

0037

**A workshop space called "Occupational Workshop" was created at the Occupational Therapy service of Borda Hospital- Buenos Aires Argentina**

E.A.B Gómez Mengelberg<sup>1</sup>, M.A Capozzo<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>*Asociacion Argentina de Terapistas Ocupacionales, Buenos Aires, Argentina,* <sup>2</sup>*Hospital Interdisciplinario Psicoasitencial Dr. José T. Borda, Buenos Aires, Argentina*

Introduction:

Unemployment causes several problems; in Argentina, it affects a growing number of the population. People in a more vulnerable situation and in a psychosocial disadvantage have fewer chances to get a job.

In 1997, a workshop space called "Occupational Workshop" was created at the Occupational Therapy service of Borda Hospital and it continues up to the present

Purpose

Providing participants with the possibility of acquiring tools that allow them to face the difficulties existing in the search and maintenance of jobs.

Description:

Workshop frequency: 2 hours, once a week.

The activity at the workshop begins with the identification by participants of:

- \* Difficulties in the organization and search for jobs.
- \* Employment qualifications in relation to demand at the job market.
- \* Job maintenance.

Results

The workshop is a space where needs, interests, personal possibilities and their relation with market options can be well distinguished.

It offers participants the possibility of comparing their experience and way of facing the job issue with the social problem and reality of others as peers.

Conclusion:

In the job world of Latin America, there is a cohabitation of software manufacturers and peasants who use their own labor force to keep a surviving agriculture and/or to pull shopping cart to collect cardboard boxes picked up from the rubbish on the streets which then will be sold.

The wide sector of low-wage economy is where the great majority of unemployed people can be found.

Job search possibilities of those people participating at the workshop are limited by this context and this is an obstacle to get a job which does not keep direct relation with personal difficulties.

Contribution to the Occupational Therapy practice.

When creating this workshop, a social problem was taken to channel people's demand and the workshop continuity in time proves its necessity.