

>>> **Edito**

The commitment of our three towns to attracting new inhabitants to the heart of Greater Bordeaux is showing concrete results. The many urban developments, the implantation of new businesses, the construction and rehabilitation of housing, and the return of students to the city centre are all proof of a renewed appeal.

These new dynamics need to be accompanied by the development and adaptation of the local public services. All of us are doing our utmost to offer our citizens a better quality of life. This is particularly true with regard to facilities for infants. Because this sort of offering is a key condition to attracting and keeping young households in the city centre.

The Urban2/Unicités programme is contributing to the development of these essential local services to ensure social cohesion and to generate jobs. In this newsletter, we wish to promote all these initiatives, thereby demonstrating that the European Union can provide a real, concrete solution to the issue of local development.

Enjoy reading it!



Hugues Martin,
 Member of
 Parliament and
 Mayor of Bordeaux

Conchita Lacuey,
 Member of
 Parliament and
 Mayor of Floirac



Alain David
 Mayor of Cenon

>>> **URBAN2/Unicités**

The place of infants in the city centre



Young children have never had it so good with Europe!

A great many projects for facilities for infants have been granted major European funding via **Urban2/Unicités**: restructuring of the crèches of La Benaue and Sainte-Colombe, creation of an Infants Centre in the Bastide, a Childminders Contact Centre in Cenon (see overleaf), and a new associative crèche (see box). For the **Urban2/Unicités** programme alone, 50 jobs have been created and 40 extra places made available in crèches and day centres.

Above all, these projects provide a varied offering in the heart of Greater Bordeaux as a response to the expectations of inhabitants. Families can now find services adapted to their professional and personal constraints: facilities for the children of families in emergency situations, specific needs of single-parent families, occasional requests taken into account, extended opening times, etc.

On the initiative of the towns or the associations, and in collaboration with the family allowance office and the General Council, all these projects have emerged from the desire of the partners to offer a variety of cohesive, complementary services on the territory.

These facilities and services will allow parents to reconcile their family life with their professional life and will encourage equal opportunities between men and women – one of the priorities of the European Union.

Bastide Infants Centre

The Infants Centre in the Bastide district, located close to the botanical garden, will open in September 2006. It will include a Childminders Contact Centre for exchanges between parents and childminders. This facility will also be home to a games library where games can be lent and organised, with coordination by the Interlude Association.

APIMI

In 2007 a new crèche at the Bastide (123 Rue Hortense) will offer an extra 24 places. Initiated by the Association Pour l'Innovation en Matière d'Intégration (APIMI), it will implement the concept of equal opportunities by providing facilities for handicapped children.

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