

Supporting Single Parents to return to the labour market

– SPAN's holistic approach

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SPAN

Single Parent Action Network



evropský
sociální
fond v ČR



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SPAN's vision is to engage and empower one parent families living in poverty and isolation, from different backgrounds and cultures, to improve their lives and play a greater part in society.



A 'holistic learning package'

- **Informal engagement activities and personal development**
- **Soft skills training and employment readiness**
- **Basic skills training – ESOL, numeracy, literacy and ICT**
- **Vocational training**



- **Volunteering/Work experience opportunities**
- **1:1 support and signposting to other services**
- **Parenting programmes**
- **Family fun days and excursions**
- **Free Childcare**



"SPAN gave me confidence to pursue my dreams"

Thank you to SPAN for giving me more confidence. When I first came to this country I had given up hope of going anywhere in life, I was only focusing on my children. When I came to SPAN I met many different people who encouraged and supported me. Confidence to work, to do everything...is the most important thing to me. To be part of society and to move on..."



“The support I have received from SPAN has been invaluable. I’ve had a lot of support and direction. There were many people with different skills and who have helped in different ways. It was not only the career development that was important. It was also to know that there were other people in similar situations as myself, which helped me to get over some of my personal issues. This made me feel more confident and empowered.

It gave me the confidence that I needed to get in to the areas of work that I was interested in. When I said ‘I can’t do that’ there was always people at SPAN who said ‘yes you can!’. It was that kind of empowerment that I needed. I really don’t know where I would have been today, if I had not come to SPAN and started to do the volunteering.

I think volunteering is one of the best routes in to work for people in my situation. I know it for myself and also through many people I have supported. It is a great way of gaining skills and confidence”.



- : *“SPAN is useful for people who have children. They can leave their child while they are doing the course. They might not find childcare anywhere else. For me this was the main thing. It was very important. Also, they can get a lot of different kinds of support while doing the course. For example after the course if you need support worker you can make appointment and see somebody. Other places don't offer this”.*



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International Round Table
"SINGLE PARENTS"

A Single Parent Perspective

- Courses and other services are timed around school and nursery times.
- On-site affordable and high quality childcare
- When we run activities that are outside school hours, we organise activities for children either with their parents or in a crèche/play scheme.
- We do not only offer one type of service, but try to be as 'holistic' as possible
- SPAN champions the single parent perspective in our interactions with outside agencies and in our campaigning work.





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