



**Abstract Nr:** 31  
**Internet ID:** 130

**Type of Presentation:** Oral Presentation

**BOTS, where people meet!**

Joris Corthouts

St Hiëronymus, ST NIKLAAS, Belgium

**Learning Goal:**

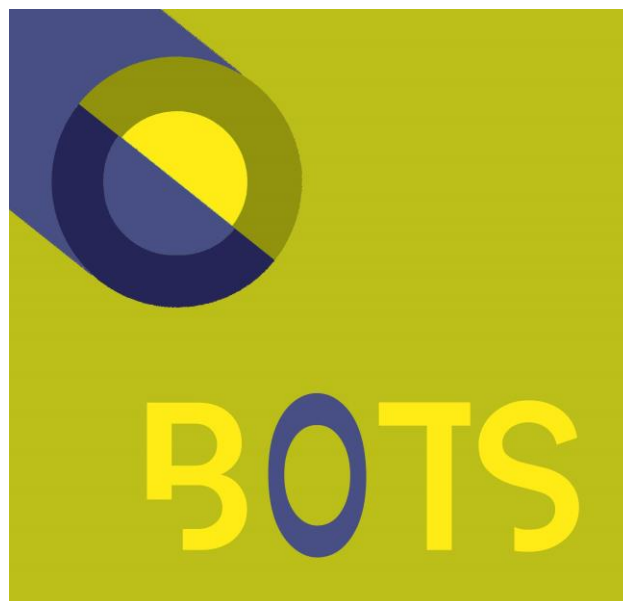
- Learn how to approach severe psychological experiences from the perspective of functional contextualism
- Learn from each other in setting up services in a changing mental health context
- Meet others that are doing innovative projects outside the residential care

**Abstract Text:**

During this workshop we - a BOTSer from the residential care and a BOTSer with lived experiences - want to present "BOTS" from St Niklaas, Belgium. BOTS is a project that is supported by St Hiëronymus (psychiatric centre), VDIP (early detection service), volunteers and people with lived experiences that started up in 2017.

Its goal is to bring together people who experience severe psychological experiences (like "psychosis"), outside the regular care. It's located in a regular shop, as part of the shop. People can drop by for a coffee, or participate in leisure time and more skill building activities: if you are interested, just come in!

In this workshop we want to present this project, and talk about the philosophy (functional contextualism and recovery) behind it and its translation into everyday-practice. We also want to have an interaction with the audience about the strengths, weaknesses, challenges and threats linked with projects like this. Besides that we want to hear and learn from other people setting up analogue projects in different countries.



**ON THE HEALING POWER  
OF HUMAN RECONNECTION**