

CoResolve Case Study

The Civis Project (Sweden)

The Municipality of Halmstad wanted to explore innovative ways to reduce the costly economic pressure of mental illness in the city. They initiated a pilot project, Civis, to meet the challenge. The idea was to provide people with mental illness a work-like incubator of sorts to prepare them to enter into the labour force and mainstream society with confidence.

To meet the challenge of upskilling people, it was decided that everyone would be taught essential communication skills with a focus on meetings. So people diagnosed on the autistic spectrum, politicians, and social workers involved in the Civis Project met for meetings. Two Lewis Deep Democracy facilitators enabled the dialogue and provided a theoretical understanding, cores steps, diagnostics and support.

Initially, the mentally ill participants found it difficult to speak out involve themselves. They were intimidated by the rank the politicians held. Through CoResolve style facilitated dialogues; tensions were eased, safety was created, and the participants could relate to one another.



The Civis Project was able to find a way of addressing the underlying challenge of communication. And in this way, it opened the door for people to enter the mainstream labour force.