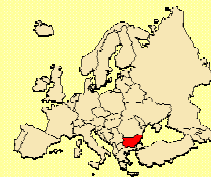


## **THE ROLE OF A FAMILY IN ACHIEVING COMMUNITY LIVING IN BULGARIA**

16 -19 June 2010 Berlin, Germany  
Mariyana Branzalova



1

## **TO BE BORN WITH A DISABILITY IN BULGARIA BEFORE THE CHANGE IN NOVEMBER 1989**

- What doctors recommended to the parents to do when a child with a disability was born
- The life in a Social Care Homes for persons with disabilities
- No people with disabilities on the streets

2



## THE PARENTS

- The year 1990 – a chance for the parents' movement in Bulgaria
- Society for Persons with Intellectual Disabilities (1993) , later Bulgarian Association for Persons with Intellectual Disabilities / BAPID/
- The role of the European partners in supporting BAPID

3

## WHAT DID THE BULGARIAN PARENTS LEARN FROM THEIR EUROPEAN PARTNERS?

- Importance of pilot projects in:
  - exchange visits of Bulgarian parents and professionals to other European countries
  - developing the first day activity centers: for persons with disabilities-children and adults
  - the first group home for adults
  - lobbying to make this a governmental policy

4



### **INCLUSION EUROPE** and the Bulgarian parents

- The good co-operation with the professionals
- “Human Dignity Programme” – April – 2001 in supporting the parents to become a strong NGO
- Inclusive Education – 2003/2004

5

### **WHERE ARE WE NOW?**

- Services for persons with disabilities
- The role of the parents in providing services

### **AND WHAT'S NEXT?**

- Early intervention
- Developing new services in the community

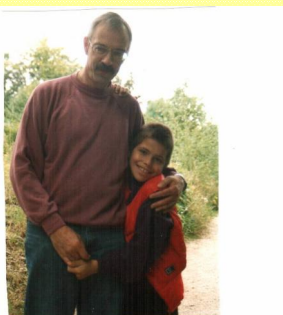
6



### STELLA AND MILEN IN THE HOME AND AT HOME



7





## CONCLUSIONS

- The parents organization BAPID has to examine where is it now
- The parents have to re-examine the structure of BAPID and their new tasks
- The role of the foreign partners to make the change happen

9



**THANK YOU!**

[www.tiren.info](http://www.tiren.info)

10