University of Modena and Reggio Emilia PHD SCHOOL OF AGRI-FOOD SCIENCES, TECHNOLOGIES AND BIOTECHNOLOGIES

Nature and psychology

an hortotherapic approach for the promotion of psychological well-being

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HORTICULTURAL THERAPY

AHTA def.: "an active process within the context of a pre-established plan of treatment, in which the process is the means of therapy, not the final result"

Physical health

- Rehabilitation
- Sensory stimulation
- Motor coordination
- Asthenia
- Convalescence

HT: active or passive

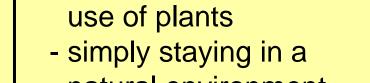
HT (Horticultural therapy):

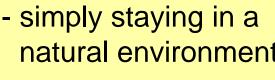
- activities related to the use of plants
- natural environment

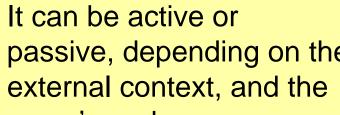
It can be active or passive, depending on the external context, and the users' needs.

Mental health

- Stress
- Anxiety
- Depression
- Self-confidence
- work in a group contest
- Dementia and Alzheimer







AIM

From indoor to outdoor

Promotion of well-being of users and professionals through the relation with nature, by means of outdoor structures to enrich functioning protocols already present with the benefits of the outdoor context.





GREENHOUSE

- Individual outdoor psychotherapy interviews
- Group therapy sessions for adolescens and adults
- Teaching of skills in outdoor contexts
- Outdoor area to rest



GREENHOUSE





HEALING GARDEN

Functional space to teach outdoor skills to younger users

Facilities for generic horthotherapic activities

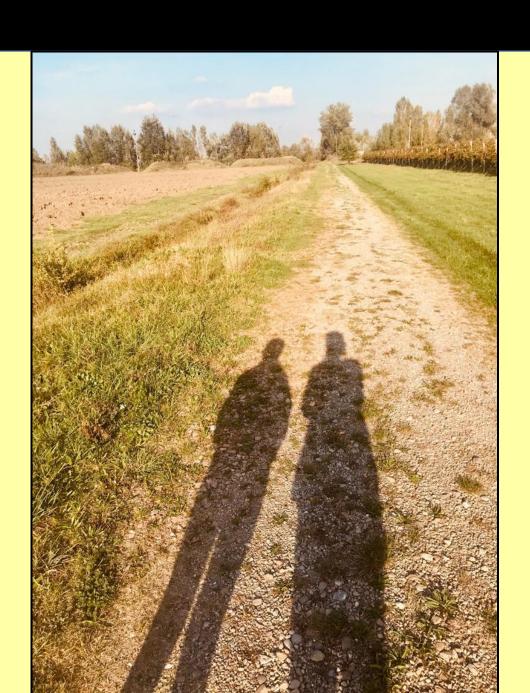
Structures for functional outdoor games



WALK AND TALK

Psychotherapy combined with outdoor physical activity

- Flexibility of patients and therapists to new contexts
- Perceived benefits for the patient
- Perceived benefits to the therapist



CONCLUSION

- Promotion and increase of external therapy sessions
- More time spent outdoors by users and professionals
- Positive perceived effects for the patient and the therapist

Publication

Trentini et al. Psicologia della Salute (accepted for publication)

Trentini et al. Plant Cell Tiss Organ Cult 146, 607–619 (2021)

Speaker

Webinar organizzato da Associazione Altra Psicologia (sez. ER) e TICE (2021)

Lezione nell'ambito del corso online "Outdoor Behavioral Healthcare" organizzato da TICE (2021)

THANKS FOR YOUR ATTENTION



FUTURE PERSPECTIVE

Outdoor activities

Increased sessions of outdoor activities, teaching, therapy, free time

Synergy

Study on the synergistic effect of exposure to nature and health promotion practices

Methodology

Research and development of a protocol for outdoor activities to promote well-being

BACKGROUND

Nature's positive effects

Being in a natural context can help people to have a better life, and to improve their well-being.

Biophily

"The innate tendency to focus our attention on life forms and everything that reminds them and, in some circumstances, to become emotionally affiliated with them" (Wilson, 2003)

Therapeutics

Use of horticultural therapy in rehabilitation, in occupational therapy, and in physical postoperative rehabilitation and trauma programs.

Horticultural therapy

Specific activities with plants can improve mental and physical health. This practice is used in association with many medical therapies as additional practice.