


The logo for LEDD, consisting of the letters 'ledd' in a lowercase, sans-serif font. The 'l' is purple, the 'e' is orange, and the 'dd' is purple.

landelijk expertise- en
implementatiecentrum
dubbele diagnose

A photograph showing the lower legs and feet of a group of people walking across a zebra-striped crosswalk. The people are wearing various styles of jeans and shoes. The background is slightly blurred, focusing on the movement of the crowd.

Housing for dual disorder patients in the Netherlands

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current situation

Housing options for DD patients in the Netherlands:

- independent living: ambulatory care & housing support
- residential facilities:
 - part of mental health agency /independent organization
 - (permanent) shelter for homeless

Residential programs & DD

Residential facilities for DD are important:

- Vulnerability to housing instability and homelessness.
- Housing instability makes engagement in treatment & recovery more difficult.
- Offer safe & protective living.

3 problem domains :

I: Availability: many DD clients live in a facility not suitable for DD

II. challenges concerning safety & controlling substance abuse

III. problems with suitable support

some experiments with specialized facilities

stage-wise facilities: tailored to meet the needs of clients at different stages of treatment

TABLE 16.1. Continuum of Housing Needs for Clients with Dual Disorders

Type of housing	Tolerance of substance use	Stage of treatment	Primary functions of housing
Wet housing	Relatively tolerant	Engagement–persuasion	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Shelter and safety• Stable housing (i.e., minimization of homelessness)• Tolerance of substance use to facilitate engagement of the client
Damp housing	Somewhat tolerant	Persuasion–active treatment	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Stable housing that imposes some limits on substance use• Support for clients in exploring effects of substance use on their lives• Limits on substance use to facilitate early efforts toward reduction and abstinence
Dry housing	Relatively intolerant	Active treatment–relapse prevention	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Stable housing that helps clients sustain an abstinent lifestyle• Freedom from substance-abusing peer group• Availability of social support from others who choose to be substance-free• Facilitation of work on other areas of living, such as employment and social relationships

good practice: wet housing

- hostel project in Utrecht
- permanent shelter for long-term drug users
- strict agreements on & monitoring of nuisance in neighborhood
- services provides by dual perspective:
 - reducing nuisance &
 - improving quality of life



good practice: damp housing

- specialized residential program Bavo europoort:
 - facilities differentiate in restrictions on use. (soft drugs)
 - special attention for dual disorders: open attitude towards substance use, persuasion groups, involvement of family, & training of staff in dealing with DD.
 - linked to ACT-team that offers treatment

good practice: dry housing

- WTC Mentrum: substance-free living & training center. Offers:
 - a combination of rehabilitation, supported living, training in living skills and relapse prevention.
 - Personal support and alignment with ambulant case manager.
 - Focus is on retaining suitable housing & rehabilitation

current problems:

I: Availability: many DD clients live in a facility not suitable for DD

II problems concerning safety & controlling substance abuse

III. problems in support

Elements of IDDT useful in offering supported living to DD clients:

- continuity of care
- open attitude towards substance use.
- stage-wise approach: facilities tailored to meet the needs of clients in different stages of treatment,

Plans for the future?

LEDD receives growing amount of questions concerning supported living. Plans:

- Analysis of good practices and it's working elements (financed by ministry of health 2012.)
- Composing a toolkit with guidelines.
- Offering a platform to share experiences.