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# Reintegrating persons with mental illnesses to the community using Wikiquote project

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# Rehabilitation

Rehabilitation of the mentally ill is a huge challenge for therapists. The main goal of this Wikiproject is to encourage patients at the hospital to create and increase the number of articles on Wikiquote in Spanish. Those patients who have been interned in a hospital or who are doing some type of outpatient treatment have here a space of containment and help for newbies.



**Yo edito en  
Wikiquote.**

# Psiquiatric hospital

The idea was to create an editing group inside a psiquiatric hospital to teach patients so they can learn and experience editing small Wiki projects articles. During the course the patients develop digital literacy, writing, research skills and learn to interact with other community members of the wiki project.



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# Goals

- \*To recruit and encourage beginners to increase the number of articles in Wikiquote in Spanish.
- \*To research about the beneficial effects of editing as being part of a bigger community.
- \* To create awareness of the Wikimedia projects.



# Methodology

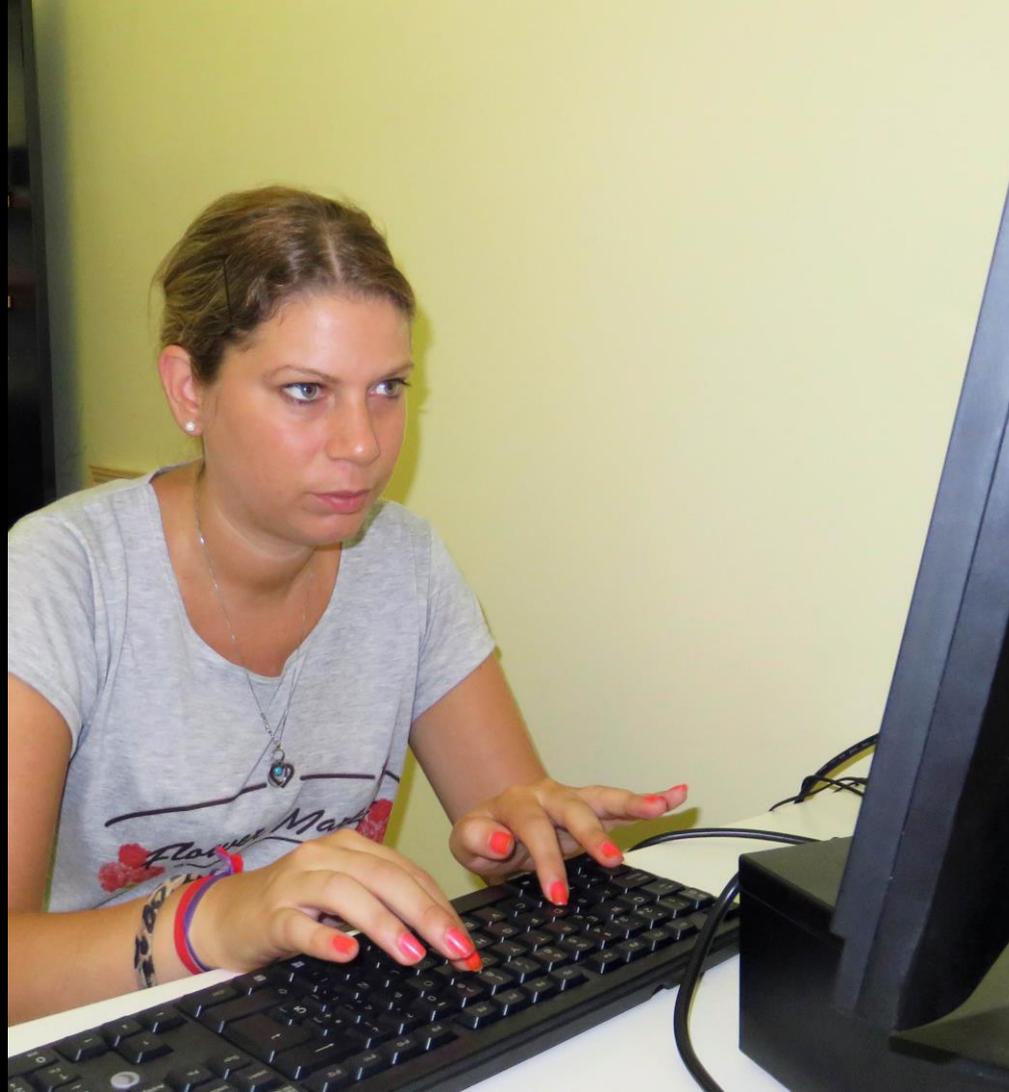
The project consists of a weekly course in which psychiatric patients learn to use computers, to write articles on Wikiquote and to upload material to Wikimedia Commons. It is a collaborative learning with technological support. This can help to change a passive patient to one actively engaged in editing and creating knowledge.



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# Tips

- \*Find out in advance what are all the required papers and documents to work at the institution.
- \*Consultate the staff before you begin the course.
- \*Conduct individual interviews to select patients. Not all patients work well for this type of projects.
- \*Create small and manageable tasks.
- \*Lower your expectations in order not to get frustrated.



# Tips

- \*It is necessary to have a lot of patience.
- \*The patients often understand different, you must explain details that with other users you would take for granted or you would never think.
- \*There is a lot of time that should be used to explain the concepts, much more than with a normal person.
- \*The wiki software is so complex that it is convenient that patients first practice in Word before uploading the material to the web.



# Tips

- \*Evaluate the real possibilities of the patient to attend the course. If a relative should bring him/her, interview him/her first to see if he/she is willing to comply.
- \*Notify all wikiveterans about the project to avoid problems or conflicts. Listen carefully to the advice of veterans. They know what they do.
- \*You have to understand that patients come and go and you must accept them, it is part of their pathology.



# Learning patterns

**\*Wikimedia young projects in therapy settings with psychiatric patients.**

**\*Creation of an editing workshop or course with patients in an institution.**



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- **How to choose patients for an editing teaching course**
- **How to avoid abandoning the course when your students have intellectual or mental disabilities**

**Patients who previously used only social networks although they did not contact anyone, now feel proud to see their articles published in Wikiquote.**



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# ¡Gracias!

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