

Autism Foundation Finland

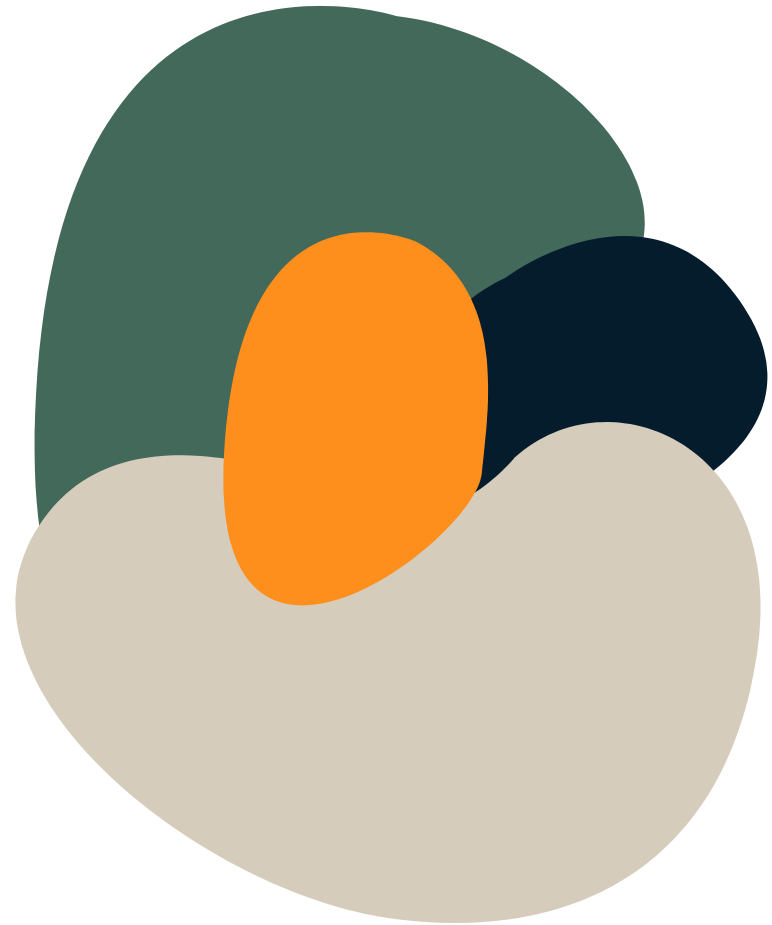
 **reviion**



Autism Foundation Finland

Established 1998 by families of people on the spectrum

Not for profit Finnish Social Enterprise



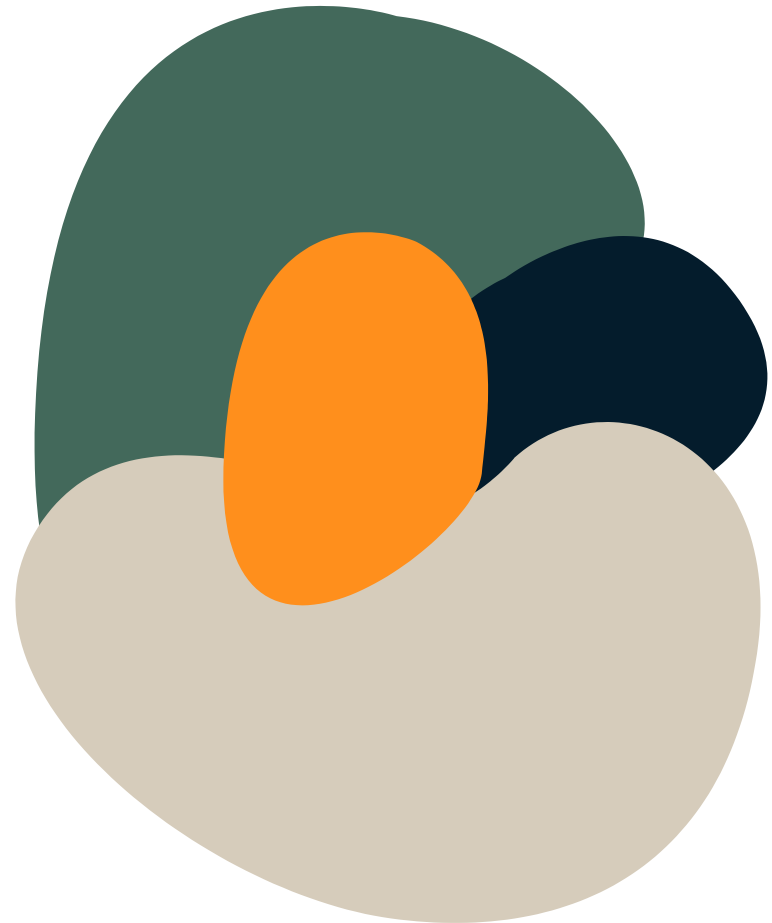
Key Figures 2026

Staff: over 600 professionals

30 locations throughout Finland

Over **1,400 individual clients** and we are aiming to serve even more

Turnover	25 M€ (2022),
	29 M€ (2023)
	37 M€ (2024)
	44 M€ (2025)
	47 M€ (2026 predicted)



Providing rehabilitation and legal protection for neurodivergent individuals

Revia stands for:

Rehabilitation

Violence

Neurodivergent



- The **position** of neurodivergent individuals within the Finnish criminal justice system is **vulnerable**.
- **Failure to recognize** these individuals poses a risk to the realization of their legal protection and may lead to misallocation of rehabilitation measures.



Previous and ongoing projects

- **Legal Protection and Rehabilitation 2020 project** (Funding Centre for Social Welfare and Health Organizations, 2018–2020)
 - ***the identification of the target group in prisons was improved***
 - a model for rehabilitation during incarceration was implemented and the effects of rehabilitation at the individual level were investigated
 - extensive training for authorities was also carried out as part of the projects
- **Revious project** (Ministry of Justice, 2021–2022)
 - piloting and further ***developing the rehabilitation model***
 - preventing recidivism among neurodivergent prisoners convicted of violent and sexual offences
 - addressing factors predisposing individuals to criminal behaviour
 - strengthening their ability to reintegrate into society

Previous and ongoing projects

- **The Revia AVO project** (Ministry of Justice, 2024–2025)
 - provided individual rehabilitation for neurodivergent individuals ***at increased risk of committing sexual or violent offences or already convicted of such offences***
 - rehabilitation was targeted at clients under the care of Helsinki University Hospital (HUS) Forensic Psychiatry Outpatient Clinic and those in the release phase within the Prison and Probation Service of Finland
- **The Revia YKS project** (Kela, the Social Insurance Institution of Finland, 2023–2026) is implemented by the Autism Foundation Finland in collaboration with the Prison and Probation Service of Finland and the University of Jyväskylä
 - develops and studies ***a remote rehabilitation model*** based on acceptance and commitment therapy methods for neurodivergent clients under community sanctions

Revison individual rehabilitation:

Adolescents and adults exhibiting criminal or other risk behaviour

Program can be carried out in different contexts:

During imprisonment

Upon release

During outpatient care

Methods utilized are:

