

el Periòdic News

INAUGURATION OF THE CHILD AND YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH AREA

A healthcare gift for this 2025

The child and youth treatment area is separated from the adult area with the creation of six rooms



The Minister of Health, Helena Mas, showing journalists the new child and youth mental health area inaugurated today.

PARIS MAMEGHANI
ESCALDES-ENGORDANY

Separating adult mental health patients from adolescents and children was a goal that the Nostra Senyora de Meritxell Hospital had been pursuing for some time, specifically since the end of November, when the child and youth area specializing in mental health and located on the fourth floor of the health building was put into operation.

“Today we are completing and inaugurating a project that we have wanted to launch for a long time, and it is this completely independent area for young people and children, divided into a day hospital and six acute hospitalization rooms in which overnight stays for family members are allowed. This is an important aspect, since having



One of the rooms equipped for the children's and youth area with a table, chairs and sofas.

the support of parents in the case of children under 12 years of age is a substantial change», explained today the general director of the Andorran Health Care Service (SAAS), Meritxell Cosan, in the context of the opening of

the space. Continuing with the novelties offered by the different rooms, Cosan mentioned that with the separation «a very important space in the hospital has been gained», in addition to having made room for the

creation of a thermal reinforcement classroom for long-term patients. Otherwise, the top manager of the SAAS has clarified that at the moment «the entire floor is not occupied, since it has capacity for six patients and currently there are four».

For her part, the Minister of Health, Helena Mas, who also accompanied the reporters through the different facilities, has not been able to hide her joy

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HELENA MAS

MINISTER OF HEALTH

«This opening is a vital part of the Government's strategic line. More staff will arrive for the new places»

and has called «today's Tuesday a celebration for the step forward that the change and enabling of these spaces represents». In addition to recalling that this children's and youth mental health area «is part of the strategic line that the Government is following», she said that the separation of spaces is the qualitative leap «that was missing in the attention of this public and this branch in particular», as well as a leap for all the families of the Principality, as these are «therapeutic agents for the patients». Asked whether additional reinforcement will be needed in the staff of this area, Mas confessed that with the new spaces such as the Ròdol, «new staff will be arriving». ●

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

Unions demand more protection and access to economic information

The USdA will present a set of proposals in March to eliminate free dismissal, strengthen union representation and guarantee balanced collective bargaining

ALEX MONTERO CARRER
ANDORRA LA VELLA

The Economic and Social Council held this Tuesday has put on the table the necessary reforms in labor and housing matters in Andorra, through a meeting in which it was agreed that the unions will present in March a set of proposals to incorporate changes to current legislation. The objective, according to the Secretary General of the Union (USdA), Gabriel Ubach, is to guarantee better representation of workers and improve working conditions in various aspects.

Along these lines, Ubach has insisted on the need to eliminate arbitrary dismissal and guarantee the protection of workers who run as union delegates or who initiate a collective conflict to defend their rights. «This saying 'I want to hold elections within the company' and the next day you are fired when you have not yet been elected, is what we are facing today,» he denounced, defending, in terms of collective bargaining,



The USdA will present several proposals in March to guarantee balanced collective bargaining.



CONXITA MARSOL

MINISTER OF ECONOMY AND LABOR

"We do not have a deep-rooted union tradition and we must adapt the system to our type of companies"

the fact that employers and workers must be on the same level at the negotiating table.

For her part, the Minister of the Presidency, Economy, Labor and Housing, Conxita Marsol,

GABRIEL UBACH

GENERAL SECRETARY OF THE USdA

"When a works council has to decide on an ERTE, it must have access to the company's numbers"

confirmed that the Executive is currently working on modifying the law on union action to guarantee better representation of workers in companies. «We understand that it is ne-

cessary both to talk about salary revaluations and to deal with issues at the level of relations between companies and workers,» she pointed out. However, Marsol has been specific in emphasizing several times that the nature of the conflict is given because the country's business fabric is made up, for the most part, of small companies with fewer than 250 workers, many with only one or two employees. «We do not have a deep-rooted union tradition and we must adapt our system to the type of companies in the country,» explained the minister. In this regard, she highlighted that a reform is planned that takes this reality into account, without major modifications but with improvements to promote dialogue between workers and employers. On another issue, and regarding Temporary Employment Regulation Files (ERTO), Ubach has claimed that works councils must have access to companies' economic information before making decisions. Finally, both Ubach and Marsol have agreed on the importance of dialogue between employers and workers to reach effective solutions. However, Ubach has accused the Government of prioritizing business interests, while Marsol has insisted that any reform must adapt to the economic and social reality of Andorra. ●

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