

Case study: An expert team/ VSB- home

Five people with severe mental disabilities live on an institution's premises. This home is described as a home for people with **'very serious behavioral-problems'**; a so-called 'VSB home'.

The furniture is 'lout proof'. The interior is very austere, so that things can be thrown around as little as possible in the event of an escalation. Staff members are never alone. There is a good (back-up) alarm system.

The behavior of each resident is so problematic that one of the supervisors is regularly ill or indicates that he or she can no longer cope. Two employees have already suffered from burn-out.

Flexworkers often come to the home with fear and trembling, when they have read the file or because they have received a lot of 'negative information' during the transfer. There is a lot of aggression, restraint is the order of the day and the necessary behavior-regulating medication is administered.

A resident must always be washed by two staff members on a special bed. All in all, a very worrying situation. The behavioral experts don't really know what to do with this home either.

The CCE (Centre for Consultation and Expertise) was called in. Eventually, after an intensive process lasting more than 1.5 years, the residents' behavior is much more manageable. There is now a team that once again has faith in itself, in each other and in the residents. This home has become a model for other homes where similar escalations often occur.

These residents are now doing much better.

The resident, who previously had to be washed by two employees, is now practically taking care of himself. (Some background support is still needed).

One of the other homes on the grounds now comes to us with the question: Can one of our residents, who exhibits very problematic behavior, be transferred to your home? Then one of your residents can come and live with us. After all, he doesn't have to live in a 'VSB-home anymore.

What is your answer to this question? Please motivate.