



SOCIAL AFFAIRS

The CREI will open in June with 13 residential and diurnal places

The initial contract with the management company is for five years, with three three-year extensions

The ratio will be one educator for every 10 young people with conduct disorders and addictions



SFGA/JAVILADOT



JUDITH PALLARÉS

MINISTER OF SOCIAL AFFAIRS

«We want to hire professionals from the country, because we have monitors or educators and maybe they would be interested»

JORDI OLIVÉ

DIR. CHILDHOOD AND YOUTH

«It's not advisable to mix mental health profiles with ours, so not everyone we have outside will be able to come»

►► Visit to the CREI facilities with the media.

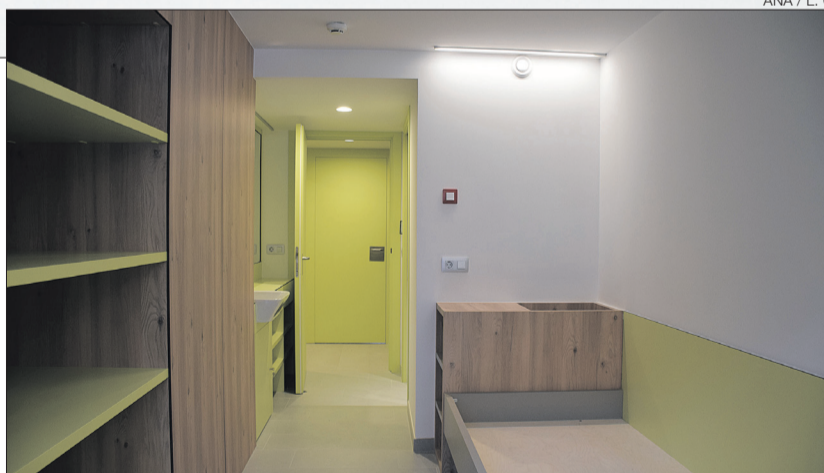
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The Residential Center for Intensive Education (CREI), located in the former Solà d'Enclar residence in Andorra la Vella, will welcome the first young people with conduct disorders and addictions from June, according to the minister revealed yesterday of Social Affairs, Youth and Equality, Judith Pallarés, during the visit to the facility with the media. The CREI, which is almost finished and has cost 2.7 million euros, will have a capacity of 19 residential places and 16 diurnal places, although it will initially open with 8 places in the residential service and 5 in the day service, which they will gradually increase. In addition, an overcrowding of two places will be possible for each of the services, and daytime hours may also be increased if the residential ones are not occupied, but not

the other way around.

The function of the residential modality is to offer foster care and social, psychological and therapeutic treatment to adolescents in a situation of helplessness who present with recurrent behavioral disorders or addictions that endanger their integrity or that of third parties. As for day care, it is a resource that aims to promote prevention, promoting the personal development of adolescents and young people who need it, without the need for full-time admission to the center.

The management of the service will be public-private, after the Council of Ministers approved this Wednesday the announcement of an international public tender for the concession of the management, the bases of which were published yesterday in the BOPA. In addition, there will be a coordination table between the affected mi-



ANA / L. G.

►► One of the rooms in the center.

nistries and the winning company. «This is a public project, not an outsourcing or privatization, but a public-private management, and we are looking for good management with good professionals,» said Pallarés.

The initial contract will be for five years, with three possible three-year extensions. Companies wishing to apply have until April 25th to apply. Once the contract is sig-

ned, the concessionaire will have two months to look for professionals who meet the requirements: a minimum of three years of experience with this type of center. «We value the idea of hiring staff from the country, as there are profiles like monitors or social educators that we do have and that they might be interested in,» said the Minister of Social Affairs. At the moment, there are already interested compa-

nies, mostly Catalan, but also from the Basque Country and France.

Not only are there interested companies, but also potential young tenants, some of whom are in centers in Catalonia, and others with mental health-related pathologies that do not currently fit the characteristics of the CREI. «It is not advisable to mix mental health profiles with addictions and behavioral disorders, so not all the teenagers we have outside will be able to come,» said Jordi Olivé, director of the Department of Children, Adolescents and Youth. «The important thing is to start it with the cases that we already know may come from the beginning,» she said.

