

JOINING FORCES

Working with other organizations

In a national perspective...



Joining forces

- Organizations: a result of joined forces
- Organizations have goals/objectives
- Sometimes extra strength is needed to reach these goals
 - Working with other organizations – an option
- The first step...

An organization has to identify its main goals and how to reach these



Norwegian Epilepsy Association

- Objectives 2012 – 2014

1. Knowledge to the people (epilepsy awareness)
2. World class epilepsy care (political)
3. A good life with epilepsy (political)
4. NEA – a powerful organization (internal)
 - Increase number of members by 10 %
 - Have 30 active local affiliates
 - Cooperate with 20 different organizations



Who to cooperate with and when?

- Which organizations we cooperate with, and how, depends on our needs and what we wish to achieve.
- In Norway we mainly work in two main areas:
 - Epilepsy awareness
 - Political work



Epilepsy awareness

- Motivation for cooperation:
 - Reach beyond your own network (Extend your influence)
 - I.e.: Information campaigns towards different target groups. (Police officers, teachers, society in general)
 - Secure the quality on information material
 - I.e.: Brochures, websites, app development, e-learning tools.



Epilepsy awareness

- Possible partners for cooperation:
 - Other parties that can gain from our project
 - I.e.: Other patient organizations, epilepsy specialists, national ILAE chapters.
 - I.e.: Magazines, universities, other organizations
- Cooperation in the field of epilepsy awareness often involves taking mutual advantage of each others competence or network.



Political work

- Huge varieties in possible partners and ways of working together
- Motivation for cooperation is usually a common goal
- Our political work can be divided into three fields:
 - General health related politics
 - Neurological related politics
 - Epilepsy specific politics



General health related politics

- Examples:
 - Financial support system / tax benefits for organizations
 - Patient rights
- Possible partners for cooperation:
 - Larger organizations, organizations with common interests
- Ways of cooperating:
 - Numerous organizations address the same issue (side by side or as organization alliances)
 - A bigger or more influential organization speaks on our behalf



Neurological related politics

- Examples:
 - Quality of specialist health care services
 - Rehabilitation
 - Governmental research founding
- Possible partners for cooperation:
 - National ILAE chapters and organizations with common goals
- Ways of cooperating:
 - Numerous organizations address the same issue
 - Organizational alliances (Brain council)



Epilepsy specific politics

- Examples:
 - National guidelines for epilepsy
 - Driving license regulations
- Possible partners for cooperation:
 - National ILAE chapters, other epilepsy organizations
- Ways of cooperating:
 - Securing the backing of others
 - Addressing a third party together



Conclusion

- Organizations may need to cooperate with others to reach their goals
- There are a lot of potential partners for cooperation
- Be creative – many different parties can have mutual gains by joining forces

