

# ASS. GIOCOLIERI & DINTORNI

## ALTRO CIRCO



**LOCATION:** Civitavecchia, Italy

**TARGET GROUP:** Young people with disabilities

AltroCirco was founded in Italy in 2014 by a broad working group of people who use circus as a tool for social transformation in various forms across the national territory. Today, it brings together associations and operators involved in social circus in Italy, aiming to grow together and promote and enhance circus as a tool for socio-educational intervention. AltroCirco offers a continuous program of meetings, training, exchanges, and dissemination of studies and research related to circus in disadvantaged contexts, such as disability and other minorities.



Some Inclusion Activities Conducted:

International conference on circus and disability

- 🏠 “Altra Risorsa 2016: Abilities and Dis-abilities - Theories and practices of a circus for everyone.” Here is the link to the conference proceedings: [Altra Risorsa 2016 Proceedings](#)

Training for trainers:

- 🏠 Adapted Circus: A practical-experiential workshop aimed at “adapting” circus and body expression to the different abilities of individuals. Next date: Saturday, January 18, 2025, Milan
- 🏠 This module is part of the annual social circus training “FiX” (Formazione Italiana di Circo Sociale), promoted by AltroCirco biennially, currently in its 5th edition.

Numerous schools in the AltroCirco network regularly carry out circus workshops for people with disabilities. In some cases, they are specific courses aimed at small groups of people with various disabilities, conducted in collaboration with day centres, cooperatives, and healthcare centres. In other cases, the courses and workshops are open to everyone, engaging both typical and non-typical individuals in a shared experience.

The activities and intervention methods of the Adapted Circus workshops offer participants the opportunity to experiment with different ways of being than those commonly experienced. For example, they can experience themselves as capable, adapted, and useful; subsequently, these same individuals can also change how they perceive themselves in the world, and finally, others can witness this transformation.

What happens in these contexts is the possibility to

break the stigmatizing stereotype, so that participants start to express, live, and feel themselves differently from how stigma might direct. If we consider that in every individual there coexist both “abilities” and “disabilities,” we can dismantle the classic concept of disability, seeing it not as an internal characteristic of the individual that leads to dysfunction, but as a deficit embedded within disabling processes produced by contexts, disciplinary knowledge, organizations, and policies incapable of providing an adequate response to people’s differences.



For more information visit [their website](#)

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