- *Acceptance and Commitment Therapy (ACT)*

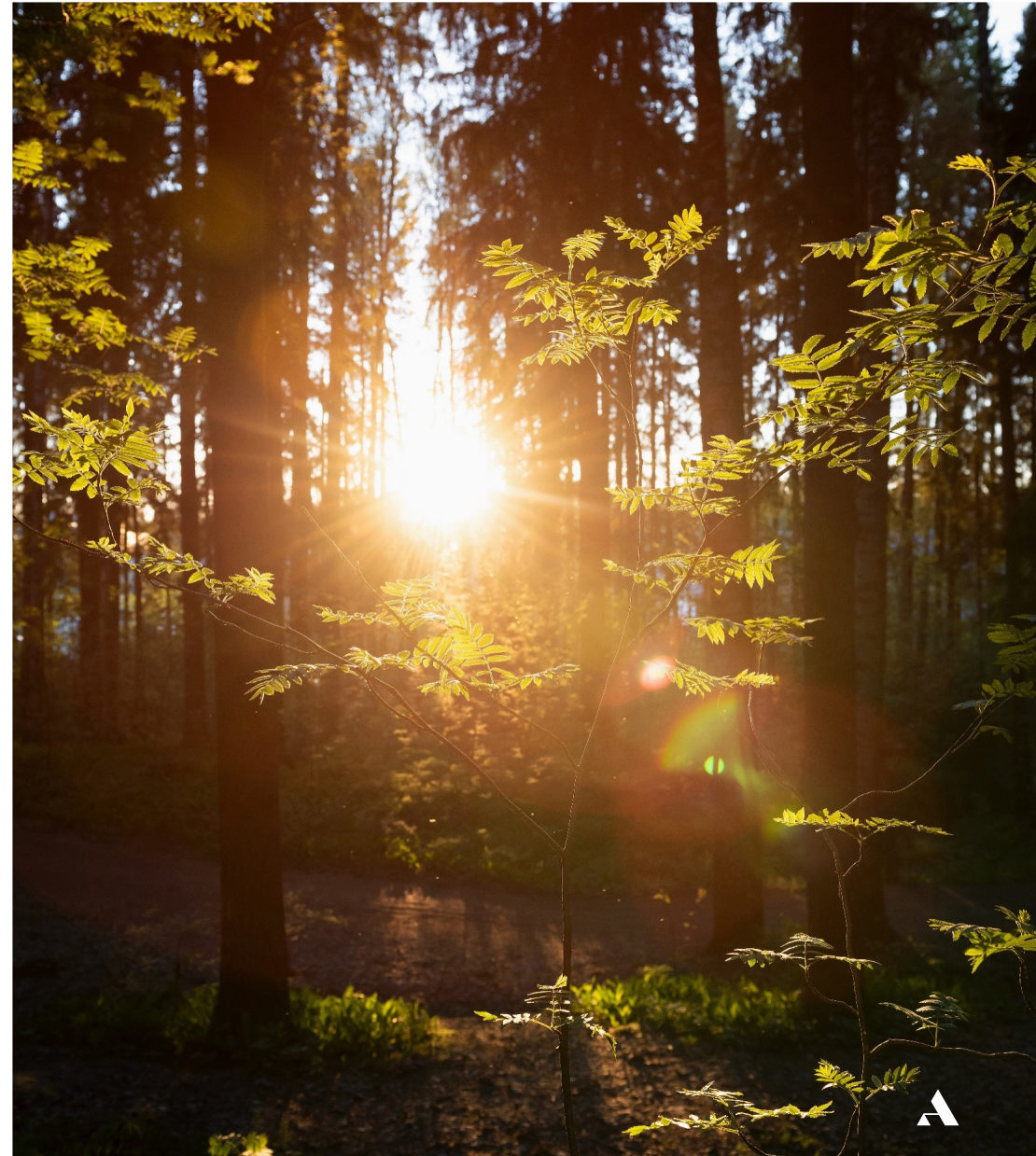
- *Dialectical Behavioural Therapy (DBT)*



***Over 200 clients have
attended the rehabilitation
already!***

Reviön rehabilitation

- Reviön rehabilitation was awarded ***second place in the European Crime Prevention Award 2024.***
- The jury specifically praised the programme for *its focus on an overlooked group in prisons, its scientific base, and its relevance for improving professionals' knowledge across all European member states*



Revision rehabilitation process

Ca. 40 x year (shorter processes also possible)
Face-to-face or telerehabilitation

Case
coordination
and client
interview

Assessment and goal setting:

- * Client's personal needs, values and goals
- * Motivation for change
- * Current life situation
- * Important life events
- * Self-reflection and metacognitive skills
- * Psychological well-being and mental health

Skills training:

