

Center of Excellence on Social Welfare in Central Finland (**KOSKE**) is a regional organisation, which aims to strengthen and develop the competence of Central Finland's social welfare field. KOSKE has served Central Finland and its 275,000 inhabitants since 2002.

KOSKE is maintained by a support association. Members of the support association include almost all of Central Finland's municipalities, educational institutions, and numerous other social welfare organisations.



In addition to the personnel of the Centre of Excellence, KOSKE's work community includes developers of different projects and organizations. Koske's activities are open to everyone who is interested in the development of social welfare.

WELCOME ABOARD!

KOSKE SUPPORTS THE LONG-TERM DEVELOPMENT OF THE SOCIAL WELFARE

We boldly try new work models in co-operation with other actors in the social welfare field while giving consideration to Central Finland's developmental needs.

We co-ordinate the development of the social welfare field in Central Finland so that individual projects can fruitfully blossom from idea into permanent practice.

KOSKE COLLECTS, INTEGRATES, AND DISTRIBUTES SCIENTIFIC INFORMATION AND PRACTICAL KNOWLEDGE OF THE FIELD

We organize joint development discussion forums for practitioners, researchers, and providers of education.

We promote applied and multidisciplinary research in the social welfare field, and make the tacit knowledge visible.

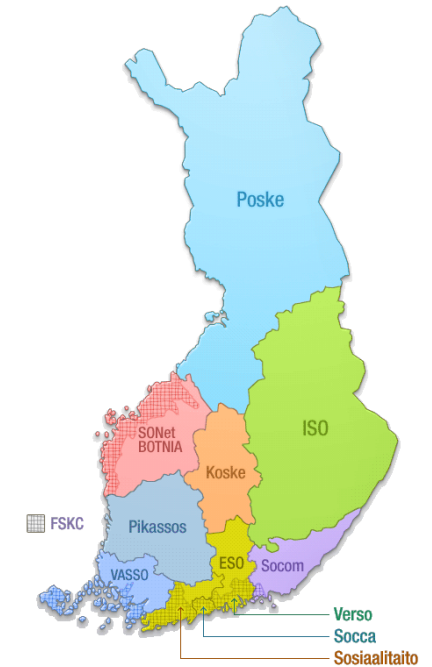
KOSKE STRENGTHENS COMPETENCE IN THE SOCIAL WELFARE FIELD

We provide and develop working methods, consulting practices, and services in the social welfare field.

We offer peer support and learning forums for professionals of social welfare.

We explore new trends, anticipate educational needs, and seek ways to improve expertise in co-operation with other actors in the field.

CENTRES OF EXCELLENCE ON SOCIAL WELFARE



The Act for Center of Excellence on Social Welfare came into effect in 2002. The primary activities of the Centres of Expertise are financed by the Ministry of Social Affairs and Health.

In accordance with the Act, Centres of Excellence develop expertise and perform specialised services within the social welfare as well as promote communication between the education, research, and practice sectors of the field.

There are eleven Centres of Excellence on Social Welfare. The Swedish-speaking population has its own Centre of Excellence, and the Centre of Excellence in Northern Finland has the special task of taking into account the needs of the Sámi-speaking population.

WHAT DOES KOSKE DO?

KOSKE's main goal is to be **an adaptive and respectable regional social welfare development community** for both professionals and other actors.

We organize seminars, forums and workshops on current topics in the field for professionals.

We coordinate regional development task forces in the social welfare field as well as the child welfare multidisciplinary expert group in Central Finland.

We provide social ombudsman, consulting early childhood special needs teacher, and child welfare specialist services to Central Finland.

We offer a home for a diverse variety of projects and support experiments into new working methods.

We actively take part in public discussion and development work related to social issues on a regional and national level.

We participate in the execution of healthcare and social welfare reforms and the planning of an integrated health care and social welfare development structure.

CONTACT INFORMATION



Matarankatu 4
40100 Jyväskylä

koskeverkko.fi

Email: firstname.lastname@koske.fi

Marja Heikkilä
director
tel. 0400 546 613

Johanna Lehtomaa
communications assistant
tel. 040 159 6950

Eija Hiekka
social ombudsman
tel. 044 265 1080

Merja Angle
project coordinator/
Meijän Mieli project
tel. 040 124 1426

Sivi Talvensola
senior coordinator/
regional coordinator
Kansa-koulu III (20 %)
tel. 0400 904 663

Katja Remes
project worker/
Meijän Mieli project
tel. 040 164 7560

Katja Salminen-Lahtinen
child welfare specialist/
Child welfare work
partnership model
tel. 044 265 1064

Marianne Kuorelahti
project researcher/
TASOS & AIKUMETOD
projects
tel. 050 428 2110
marianne.m.kuorelahti@juu.fi

Taru Paavolainen
communications
coordinator
tel. 040 136 5279

Reetta Salmi
developer of child welfare/
LUMO-project
tel. 040 653 7220



KOSKE
KESKI-SUOMEN
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**CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE
ON SOCIAL WELFARE
IN CENTRAL FINLAND**