

FARM BASED DAY CARE SERVICES FOR PEOPLE WITH DEMENTIA

Summary

The interest in day care services on farms for people with dementia (PWD) is increasing. National strategic documents (Demensplan 2015, Action Plan for "Inn på tunet" 2013-2017) point to care farming as a complementary service to meet the need for day care services for the growing elderly population. Care farming can be viewed as a sustainable use of farm resources and to integrate ecosystem services as an additional income for the farmer. The project is divided in 4 work pages (WP) and aims to contribute to quality development of the services and elucidate factors that are of key importance for collaboration between the farmer as the private and the health care services in a municipality as the public partner. Triangulation of theoretical and methodological approaches is used in the project carried out by researchers in agricultural and health sciences, sociology and economy, and with an advisory board of people with related to farm based day care for PWD. WPA investigate the user perspective, and explores both the characteristics, benefits and experiences among the users and their relatives through qualitative and cross sectional and longitudinal quantitative designs. WPB studies the farm context and what might be the unique contribution of the farm to day care services for PWD and includes quantitative methods (video recording, Dementia Care Mapping, concept mapping). WPC studies the social, institutional and economic aspects of formation, implementation and operation of day care services, and makes use of case studies of farms, surveys among farmers and municipalities and economic analysis. WPD adds development of user targeted visual and written communications on farm based day care services and innovation forums to the project. The forums invites users and their relatives, farmers, health care personnel, and governmental stakeholder to a dialog, all with experience on farm based day care for PWD, and the outcome of these forums will be used in WPB and WPC.