

Press announcement  
Enschede, 8 July 2010

## **Social Inclusion Games the Netherlands: 1000 sportsmen, 10 countries and 25 sports**

The Social Inclusion Games the Netherlands (SIGN) will take place from 1 to 7 August 2010 in Enschede. The Social Inclusion Games are organised for socially marginalised people in sheltered accommodations. Over a 1000 participants from 10 European countries will take in more than 25 sports and games.

The games take place for the second time. Last year Odense in Denmark hosted the games. The SIGN will take place on the campus of the University of Twente. Humanitas Onder Dak and the Federatie Opvang are the initiators for the organisations of the games in the Netherlands.

### *Opening games 2 August (11.00 -12.00 hours)*

The opening of the games will take place on 2 August at 11.00 hours. The press is very welcome at this opening. Also during the sport week, the board of the SIGN invites the press to create an impression of this unique sport festivity in the Netherlands. Will you be present during the opening or during one or more days of the week? Please contact us. The definite program of the opening will be sent to you a week before the games.

### *Why Social Inclusion Games in the Netherlands?*

The Social Inclusion Games the Netherlands is more than a sportive happening. In Europe hundred of thousands of people are homeless or victims of domestic violence. Sport has various positive effects on our health. But for some people sport is even more important. Sport provides the opportunity to be a full member of the community.

The SIGN correspond very well to the 3 year program MeeDoen of the Federatie Opvang. Sport is an important part of this program, but also activation (outreaching) and work, meaning of life and culture are important parts of MeeDoen. This program is supported by the Dutch Ministry of Health, Welfare and Sport.

### *Editorial note*

The Founding Fathers of the Social Inclusion Games are: Federatie Opvang, Humanitas Onder Dak, the Dutch Ministry of Health, Welfare and Sport, Ministry of Social Affairs and Employment, Domijn housing, Community of Enschede, Arcon, Community of Hengelo, RadarElixer and the University of Twente.

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For more information: [www.socialinclusiongames.info](http://www.socialinclusiongames.info)