

PAU, le 15 septembre 2020

## **PAU BEARN PYRENEES Pledge to the European Pillar of Social Rights**

### **Our Commitment to principle 11 “childcare and support to children”**

*In Pau Béarn Pyrénées, we reinvent lifestyle and invest in human capital and quality of life for all citizens and social cohesion of our local communities. We create the most harmonious living conditions for our local population.*

*Our main ambition is to enhance personal achievement and equal opportunities for each citizen, including the most vulnerable, and first of all, for children, from an early age.*

*We have the responsibility to foster the best conditions and provide the same quality support to all children, wherever they were born or they live and regardless of their disadvantaged backgrounds.*

### **Ensuring access to childcare**

In Pau Béarn Pyrénées, we put in place a territorial network of childcare houses with guaranteed access for children under age 3 in the 31 municipalities of the conurbation. Priority is given to children from disadvantaged back grounds. Moreover, we developed a wide range of actions for children, with a focus on ensuring equal opportunities and social inclusion through education, health, culture and sport.

The funding is 9 729 484 €.

### **Fostering equal opportunities and social inclusion for children in deprived areas**

Pau is also one of the first cities in France to implement innovative educative actions in priority neighborhoods, Saragosse and Ousse des Bois to foster equal opportunities and gender equality for children. The “cite Educative” Lab includes new pedagogic approaches, support to parents, the creation of a mini city of sciences and experimentation center, cultural activities and sports and summer camps. Funding for the Cité Educative Lab in these 2 priority districts is 1 350 000 for 3 years. 15 colleges and schools are involved. All is free of charge for children and parents to attend.

The challenges are to promote language acquisition and learning to read, develop scientific, technical and digital literacy, encourage innovation in and out the school, strengthen individualized support for children and young people, support parents in their role as

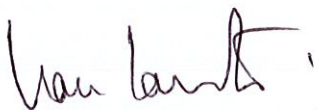
educators, strengthen educational alliances by promoting a common culture on major societal issues while respecting the place and role of each person.

### **Promoting the right to culture and education**

In a society impacted by digital transformation and AI, but also by uncertainty and numerous types of crisis, every child must develop its creativity and adaptability in order to be able to tackle the different challenges, they will face later in professional and personal life. To maximise children's potential for creativity, we decided to start 4 years ago the implementation of an original initiative for children living in deprived neighbourhoods: merging 'El Camino' young Orchestra with our Pau Pays de Béarn Orchestra, which is an inclusive orchestra with an ambitious educative project for children aged 7-11 in priority districts. « El Camino" pays special attention to the recognition of the right to access to culture for all children without social, economic, cultural, ethnic, territorial or disability discrimination. This approach is in line with the International Convention on the Rights of the Child.

El Camino proposes a new intensive education model with musicians as teachers. After 4 months, all the children can play in a concert. They have also the possibility to integrate classical conservatory education thanks to a special "passerelle" (education pathways). All the neighbourhood of the district is involved in the project and gathers to create associations to help funding the project. This project has given strong results, with 350 children involved in the Orchestra over the last 3 years, which has considerably improved social cohesion. With its orchestra, El Camino, was welcomed last year in the prestigious Philharmonic of Paris. The total budget of the programme is over €3 million per year, part of this funding is dedicated to inclusive actions : 500,000 euros for El Camino. To finance this ambitious programme, we imagined a new business model for the orchestra, engaging in this project a wide spectrum of players, blending financing from foundations of big companies , to SMEs, and public bodies, as the city of Pau. We are the first city in France to have created in 2020 a public Establishment (EPIC) that merges both the Symphonic Orchestra of Pau and El camino, the young inclusive Orchestra. Our inclusive Orchestra, in the future juridical form, will be unique in France. The president of this autonomous organization is the Mayor of city of Pau, and the board includes all the stakeholders.

**Jean LACOSTE**



**Deputy Mayor  
Culture and Health**

**Régis LAURAND**



**Deputy Mayor  
Young People**