

It is an intervention for the evaluation and treatment of 'multi- problem' family situations with children victims of adverse childhood experiences (Esperienze Sfavorevoli Infantili- ESI), through multi-family therapy following the model of the Malbourgh Centre in London. The intervention takes place in a structured environment created to replicate everyday routines(kitchen for lunch and common areas for group activities).

The multi-family intervention has the distinction of working with several families simultaneously; the group context allows for comparison and sharing, which are useful to reflect on oneself and one's parental role.

The intervention, lasting several weeks, begins with a first meeting Network Meeting to which all parties involved are invited to participate (family, social and health services involved, the school, and also representatives of the social network and/or family considered useful by the team or the family itself).

At the end of the Network Meeting the objectives of the intervention are defined, along with the areas of change and the consequences with respect to both the failure and achievement of agreed objectives, and a date is set for the following meeting.

Multi-family therapy intervention cycles involve a minimum of 4-5 family units to a maximum of 8-10.

Within the groups, most interventions are directed towards the reflection on the usefulness, appropriateness and consequences of behaviors implemented; these discussions are stimulated and guided by the team starting from concrete events which occur during the day, or resulting from simulation activities, play, or as a result of deliberately created stimuli (such as viewing videotapes or films).

The team is formed by a psychotherapist (also the project leader), and by a second psychotherapist (the co-therapist) who are assisted by two psychologists and two professional support workers. This multi-family project was implemented through financing from the *Fondazione Cariplo* and with the partnership of *Cooperativa Ippogrifo di Sondrio* and ended December 31, 2011.