# Maskrosbarn

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Lisa Dahlgren

# A Children's Rights Organization

#### The Organization

- 12 years of working with support towards the target group 13-19 y/o
- Parents with addiction and/or mental illness
- 25 employees and approx. 100 volunteers
- Office's in Stockholm and Gothenburg

#### Support

- Approx. 400 youths yearly
- 8 different types of support
- National and local support

#### Lobbyism

- Lectures and education
- Direct lobbying with the youths
- Reports
- Collaboration with municipalities and authorities
- Media and the public

# Maskrosbarns vision

All children should be given the opportunity to grow up to become healthy individuals, without negative consequences of their upbringing.

## Our method builds on three principles

#### **Voluntary participation**



# Identification

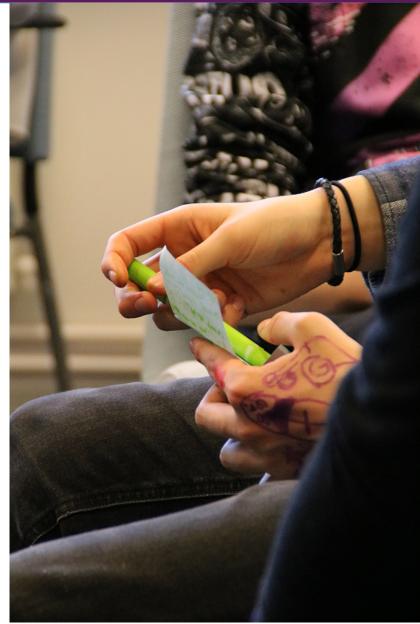
#### Long-term support





#### Maskrosbarn improve Sweden's Social Services through various collaboration services

- Based on insights from our own studies and contact with thousands of children.
- The insights have been translated into concrete tools for the social services.



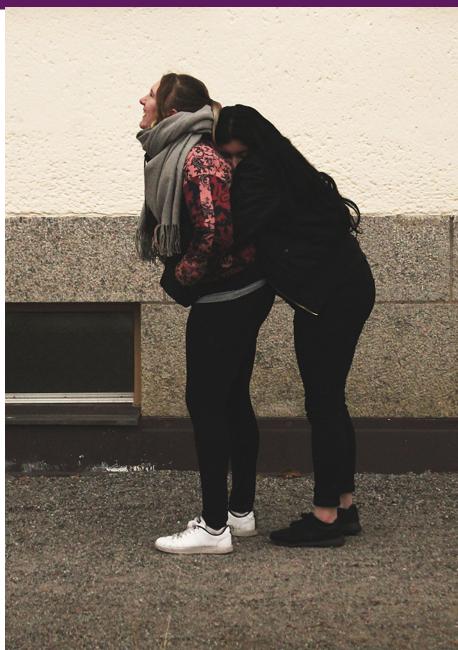
### What is social services?

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# Lectures together with the social services

- About growing up in a dysfunctional environment
- What is social services?
- What kind of help can I get?
- Who works there?







# Information

# Straight forward and honest information about:

- What kind of help there is
- What are my rights
- Our contact
- My parents illness and treatment









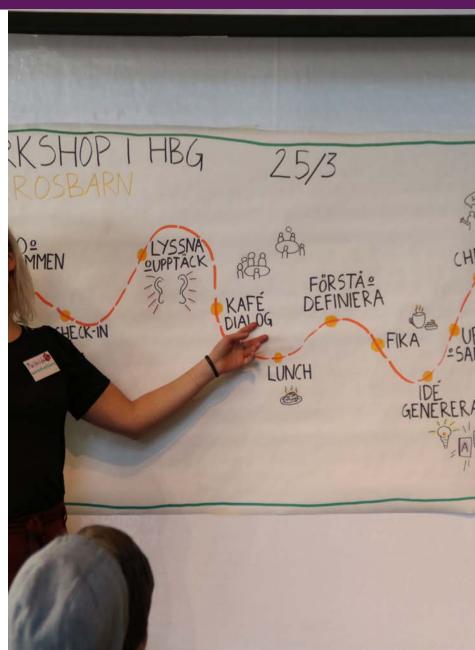






## **Workshop about participation**

- How should young people be involved when in contact with social services
  - Lectures, creative exercises, inspiration
  - Action plan





# Webb poll about their contact with social services

- Anonymous web based poll
- Workshop with social services
  - We share the results and analyse possible changes together



# Support from social services

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## **Can we think diffrentely?**

- Are youths allowed to be a part of systematically evaluate the support?
- Few options of support to cover many different needs.
- Can youths be a part of developing new kinds of support?





## The Coachprogram

- Individual support
- Staff from the target group
- Matching
- Material and exercises
- Group meetings
- Coach when placed into foster care
- Self evaluations

"It's unusual for me that I get to decide everything and that my coach and everyone proceeds from what I want and think. It's something I've never felt before and I think it is really comforting to finally feel important."



## Weekend camps

- Individual and group support
- Get away from home
- Fellowship with others
- Activities and games
- Self evaluations

"It's like you go away for a weekend when you're drained of energy – and you tank it up to max again – and you can live on that energy for a long time."

# Summary: When in contact with social services

#### Information

- Lectures in schools
- Printed information

#### The meeting

- The physical environment
- Workshop about participation
- Evaluation

#### Support

- The coachprogram
- Weekend camps

### Thank you for listening!

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