



Grundtvig Learning Partnership 2011-2012

Empowering Marginalized Elders

EME

Definition of Marginalization

- **marginalization** - the social process of becoming or being made marginal as a group within the larger society. For example:
- "the marginalization of the underprivileged";
- "the marginalization of Elders"

Key aspects of Marginalized individuals

- Marginalized individuals implies exclusion from important participation in social affairs.
- Marginalization creates a condition; where a group of people are excluded from services, programs, and policies, intentionally or not.
- A personal situation can cause the exclusion of individuals from social life. People with disabilities or living far away from city centers have less access to services and programs

Marginalized elders in Cyprus

Causes are mainly Socioeconomic

1. Geographical Location; living in rural areas
2. Economic status; low pensions
3. Health situation; access to healthcare
4. Educational background; low education
5. Living in Eldercare centers; less family care, low quality services

Opportunities for Elders

- Adult Education Centers
- Local elder centers in local communities
- New Elder Multi-centers under EU funding
- EU Projects, Senior Volunteering
- NGO support initiatives

Marginalized elders in Rural Areas

- Elders in Rural areas combine all the above elements
- Focus of our group in Rural areas
- Initiatives through info-days awareness on national initiatives
- Planning of social activities and training of elders

European Social Charter

- The European Social Charter states that “every elderly person has the right to social protection” which implies that EU member states must ensure a decent life for elderly people.