



Frisian in health care





Language situation in Fryslân

Frysk	Speak	Understand	Read	Write
Very good/good	65%	85%	55%	15%
Quite well /somewhat	10%	10%	20%	15%

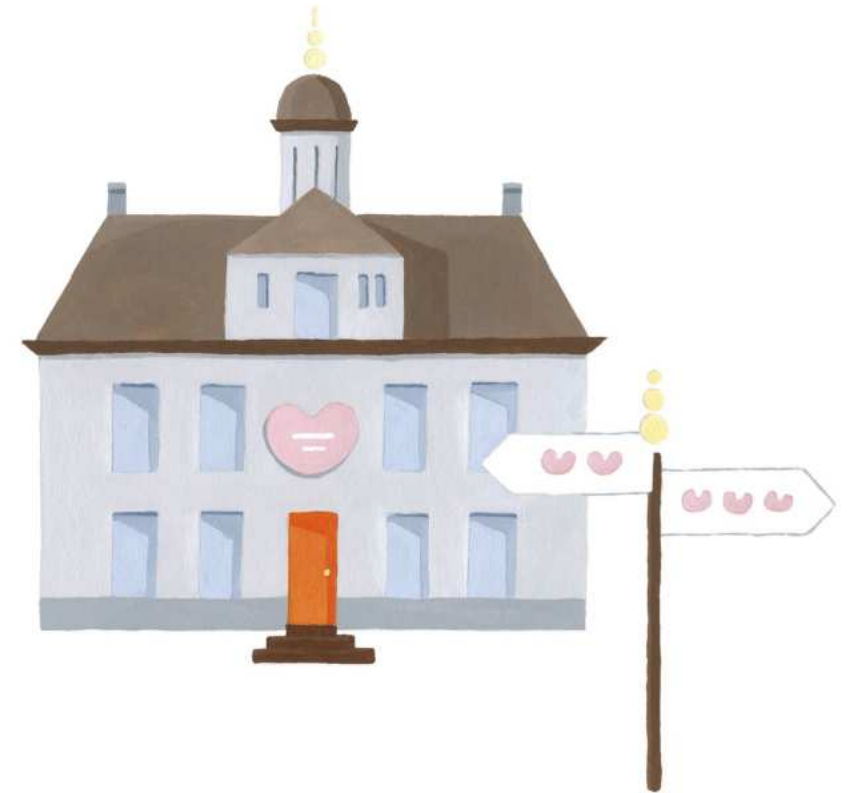
Health care situation in Fryslân

- major staff shortages
- a lot of staff not originally from Fryslân, but from other parts of the Netherlands (usually specialists).
- more and more staff from outside of the Netherlands (mostly general health care workers, but also specialists).
- but luckily still a lot of staff that speaks and/or understands Frisian.



Legal frame work

- Municipalities can include Frisian language proficiency requirements in their tender package for health care organisations.
- The Dutch government and the Provincial government do state in their agreement about the Frisian language, and based on the European Charter that they have a shared responsibility to actively encourage the use of the Frisian language in the social domain and that by 2030 it should be normal that the communication between organisations and patients also can be done in Frisian.



Focus of Provincial language policy

- Visibility and use of the Frisian language in health care organisations.
- Directed at: maternity care, children's health care centers, hospitals, nursing homes, general practitioners, mental health care, emergency control room, home care.
- Projects concerning vocational education.
- Projects concerning technology in health care (speech recognition) → *done by Prov. Fryslân, University Campus Fryslân and JOB)*



Resources

For the first three points mentioned in the slide before:

Structural

- ½ fte at Afûk
- € 15.000,- out of pocket

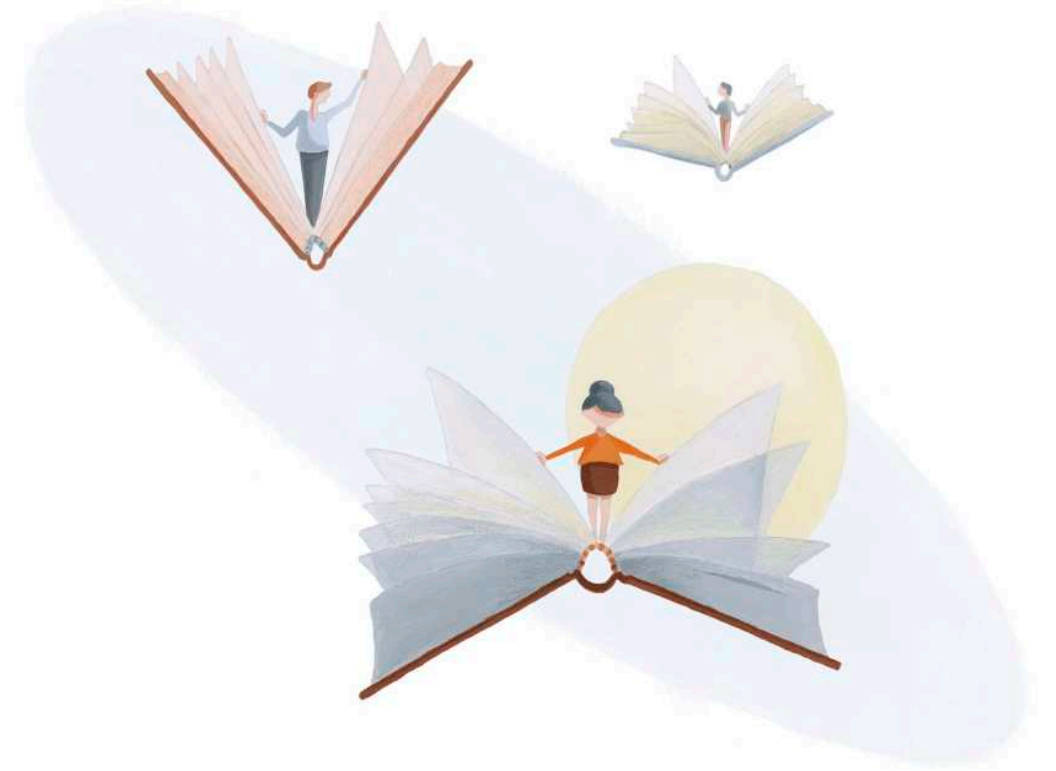
Incidental

- Extra project money, depending on the project
- Resources for implementing Frisian in vocational health care education within Taalplan Frysk 2030



What we do at Afûk:

- Meetings with health care organisations to discuss the importance of the use of the Frisian language.
- Producing and distributing an information package for expecting parents
- Producing and distributing a health care magazine for professionals (1 edition every 2-3 years)
- Offering, giving and developing courses and workshops for professionals and health care students (to learn Frisian and to become aware of the role of the Frisian language)
- Translating and dubbing informational video's for hospitals aimed at patients
- Producing and distributing materials for the elderly aimed at reminisce
- Website with information and tips: www.friesindezorg.frl
- Website for parents: www.heitenmem.nl







Tige tank!

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