



Press release

Bratislava, 20 April 2010

Job opportunities for MS patients

Scarabeus is the only protected workshop for patients suffering from MS

The protected workshop Scarabeus for people with MS was opened in Bratislava's borough Dúbravka. It is the only workshop of its kind in Slovakia that offers jobs to patients suffering from this chronic disease attacking the nervous system, brain and spinal cord.

"Multiple Sclerosis" is a specific disease, leading to frequent and extreme fatigue, immediate and unexpected total or partial paralysis, frequent urination or incontinence. Because of these serious problems employers are not willing to accept and employ people with MS, and these patients often lose their jobs. Invalid patients are therefore more or less detached from the society, live retired in their flats, do not socialise or communicate with others - simply do not live like other people do. "The protected workshop Scarabeus seeks to give these patients the feeling of being useful and encourage them not to give up", says Jaroslava Valčeková, Chairwoman of the Association Sclerosis Multiplex Nádej, which opened the workshop with the support of the Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Family, and the pharmaceutical company TEVA.

Employees of Scarabeus will be offering their products to business entities which might use them as gifts or advertising articles. In this way, businesses might not only present themselves but they would support patients from which they buy products. By buying products produced by Scarabeus, companies, that employ 20 and more people, can fulfil their obligation to employ handicapped people, which results from law on employment services.

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