

## LABOR AND PROFESSIONAL TRAINING OF PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES IN THE CITY OF VLADIMIR THROUGH THE EXAMPLE OF ASSOCIATION OF PARENTS OF DISABLED CHILDREN “LIGHT”

ТРУДОВОЕ ОБУЧЕНИЕ ЛЮДЕЙ С ОВЗ В ГОРОДЕ ВЛАДИМИР НА ПРИМЕРЕ  
АРДИ «СВЕТ».

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### **Synopsis:**

*The article addresses experience in vocational training in the city of Vladimir. The principal directions, progress and results of training are laid out. The active work in labor training of people with disabilities by Vladimir nonprofit organization Association of Parents of Disabled Children “Light” has become material for this article.*

**Key words:** labor, labor training, Association of Parents of Disabled Children “Light”, vocational training, disabilities, defect complex structure.

### **Аннотация:**

*В статье рассматривается опыт работы по обучению профессиям в г. Владимире. Описаны основные направления, ход и результат обучения. Материалом для статьи послужила активная работа ВООО АРДИ «Свет» по трудовому обучению людей с ограниченными возможностями жизнедеятельности.*

**Ключевые слова:** Труд, трудовое обучение, АРДИ «Свет», профессиональная подготовка, ограниченные возможности здоровья, сложная структура дефекта.

Labor is the basis of culture in the world. It's common knowledge that it's one of the important means of upbringing and successful socialization. Usually after finishing school healthy young people study to get a profession they like, but what if health possibilities are limited?!

In our world many people have disabilities. It is believed that they cannot live independently and make their living themselves. But few people know that they actually can, and most importantly, they want to work making their living themselves and benefiting the society and country.

In special educational institutions the teaching staff focuses on the pupil's labor training. However there might be difficulties when applying for a job because not every company is ready to employ a person with disabilities, often simply because there are no special facilities for those people.

Having paid attention to this issue on the basis of Association of Parents of Disabled Children “Light” a “school of life” has been created where young people with defect complex structure study.

Vladimir nonprofit organization Association of Parents of Disabled Children “Light” was created on the 1<sup>st</sup> of September 1995 by sympathetic parents whose children were determined as “uneducable” by a medical, psychological and educational commission. This initiative was supported by the Vladimir city council and the Youth affairs department of the city administration who not only understood the parents but also offered cooperation. As the

result of cooperation between the organization and the Youth affairs department the “school of life” was created for those children who had been earlier labeled “uneducable”. The parents of such children managed to prove in practice that their children can and most importantly need labor training.

According to the chairman of Association of Parents of Disabled Children “Light” (Katz Liubov Ivanovna) there have been no difficulties when organizing the labor training neither with the school administration nor with the young people who study with pleasure. Also parents of special children, students (mostly those who study pathologies) and concerned people helped.

Such children can acquire simple professions. Thanks to the “school of life” the kids, thanks to the teachers, acquire independent living skills (from Monday till Saturday), and in the evenings and at night live with their parents consolidating their independent living skills at home.

In the “study flats” there have been developed and offered the following forms of study accommodation with support: two days’ (weekend) living training with a teacher, a week’s living training with support (during summer, autumn, spring vacations), 1-2 months’ training. Four students with a teacher live in a three room flat.

In Vladimir high school 39 young people can acquire the profession of sewing and learn the following:

- tailoring;
- weaving and embroidery;
- knitting;
- wood painting;
- making clay toys;
- printing works;
- making candles;
- agricultural work in the stables;
- yards landscaping;
- premises cleaning;
- phytodesign and plant growing;
- computer literacy (including parents).

In Vladimir high school 39 one can get a profession of a personal computer operator.

The items that the children make so carefully and diligently are sold at various exhibitions, fairs, open days. Their wares are made very carefully and with good intentions. The children sell the wares themselves (together with the teacher) and communicate with customers with pleasure telling them about their wares.

In summer, during vacations, young people with defect complex structure work at labor camps developing the skills acquired during training.

After finishing the studies the children go back to the “school of life” and improve their skills in the “training sewing shop”: they make napkins, towels, aprons, bed linen.

Young people with defect complex structure get successfully employed in the Association of Parents of Disabled Children as grooms and stableman within program “Hippotherapy and therapeutic horse riding”. They also learn weaving, wood painting, making items of salty dough, agricultural work, phytodesign. The young tailors get some orders: towels for the Vladimir company “Opolie”, Vladimir-Suzdal diocese for Easter.

However it should be noted that not only the Association of Parents of Disabled Children employs the children. People with disabilities if they want can apply to the Vladimir employment service where they will get help in finding a job. There are examples when the professional skills are used not only in production. For instance, the Association of Parents of Disabled Children graduates successfully work at home embroidering pictures or repairing clothes.

But the most important is that “the kids go to work willingly because it’s so nice to feel oneself complete when you do something” (L.I.Katz)

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