



PRESTIGIOUS CERTIFICATION

Youth In Inclusion program receives international recognition

The National Autistic Society recognizes the quality work done by the center's technicians

Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) Representatives expect to receive «more resources»

MARICEL BLANCH



EVA FLOTATS

JEI COORDINATOR

«We hope that more visibility will be given to the social integration pathways carried out by professionals»

«One of the strong points that the jury valued is the interaction of young people with businesses to practice communication»

on conducting interviews with the closest relatives of the five students who are part of the JEI program.

The committee of experts that awarded the recognition established that the strengths of the initiative revolve around the qualification of the team of professionals, as they are aware of the main characteristics of those affected by ASD and «act with the «necessary empathy that these people require», said Flotats. Another highlight of the international jury was the connection with local businesses in order to «establish a direct relationship between students and the outside world in order to promote socialization and communication». highlighted the coordinator.

On the other hand, the Tutelary Foundation stated that apart from the prestigious certification, «we hope that more visibility will be given to the ways of social integration of people with ASD». Flotats stated that the Foundation's intention is to go beyond the families of those affected. Similarly, he noted that «we would like to have more resources in place to have a more effective impact on society when it comes to carrying out our projects». ≡

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Youth In Inclusion (JEI) program of the Tutelary Foundation, as reported by EL PERIÒDIC, has received international recognition for the quality of the comprehensive care service for children with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). In this sense, the coordinator of the JEI program, Eva Flotats, celebrated that «this is a certification of the job well done by the most influential authority in the world of autism and, for us, this is an immense pride».

The National Autistic Society (NAS) is the international body responsible for evaluating and monitoring the initiatives of organizations that support the group with ASD. Thus, in November, the JEI

center located in Escaldes-Engordany was visited by a NAS auditor for three days. According to Flotats, «the audit should have been carried out more than a year ago, but the global pandemic made it difficult for professionals to arrive». It should be noted that the NAS has accredited centers in countries such as Ireland, Malta, Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates and Singapore.

Following the line of inspection, which has lasted more than a year, the audit began with a first phase of observation of the learning processes and the relationship between professionals and students of the center, as he called it Flotats, «the stage of self-audit». In this sense, the professionals of the center themselves carried out a compilation of documentation on the pro-

gram's action policy and the necessary documentation to carry out the project. Subsequently, the on-site evaluation process of the auditor from England, where the NAS headquarters is located, began. During this stage, the special envoy devoted himself to «taking note during the direct intervention of the

entire team of professionals and students», said Flotats. On the second day, the auditor was in charge of interviewing the management team (coordinator and technician) and reviewing the documentation and protocols that corresponded to the first phase of the process. Finally, the NAS representative focused



►► Above, the sensory room in the center of the JEI. Below, the quality certificate awarded to the Tutelary Foundation by the National Autistic Society.

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SPECIAL BODIES

The SIBA appeals to the firefighter's DNA to understand the entry into Ukraine

He believes that the colleagues involved acted on the premise of «helping people in need»

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The newly created Andorran Fire Brigade (SIBA) yesterday assessed the controversial entry into Ukraine of four members of the corps without uniforms and without official vehicles who were part of the first convoy of humanitarian aid on the Polish border, according to revealed the director of the Red Cross, Jordi Fernández. «In the firefighter's DNA there is or should be a desire to help people who need it», so «I understand that the entry of these firefighters into Ukrainian territory was based on this premise. «Because at that time there was a need

The union says

that according to the specialized group, the breathing equipment they use is of «quality»

He is optimistic about future negotiations because management is «proactive» in requiring them

on the part of a certain part of the population or a specific sector that they decided to attend to», said the president of the union, Ivan Vilares.

With Vilares as president, they complete the board of directors of the new union Jordi Solé as vice president, Eric-Jordi da Silveira as secretary and Carles Ridaura as member. More people representing other areas of the body will be added soon with the goal of making the representation broader. According to the president, «we understand that the union figure was needed because it responds to the demands expressed by workers that today have either not been taken into account or have not been given the required importance by other associations».

Therefore, the Andorran Fire Brigade Association (ABA) and the A118 will continue to operate and will be left out of the new union. «For the time being, everyone will continue with their temperament and roadmap, and I must say that the relationship is good, because we share the will to improve the profession in every way, and although we may differ on certain issues, in others think the same; the



A couple and a fire truck at the time of the arrival of the humanitarian convoy from Poland.



IVAN VILARES
PRESIDENT OF THE SIBA

«The union was needed because it responded to demands that were not taken into account by the associations»

«The relationship with the ABA and the A118 is good, although we may differ on certain issues; The goal is to add»

aim is to add up and look for the constant improvement of our profession», said Vilares.

As for the demands that the group wants to expose to the management and the ministry, the president of SIBA did not want to advance them until they were presented. «There are a lot of things on the table», he said, and management is «proactive in requiring us to comment on proposals», so I'm optimistic that our demands will be channeled, as long as they are justified and motivated».

DIFFICULTY BREATHING // On the other hand, this week it became known that the fire brigades of the Generalitat de Catalunya have reported that the self-contained breathing apparatus, the ERA, which they use in fires does not work well, which puts at risk their lives. They say that in the last two years they have suffered at least twenty incidents in which firefighters have been on the

verge of running out of air at work. On this issue, the Andorran union says that the management of the body and the ministry take great care of health and safety at work. In addition, the fact that the air force group has not caused them any problems in this regard is reinforced by the argument. «At the moment, we are not affected by the lack of security equipment to do our job, there is no problem with that; we use quality equipment that gives us security to do our job», said Vilares.

Finally, the Fire Department will become a unit in the near future to give them more prestige due to the weight they have gained during the management of the coronavirus pandemic over the last two years. In this sense, the president of the union recalled that in Andorra, out of political will, the formula has been chosen for firefighters to have additional training in nursing, «an added point when rescuing a person in a rescue». ≡

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