



m.verboom@amerpoort.nl

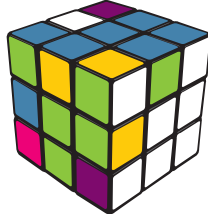
THE GRIEFCUBE®

A TOOL TO PROVIDE GRIEF SUPPORT TO PEOPLE WITH ID

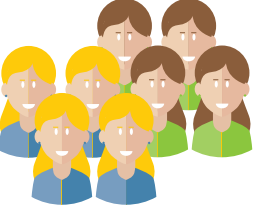
MARJON VERBOOM MA, RESEARCHER & SUPPORT WORKER



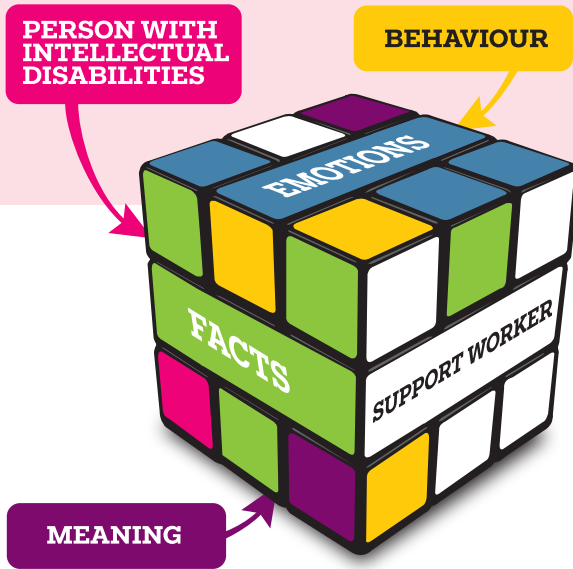
Effective grief support enhances the quality of life of people with intellectual disabilities.



The GriefCube® was developed: a tool to guide staff in their support of people with intellectual disabilities who are going through a grief process.



The comprehensibility and usability of the tool was assessed in two focus groups, which consisted of four disability support workers each.



GriefCube®


The GriefCube® is based on current research and theories on grief and loss, both among the general population and among people with intellectual disabilities. It covers six dimensions of a grief process and grief support:

- › Facts
- › Emotions
- › Behaviour
- › Meaning
- › Person with intellectual disabilities
- › Support worker

The cube has multiple colours on each face, symbolizing that the six dimensions are not totally separate constructs. The GriefCube® allows a support worker to determine which dimensions play an important role in the grief process at issue. Information is collected on, for example, facts and emotions from the perspectives of both clients and professionals. Based on this information, tools are provided to support the person who is trying to come to terms with their grief.


This project is being developed in collaboration with the VGN Masterclass Research 2015-2016 under the supervision of dr. Joop Hoekman and dr. Sabina Kef.

The participants found the GriefCube® to be an appropriate and accessible tool for learning more about grief and providing grief support to people with intellectual disabilities.



CONCLUSION

The GriefCube® is potentially a suitable tool for staff members who need to provide high quality grief support. In the next phase, its optimum use will be determined and its results evaluated.



An advisory group consisting of professionals, people with intellectual disabilities and their relatives is being formed to discuss the tool and its content.

