

# Improving UMC's Transition to Adulthood: Self-Advocacy

## Self-Advocacy

The central goal is to create a self-advocacy network that will provide UMC and aged-out UMC with a support platform, while empowering them through active participation, mutual support and advocacy efforts.

### Objective of U-CARE project

Develop and improve alternative care systems for unaccompanied migrant children (UMC) in Europe.

January 2021 - August 2022 (20 months)

## Concept

The transition from life within the youth welfare system to independent living is often associated with many hurdles. In coping with multiple challenges, many care leavers often seek help from their former caregivers, as their social network is small and often limited to the youth welfare context. Establishing (in)formal networks is, nevertheless, considered essential for integration and life as an adult.

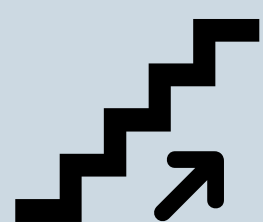
### The support network offers:

- An open and low-threshold contact point for care leavers as well as unaccompanied minors who are currently still being cared for in the context of youth welfare,
- A space for political engagement and linkage to national advocacy groups.
- support with questions linked to their transition to adulthood

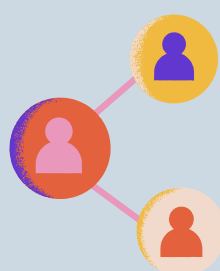
### The regular meetings offer:

- support with bureaucratic issues and support with questions linked to their transition to adulthood,
- contact with acquaintances and friends,
- space for exchange on psychosocial matters.

## Targets and Benefits



Low-threshold support offered for care leavers



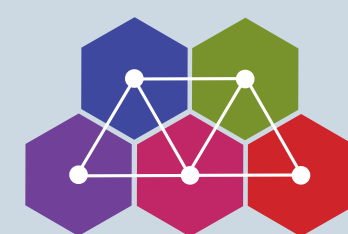
Peer-to-peer approach and promotion of self-organization



Addressing latest SGB VIII reform in Germany and EU Child Guarantee



Comprehensive concept for the transition to adulthood



Networking with other social services



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