



The Norwegian story Torhild Stimo and Svein Jacobsen

The history of Clubhouses in Norway started in 1996 in Stavanger. Over the next 18 years we had a total of 8 Clubhouses. They all started without secure funding, but with many passionate supporters.

Clubhouse is important! The citizens of Norway who struggle with mental health problems deserve to have the possibility to choose a Clubhouse in their recovery!

This was the reason why, Fontenehuset i Oslo and Fontenehuset Hønefoss started working to establish the Norwegian Coalition, from now called Fontenehus Norge. The goal was to create an umbrella organization that would give the Clubhouses a national voice. And the main goals for this organization was to find funding, establish new Clubhouses, facilitate inter- Clubhouse collaboration and build a strong community amongst the Norwegian Clubhouses.

Clubhouse Norway was established! and in 2012 the board decided to hire one full time staff!

So, what happened since then?

- Governmental funding has increased from 5. to 38. million Norwegian kroner (about 42 million dollars)
- The number of Clubhouses has increased from 8 to 14, and by the start of next year it will be 16!
- The number of accredited Clubhouses has increased from 4 to 10
- And in order to obtain governmental funding new Clubhouses have to be accredited within 4 years
- We have national data from two different surveys and in order to obtain the effect of being a Clubhouse member (for the third year in a row)
- All our Clubhouses now use an effective common member database
- A research rapport will soon be completed, preliminary findings will be presented at a national conference about work inclusion in October
- The Clubhouse model is now a separate chapter in a new book called "Labor inclusion in social work" That immediately became included in the curriculum for three different universities

How did we succeed?

There are many factors for our success. First of all-

- The coalition established a professional board and hired dedicated staff
We engaged people with the right competence and set ambitious goals: 20 Clubhouses by 2020!

Secondly –

- Time for systematic lobbying and networking towards Government politicians and other relevant stakeholders has been crucial
- And both the coalition and all Clubhouses have focused on becoming an important part of society – once we learned that we needed to make ourselves indispensable

Further on -

- The economic situation is now very different. New Clubhouse now have a solid foundation in their community and are funded both from their local municipality and the government.

- Together the coalition and the Clubhouses have worked hard to implement systems producing and gathering statistics. All Clubhouses now use a common member database and report quarterly about member attendance – And we have two national surveys about member satisfaction, and Work- and study activities. This gives us data that is very important both nationally and locally.
- With our ambitious goal – 20 by 2020 – the number of Clubhouses has increased. We have seen the power of growing, and the power of having a strong community among the Clubhouses, that stand together in promoting good quality according to the international standards!

Of course we have been clever, both the Clubhouses and the coalition, but we also have had our fair share of luck. A few years ago there was a TV show called 'Try my life', where leading politicians lived together with people who had their own challenges in life. One of these politicians, Jan Tore Sanner, the deputy leader of Norway's second largest party, lived together with a member from a Clubhouse for a week. And after the next election his party helped form the next coalition government and he became a senior government minister. The Norwegian coalition also became acquainted with another member of parliament, Ketil Kjenseth, who understood the value of the Clubhouse model and who really took us to heart.

The Norwegian story is not a fairytale. It is a result of systematic work, both done by and in the Clubhouse and by the Norwegian coalition. This good work needs to be presented in statistics. The Clubhouses now report quarterly on members attendance, and in addition to this, our two national surveys have been essential in our dialogue with the decision makers.

Our message to you all is: Build strong alliances and good relations with the politicians and other key stakeholders and in addition be open to different kinds of partnerships. We have found that this has been the key to the success and growth of our Clubhouses.

PowerPoint Presentation to include:

- National results from the second quarter 2019
 - 3322 members in total and 1469 active
 - 325 daily attendance
 - 52 transitional employment placements
- From member satisfaction survey
 - 93% of the members reports on better health
 - 60% had reduced their need for hospitalization and emergency help
 - 81% has gained greater faith in themselves and their own resources
 - 64% had gained a stronger belief in getting a job
- From work- and study survey
 - 46% of the members had work, practice or study
 - 69% of these had paid work
 - 13% had a full time job
 - 31% worked more than 50%
 - 37% had worked more than 12 months
 - 13% studied