

The “Villa Federici” Project

On March 13, 2003 Fonema (European Foundation Anthroposophic Medicine), a non profit association, was founded, to the end of enhancing, also in Italy, the practice of anthroposophic medicine in hospitals, such as is allowed in nursing-homes, which might at the same time avail itself of the diagnostic instruments and treatments used in general.

Founder members are: Rita Amadio, Andrea Basili, Giancarlo Buccheri, Gina Casulli, Sandra Ciavatti, Lina De Bonis, Maria Luisa Di Summa, Giuseppe Leonelli, Ivana Marinato, Stefano Pederiva, Emanuela Portalupi, Carmelo Samonà, Gigliola Tullii, Nadia Viola.

Ordinary members to date are: Mario Bernardini, Laura Borghi, Piergiorgio Di Pasqua, Clara Erede, Lucio Esposito.

Many of them are doctors, some are paramedics, eurythmists, art therapists, different users of anthroposophic medicine.

We have received as **a donation** from the Federici, a Roman family, **a “villa” of 1250 sqmt with a park of 9000 sqmt, in Colli di Barete, not far from l’Aquila**, chief town of the province of Abruzzo (about 65.000 inhabitants).

The village is located on a hill of 850 mt of height facing the slopes of Gran Sasso (Appennini). The surrounding valley is rich in apple and almond mistletoe.

Many of the houses have been uninhabited since long, so that our project might also include a restoration of the village.

Our **project**, as a matter of fact, shouldn’t be confined to mere hospital care. The therapeutic community proper, consisting of hospital workers, could provide assistance to patients and whoever asks for treatment, in less serious cases even at people’s own homes. Where possible, new types of assistance can be taken into consideration where the patient would enjoy the comfort of social relationships, such as a village can provide, and not be excluded, as would be the case if he could only be treated in hospital.

The **clinical structure** provided by our project, which we should like to implement progressively, would include the following treatment units:

- rehabilitation: 45 beds
- general medicine: 15
- hospice (centre for palliative treatment): 15
- out- patients departement
- diagnostic centre (X-rays, eco, clinical tests)
- hydrotherapeutics
- pharmacy.

Patients can be dealt with as in-patients or out-patients, according to cases. This solution would allow a cost differentiation.

Application for the necessary authorization, as concerns institutional requirements, has been filed with the local authorities, and we are confident to receive a reply in the near future.

Such an activity in the village has different priorities:

- I. We started by restoring a small part of the structure, using to the purpose the first funds received (donations) as well as volunteer work.*
- II. A number of social events were scheduled aimed at promoting social cooperation with our community in the area. Four, to be held on year festivities; one or two artistic events; public and private lectures.*
- III. We are planning to start a medical surgery service operating monthly.*
- IV. Collaboration with local groups of bio-dynamic farmers is being developed.*

Personnel training is being taken care of all over Italy through the *GMAI* in the Milan school, *ARESMA* operating in an Italian-European context, *WELEDA* operating through medical information over different areas (North, Centre and South provinces), the work of “*Associazione Italiana di Eiritmia Terapeutica*” and “*Associazione Italiana Terapisti per il Massaggio Ritmico*”, the work of associations operating in the field of therapeutic pedagogy, “*Associazione Loïc Francis – Lee*” Capena (Rome), “*Casa di salute Raphael*” Roncegno (Trent), as well as of the medical centre “*Arte Medica*” Milan.

As regards relationships with Europe, our own name testifies our deepest conviction of the need to cooperate with our European colleagues.

In spite of the enormous and varying difficulties of this undertaking, our confidence in anthroposophic medicine spurs us to continue along the way towards the building of a future we hope you will share with us.

We trust we shall be able to have your competence, your trust and contribution, as well as establish a healthy cooperation with those countries which can assist us with their long-time experience or help us develop and experience our future therapeutic activities, sharing funds from the E.C, such as would be granted when cities are made twin.

We are, therefore, addressing all those who look forward to a therapeutic future of their own in Italy or share and support the idea.

For further informations please contact : fonemaonlus@tiscali.it

Association Fon.e.m.a. onlus