The center will have a 24-hour security service and a ratio of educators to one in 10 students, who will receive classes while continuing to enroll in their respective education systems. On several floors, the facility is equipped with a dining room and an adjoining kitchen, two relaxation areas with sofas and television, a room for educators, a skate-garden with orchard for outdoor activities, two classes (one for theoretical training and another for craft workshops), a nursing and psychiatry room, double and single rooms (with the corresponding security system) and an open space on the top floor for the service of day, open from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. ≡

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LABOR MARKET

Satisfaction among employers to be able to keep temporary workers

The CEA and UHA point out that the measure is a first step in achieving the deseasonalization of the economy



►► Archive image of people queuing at the Immigration Service.

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The economic fabric of the Principality welcomes the Government's proposal to create the figure of the summer season. Above all, the aspect that they believe will benefit them the most from those provided for in the amendment to the Immigration Act is the fact that it will allow them to re-hire winter temporary workers for the summer campaign, without having to leave five months between contract and contract, as before. «It has been many months of meetings and it has been difficult to reach an agreement, but this pilot test has the effect of being as accurate as possible with respect to what we asked for,» said the director of the Hotel Union of Andorra (UHA), Jordi Pujol, to emphasize that the final formula «is very beneficial for us» and confident that «it will be beneficial for the entire economic fabric of the country.»

In fact, Pujol remarked that the negotiations around this measure have been intense, due to the legal and legislative background they entailed, to

the point that «three weeks ago there were still very distant positions», but insisting that it is an interesting pilot test, or rather necessary, because otherwise the summer would have been a disaster like last year. Also, from the CEA, its manager, Iago Andreu, considered that this regulation «gives satisfaction to the interests shown by the employers», at the same time that underlined that «more than pilot test, it is a solution for an exceptional situation like the one we are living in, which is that the demand for work is far below the supply». According to the manager of the CEA, this change «will help to avoid what would have been the worst case scenario, which is that some establishments would have found that they could not open or could not offer the service because they did not have staff to do it».

Specifically, both representatives agreed that the option of retaining the current seasonal workers for the summer campaign and again next winter is the best tool for the current labor shortage, and the main demand of the sector linked to tourism. «The only way to get staff to do this is to be able to repeat with the tem-



Jordi Pujol
DIRECTOR OF THE UHA

«If you can count on people you've already had in the winter and you think they're good for you, don't go looking for new workers»



Iago Andreu
CEA MANAGER

«More than a pilot test, it's a solution to an exceptional situation like the one we're experiencing: job demand is well below supply»

porary staff who are already here,» said the UHA director, who also emphasized the experience of these workers. «Remember that there was also a point of lack of skilled labor, which is very important, and if you can count on people you've already had in the winter and you think they serve you, don't play it again looking for new workers who don't know if they will adapt.

«It's a system that allows these temporary workers to be relocated for at least a year, and therefore helps to build staff loyalty,» said Andreu, who said that this fact also allows for progress in deseasonalization of the economy, because if what we are saying is that we want to work all year round, what we need is to be able to have people who work all year round». An observation also pointed out by Pujol, who pointed out that «we will have to deseasonalize the country, and therefore we must be able to work all year round and not just the four winter months».

At the same time, the CEA argued that «contrary to popular belief, employers do not intend to use this system to lay off workers at the end of April and re-hire them in July, because they will not risk losing their workers and having to look for them again», in addition to the fact that «financially, they would not be taken care of either».

However, the economic community regrets that this resolution could not be closed sooner, due to the fact that at the moment, some people have already found other job opportunities outside Andorra for the summer. «The pilot test has a small flaw: I think it would have been better if we had known about this system in December or January, because now there are workers who have planned their summer,» said Andreu, who pointed out that «It is not a criticism of the government, because I understand that taking this decision in December or January was unfeasible and impossible, as no one was clear about how the winter season would go or what would happen to the omicron variant. For his part, Pujol acknowledged that «if the proposal had come out a month earlier, it would have been the bomb», although he clarified that «it has come out now and we will not be exquisite». ≡

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