

# Recommendations to Figulus Welzijn

to facilitate the creation of a participatory social environment at the Experience Square

## Introduction + context:

System change: Classical welfare state -> participation society  
Nationwide organised -> decentralisation (health care, work, youth)

Figulus Welzijn (as many others) is a well being organisation that struggles with these issues, but it wants to create an overarching structure to create a safety net for everyone. Figulus Welzijn is focussed on the well-being of each individual; with a particular focus on those who are not self-reliant or who do not have a social environment that can come to aid. Figulus Welzijn asked the help of the Science Shop to help realise its goal.

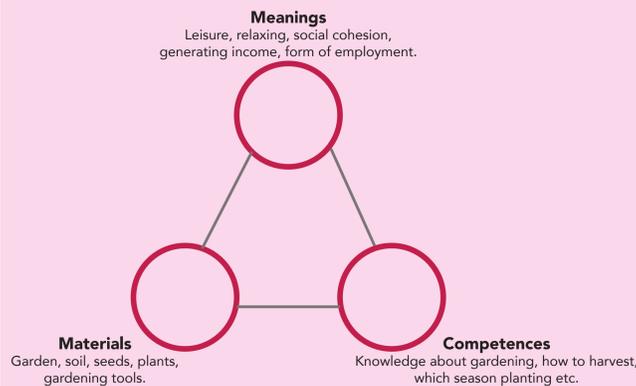
Figulus Welzijn is located in the municipality of Aalten (Aalten and Dinxperlo). 27.134 People are housed in this municipality. Main building of Figulus Welzijn is 'de Ahof' and the area around it is called the Experience Square and is centrally located in Aalten.

The cutting edge of this project is to transform the existing information and situation into a practical implementation plan for the Experience Square. Therefore, our research question is: **How do we turn the vision, mission and strategy of Figulus Welzijn into practical program recommendations for the Experience Square?**



## Frameworks

As a **theoretical framework** we used Social Practice Theory. We did not use the theory in the normal way, but used the concepts of the theory, meanings, materials and competences, as a framework for analyzing the different programs. The following image shows the example of gardening.



As a **conceptual framework** we came up with a theme or concept. The chosen theme is **Food & Farm Life**. This theme is chosen because the main building of the Experience Square is a farm and everything around the Experience Square could be linked to food or to farm life. This can make the whole story of the farm stronger.



## Methods

- Experience of group members
- Literature and previous report
- Direct contact with Figulus Welzijn
- Acupunctural Design

We also want to build upon the results of the **previous ACT-group**. They came up with five principles on which we want to build upon.



The principle of **acupuncture design** comes from urban acupuncture. Urban acupuncture is an approach that focuses on creating small designs that target the weakest links to gain a lot of influence (Houghton, et al., 2015). This could be useful in finding specific practices or interventions that can connect the Experience Square with the community and build stronger linkages. Changing the environment is a process, which starts with a small spark that could lead towards a positive change (Lerner, 2014). The idea is that some ideas on these so-called 'sparks' will be given. These 'sparks' will consist of some first sketches on interventions, which could be the start of the positive change for the Experience Square.

## Map acupuncture designs



### Legend

- 1 Restaurant/ Coffee
  - 2 Shop
  - 3 Bike blender
  - 4 Urban gardening boxes
  - 5 Water wheel
  - 6 Bare-feet path
  - 7 Education square/ start route
  - 8 Herb/ vegetable garden
  - 9 Bike charging point
  - 10 Special waste collecting
  - 11 Natural playground/ end route
- Educational route



## Visualisations acupuncture designs



## Timeline

