



Recovery of places and communities after the earthquake

The team

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The case of Fiastra (MC): an intervention..

.. of participatory action-research;

carried out by a multidisciplinary team, with prevalence of psychologists, with experience in previous emergencies;

with an active part of the citizens of an Apennine community affected by the 2016 earthquakes;

at the request of the municipal administration and a local association (*Ricostruiamo Fiastra*);

as an accompaniment to the recovery of the community, divided "between sea and mountains";

duration: one year (Nov. 2016 - Oct. 2017), through monthly visits of 3-4 days.



Main action lines:

- ▶ listening groups in the reception facilities on the coast and in Fiastra, with the aim of sharing experiences and emotions in a protected setting;
- ▶ particular attention to the seniors of the social “unit” and to psychological fragile situations;
- ▶ meetings with children and teachers of primary and secondary schools, both in Fiastra and in Porto Recanati;
- ▶ participatory design process to give back a (new) public garden at the community;
- ▶ support the design and the implementation of summer camp (September) and earthquake anniversary (October 26-30).



A book to present the experience and reflections



- ▶ during the 2019, we have collected 16 in-depth interviews with administrators and citizens of Fiastra, who participated with us in the work;
- ▶ in 2021 the book was published by Educatt, becoming one of the *Quaderni di psicologia dell'emergenza*.



Some lessons learned about community recovery:

- ▶ Community recovery is a process based on the capacities of the community and its relationships with its context.
- ▶ Tangible and intangible heritage is a fundamental community resource, as is place attachment and social capital
- ▶ However, in the aftermath of an earthquake, individual and collective energies can be temporarily blocked or weakened.
- ▶ They can be put back into action and for this purpose psychosocial support from an external team can be useful.
- ▶ The intervention must be carried out through joint work by the external team and the community, on an equal basis



Thanks for attention

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