### Who are people with disabilities?

The mission of Inclusion Finland KVTL is to provide support for its members, protect and develop the social equality and rights of the intellectually disabled and their families, and act to promote its members' quality of life.

Persons with intellectual disabilities have the right to be born and live a valued life, the right to have sufficient and high-quality rehabilitation services and the right to life-long learning and an independent life. They are also entitled to meaningful work and day activity as well as individually supported housing. They have the right to culture and the right to age with dignity.

In order to implement its basic tasks, the Association gathers and distributes information, tests and develops, trains its members and speaks on their behalf in various networks and cooperation structures. The Association also has a significant role as an influence on society. Much work remains to be done, for example in regard to changing people's attitudes.

## For more information of the courses and the project, please contact:

Anne Vuorenpää

Training Officer
Inclusion Finland KVTL
+358 207 718 324
anne.vuorenpaa@tukiliitto.fi

Petri Mäkipää

Actor — Theatre Teacher (MA) Theatre Telakka +358 50 352 0923 petri.makipaa@telakka.eu







# with Theatre







Inclusion Finland (KVTL) and Theatre Telakka organize and hold "Empowering Interaction Skills with Theatre" groups in Pirkanmaa region in Finland. In the groups the aim is to seek and find ways to interact with each other. The work and exercise is based on participant's own experiences. Working in a group supports each person's self expression. The participants middle man is along in the group if possible. The participant of a middle man reassures the use of the learnt skills in everyday life.

Kirsi – the history of a disabled woman (working title) is the next bigger step with our co-operation in "Empowering Interaction Skills with Theatre". We are planning a three year process with multiple co-operation quarters. It starts 2019 with "Empowering Interaction Skills With Theatre" groups working together with university researchers, an author and other theatrical professionals, summing up to a theatre show "Kirsi – the history of a disabled woman". The show and the means of preparing and rehearsing the show will be equal and accessible. The meaning is to try to work with different requirements so that art itself is the goal. Equality of all people in making art is the topic through the whole process.







Gestures, expressions, speech, motion, music ... express yourself boldly!

Everyone had enough room to be him/herself with one's needs and emotions.

The change of exercises happened on the volley.

### **Empowering Interaction Skills with Theatre**

- ★ A project for grown up persons with intellectual disabilities.
- ★ Inclusion Finland KVTL and Theatre Telakka plan and carry out project.
- Project applies theatre-based means to strengthen interaction skills.
- Person's own subjective and creative solutions to issue or problem in question are persuaded by role playing.



I may express my opinions in the group.
Can I do it elsewhere?

- ★ In group experience based and skill accumulating learning ease each person's own way of expressing him- or herself. Good self-confidence and courage to express own opinions influence on possibilities to act as an equal member of a society.
- ★ Close persons such as family members, friends and close workers are also participated in the project. Participation of close persons activates person to use learnt skills in everyday life.

Watch videos:
www.youtube.com 
teatterista voimaa vuorovaikutukseen

#### Goals

- **★** Finding own self-expression.
- ★ To be seen and to influence as a member of a society.
- To find solutions to everyday life's problems and operational models.

The goal of theatre-oriented working is not to do a theatre act. An act can anyhow be born if a need appears.

While working, person's own experiences, creative resources, participation and interaction with other people enable empowerment, self-knowing and developing oneself.