

Transnational Innovation Program on Homecare and Community-based Services

Hungary

This initiative is part of the Transnational Innovation Program within the Caring Communities project.

Lavender House

A community-based hub that brings care, connection and support into one shared space - making everyday support visible, accessible and part of the community.

What it is and who it serves

In smaller communities, support systems are often present but fragmented. Older residents may live in isolation, vulnerable groups may struggle to access services and younger generations may lack structured opportunities for engagement. These gaps are not always caused by a lack of care, but by a lack of connection between existing resources.

Lavender House is designed to close that gap. It creates a central, welcoming space where different forms of support come together - transforming dispersed services into a coordinated, community-based system.

The initiative brings multiple services under one roof, including elderly day care, youth programs, psychological support, and assistance for socially vulnerable individuals. Supported by local authorities, social workers and a strong volunteer network, Lavender House combines in-house services with outreach and home-based care, ensuring that support extends beyond the physical space.

Organization details

Lavender House is being developed as a locally grounded initiative in Hungary, with strong involvement of municipal authorities, social service providers and community volunteers.

The model builds on a collaborative approach that connects institutional support with grassroots engagement. By bringing together different stakeholders within a shared framework, Lavender House ensures that services are not only available, but also coordinated, responsive and rooted in the real needs of the community.

This approach allows the initiative to remain flexible and adaptable, while still maintaining a clear structure for long-term sustainability.

Development stage

Lavender House is currently in the ideation and early development phase and has not yet entered implementation.

Results achieved so far:

The work to date has focused on understanding the community before defining solutions. Key challenges have been clearly identified, particularly the isolation of older residents, the limited availability of social services and the unmet needs of other vulnerable groups.

Based on these insights, the concept of Lavender House has been developed as a multifunctional community hub that integrates different types of support within a single, accessible space. Strong involvement of local stakeholders and volunteers has been central to shaping this concept.

In parallel, the initiative has begun structuring its development through a design thinking approach. An initial roadmap has been created, outlining the next steps (including prototyping, testing and gradual implementation), ensuring that the model evolves through real-world validation rather than fixed assumptions.

Future plans

The next step for Lavender House is to move from concept development to pilot implementation through the creation and testing of an initial version of the hub. This phase will focus on defining core services, launching initial activities and validating how the space and its functions respond to real community needs.

Attention will be given to maintaining strong community involvement throughout this process. Residents will play an active role in shaping and refining the services, ensuring that the initiative remains aligned with local realities.

In parallel, efforts will focus on strengthening partnerships with local authorities, social service providers and volunteers, as well as securing the resources required for the physical setup and operation of the center.

In the longer term, Lavender House aims to expand its service offering and transition into a fully operational and sustainable community-based social service hub. The model also holds potential for replication in other municipalities facing similar challenges, offering a practical approach to building more connected and supportive local communities.

Contact data

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