

AGE MANAGEMENT

Team number 47

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1. Brief demographic characteristic of Czech Republic and Brno

A real problem which Brno has to solve is a huge amount of seniors. Aging of the population is not only a problem in Brno but also in all Czech Republic. This unfavourable feature of Czech's population is going to move on in next decades. One of the reasons for that is a prolonging of the life expectance which is associated for example with producing better medicaments. Until 2030 there is an assumption of a rise in the number of seniors by 40 – 80%. Number of people over the age of 65 is going to count for 23 – 25% of total Czech population [1].

In Brno it will not get any better. To make Brno's situation clear, let's look at following fact: in the year 2012 there were 201 741 inhabitants older than 65 from the total amount of citizens 1 168 650 [2].

2. Problems caused by ageing of the population

In Brno there are a lot of problems associated with an unfavourable demographic situation. One of the most urgent ones is an increasing of senior's life costs. There are a lot of cases of seniors who live in huge flats which are very costly to maintain. A solution which could solve this difficulty is relatively simple - to sell these flats. But it is not as easy as it looks like. In this point the situation is getting complicated.

The problem is that these elderly people cannot just easily sell such a big flat and move away. There are two reasons; the first one is a psychological factor. You cannot easily persuade a man to leave his home where he has been living for all his life. But even if you could, there is a bigger problem; nobody is interested in buying the flats because of the fact that they are too expensive. And so the elderly citizens of Brno keep on living in huge flats. They are running out of their modest savings and their incomes are too low to cover the costs associated with financing these huge flats. Significant amount of them lives at the lowest living standards, eating the cheapest food and having no money for the medicaments they need. This fact is also a reason why they cannot move to old people's home which are quite expensive in Brno. Moreover, just a small amount of elderly people has put aside some amount of money which would be enough to cover their living costs in these organizations.

Seniors cannot rely on their children and grandchildren to support them financially. But even if they could, waiting periods for being involved in these institutions are too long and there is a lack of capacities.

Another problem is that they do not have a chance to participate in a social life. They are getting lonelier and depressed every day. In addition, their capability to leave the flat is getting impossible with the growing age.

Flats they live in are with no possibility of wheelchair access so they often prefer charging some willing neighbour to bring them their modest purchase of food stuff. This is why they are almost set aside of the communication with other people.

3. What we bring?

Our main goal was bring something new. Something which is not here in Czech Republic. Actually we was inspired in Holland excursion. We was amazed how is possible and how people living in this cohausing. We think that live together with other seniors is useful for everyone from community. If you have some problem with something you have friends which can help you. In Holland they have rules like: If someone want come to group of people, then everyone from this group have to agree with new member. If you are in some group, so it is like family. It is very important. Your group = your family.

Our concept is similar. We have one build and inside a couple of flats. This flats are arranged for seniors. It does it mean: wheelchair access, privacy and possibility of relax. One of the most important thing is common area. In this common area is television, table games, dining room etc. Next important room is workroom. In workroom is place where everyone can show own creativity and make own original product. We plan courses which will be lead by experienced instructor. Instructor will be teach seniors make useful products. Then seniors can use this products for own needs. We would like to open ceramic workroom, wood workroom and sew workroom where seniors can make some textil products like sweaters, cap, glowes, scarves and so on. Those workrooms helps conect people together and give them space to make something whis is original and own handmade.

Seniors feel that they are not so much old and are able to do something more like lay and spend a lot of time by watching on telenovels and boring serials. In other hand is pretty good that they are able to cooperate with other people and help each other.

Next part of our concept is spare grandmothers. The most of seniors love children, but unfortunately not all has grandson and granddaughter. In other hand, in Czech Republic is much hard working young people which have not time to care about own child as they want. Preschools are full and personal nanny is expensive. This problem can solve project spare grandmother. People bring their child and seniors will care about them. It is simple. Reward for seniors will low cost income from parents of child. Child are happy with „their“ grandmothers or grandfathers and parents are parents can work with calm conscience.

We would like to make place where will freedom for everyone. Only simple rules for living and coliving with other people. Place where will want live every senior in this country. It will be heaven for every senior. We think that every senior has right to ageing. There is necessary cooperate with young people. Is necessary show to young people how they can help to seniors. Maybe they rethink their view on old age and starting to do steps to their independent in senior age. Is necessary change of thinking of young people and show them how be responsible.

That's it what we want...

Sources

- [1] <http://www.fnbrno.cz/nemocnice-bohunice/klinika-interni-geriatrie-a-prakt-lekarstvi/starnouci-populace/t2717>

- [2] [http://www.czso.cz/xb/redakce.nsf/i/vekove_slozeni_obyvatel_jihomoravskeho_kraje_31_12_2012/\\$File/vek_slozeni_12.pdf](http://www.czso.cz/xb/redakce.nsf/i/vekove_slozeni_obyvatel_jihomoravskeho_kraje_31_12_2012/$File/vek_slozeni_12.pdf)