)

Common features

- No fuss or special precautions from Krits' workers part
→ treating like any client, a steady contact according to clients' needs, continuum from prison programmes, the possibility to long term supportive work when needed
- The importance of supportive network including both professionals and close ones: substance abuse treatment, housing, social work, church, police and people to whom the client is important
- The importance of meaningful daily activities, "no time to drink", social contacts, doing something that is useful also to others

Questions and challenges

- Who is a high risk offender?
 - High risk of reoffending, any type of crime
 - High risk of reoffending, violent or sex crime
 - A released offender who is not really at high risk but is very well known → NIMBY, public fear, "yellow press", internet discussion sites
 - Vs. a released offender that the public does not know about but who has high risk of violent/sex reoffending
- Who should coordinate the supportive work after release from prison?
- Who should be in charge of the expences of the supportive work after release from prison?