

The library «Lettori Pazienti» is born from a project about which a lot of regional institutions have collaborated: Office Town Hall Valdera, nowadays Union Town Halls Valdera, USL 5, Lotti Hospital, Association Bibliographical and Information, Association Not Any Longer Alone (Non Più Sola), and the local net educational that, thanks to the opportunity offered by the promotion campaign for the reading of Tuscany, have created a library inside Lotti hospital, a library which is a branch of the municipal library of Pontedera.

The project has become effective since 23rd January 2007, when there was the start of the loan activity and the distribution of books in the wards.

For the library of the hospital there is a worker who depends on the Net Bibliolandia whose duty is to coordinate the volunteers and to organize the library.

The library is open every Tuesday from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. in the “Sala Rossa” while there is the distribution of the books in the wards also on Thursday, in the afternoon, from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. and one morning per week, alternately, on Tuesday or Thursday from 9 a.m. to 11.30 a.m. The books are carried in the wards thanks to a trolley which contains a wide choice of different titles.

Besides the books in the catalogue you can also find cartoons, DVD and audio-books. You can also find a section addressed to the children and books in different foreign languages.

The loan is not addressed only to the in-patients and their relatives, but also to the staff who work in the hospital.

The wards interested in this service are those of medicine 1, medicine 2, obstetrics and gynaecology, surgery A, surgery B, orthopedics and pediatrics. The volunteers of the Association “Non più sola” who work in the morning shift lend the books in the waiting-rooms and in the wards of Oncology and Dialysis.

In this last ward there is a reading corner to meet the necessities of the patients who, being obliged to alternate on three shifts, have not the possibility to benefit directly from the loan service.

Some volumes are left in vision together with the loan forms to fill and a list of books available in the library, so that people can ask for them and they will be satisfied during the following shifts by the volunteers of “Lettori Pazienti”.

In some wards, Week Hospital, Mental Health Adults and Obstetrics, you can find some libraries that guarantee, thanks to the collaboration of the staff of the hospital, a loan which works 24h a day, 7 days a week. In the ward of Neonatal Pathology there is a project “We are born premature, we become parents: a reading-room to grow together” addressed to the care and education of the children paying attention above all to the premature infants.

All the volumes borrowed can be given back to the volunteers during their services, or they can be given back on Tuesday in the library (“Sala Rossa”), or in the boxes you can find inside the hospital, or they can be given back at the Municipal Library of Pontedera, and also to all the libraries of Bibliolandia Net and of the net Rea.Net.

The catalogue is on line, at the end of the web page.

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