



Open-Minded



FUNDED BY

## Parents suffering from mental disorders and their unaffected children in municipal child and youth services (April 2015 – March 2018)

The HLCA subproject 5 – "Parents suffering from mental disorders and their unaffected children in municipal child and youth services" (Provider-MHL) – assesses institutional perspectives of needs and challenges regarding the work with children of parents affected by a mental illness. The interest of research lies on professional and organizational interpretations with a focus on questions of institutional interrelations. Children of mentally ill parents as a target group of different support systems are focused as an intersection and area of conflict at which (inter-)professional and organizational claims of jurisdiction and interpretations are being negotiated. Analytically, these conflictual processes are seen as boundary-work. This concept takes a view on articulations, manifestations and/or irritations of boundaries regarding users as well as professionals. The empirical research will comprise three stages and is based on a mixed-method design. Currently, the project is in the preparatory and initiation phase for the qualitative survey.

## Stage 1

- Qualitative (guided) interviews with partners from the field of children and youth services and health care (psychiatric system) on the level of management
- •Group discussions on the level of professionals working in the field
- Content analysis as an evaluation method

Stage 2

•Development of a standardized survey questionnaire and sending to organisations in the fields of children and youth services as well as psychiatric system (n = 270)

Stage 3

 Based on the empirical data collected, insights and knowledge for professional and organizational reflection will be developed

The cooperation project (University of Duisburg-Essen / Bielefeld University) is mainly located at the University of Duisburg-Essen, Faculty of Education, Department of Social Work and Social Policy. The project leader is <a href="Prof. Dr. Fabian Kessl">Prof. Dr. Fabian Kessl</a>. <a href="Kathrin Schulze">Kathrin Schulze</a> and <a href="Dr. Michael Rehder">Dr. Michael Rehder</a> are contact persons for the operational area.