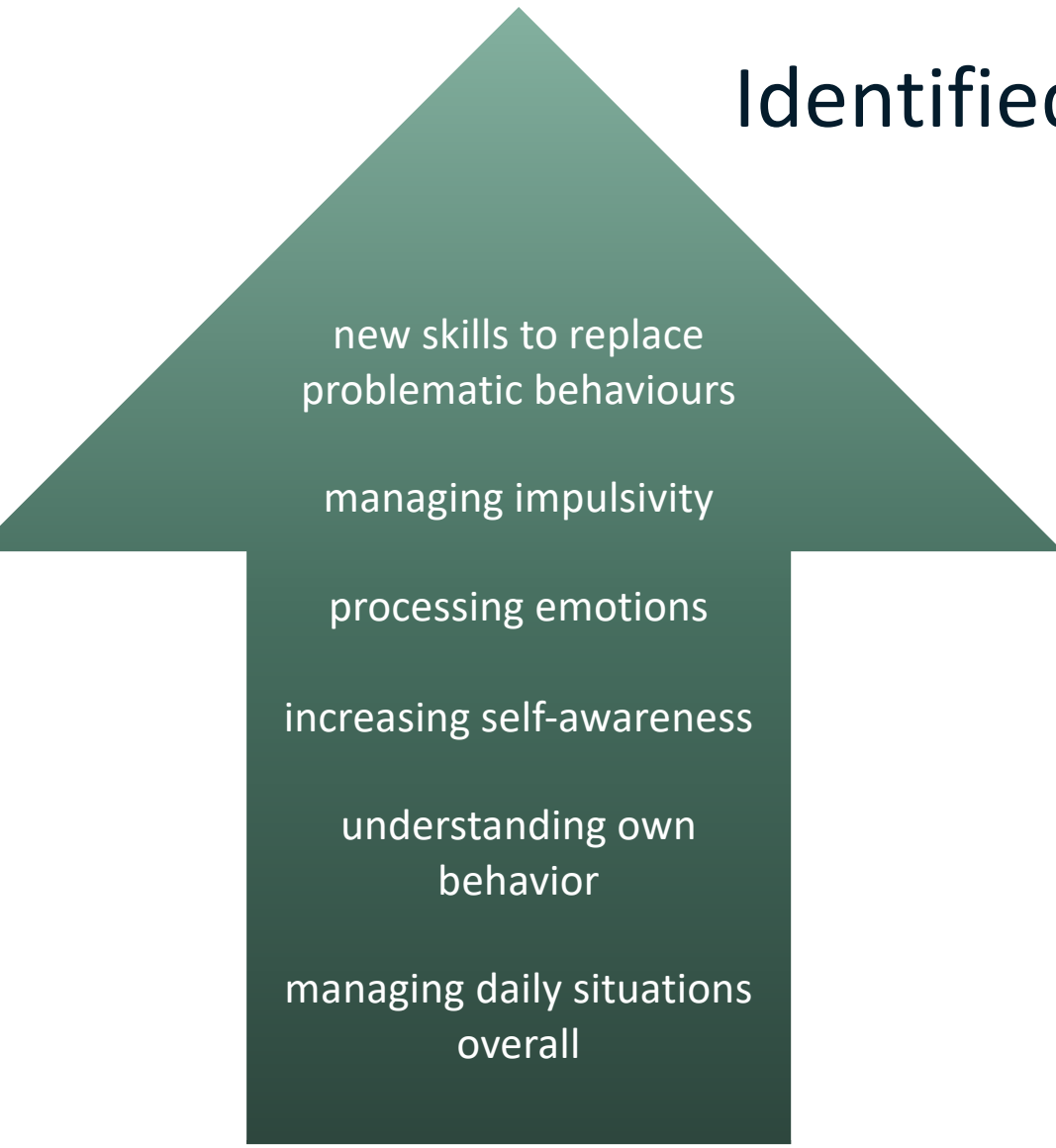
- *Developing a new relationship with thoughts
- *Fostering acceptance and self-compassion
- *Values
- *Identify negative self-narratives and shift perspectives
- *Emotion regulation and mindful coping
- *Social information processing and interpersonal skills

Termination:

- * Discussing, experiencing and accepting the emotions related to the termination of the rehabilitation process
- * Assessing whether the goals were achieved
- * Clients future goals
- * Feedback from the client



Identified outcomes

A large green arrow pointing upwards, containing a list of positive outcomes.

new skills to replace
problematic behaviours

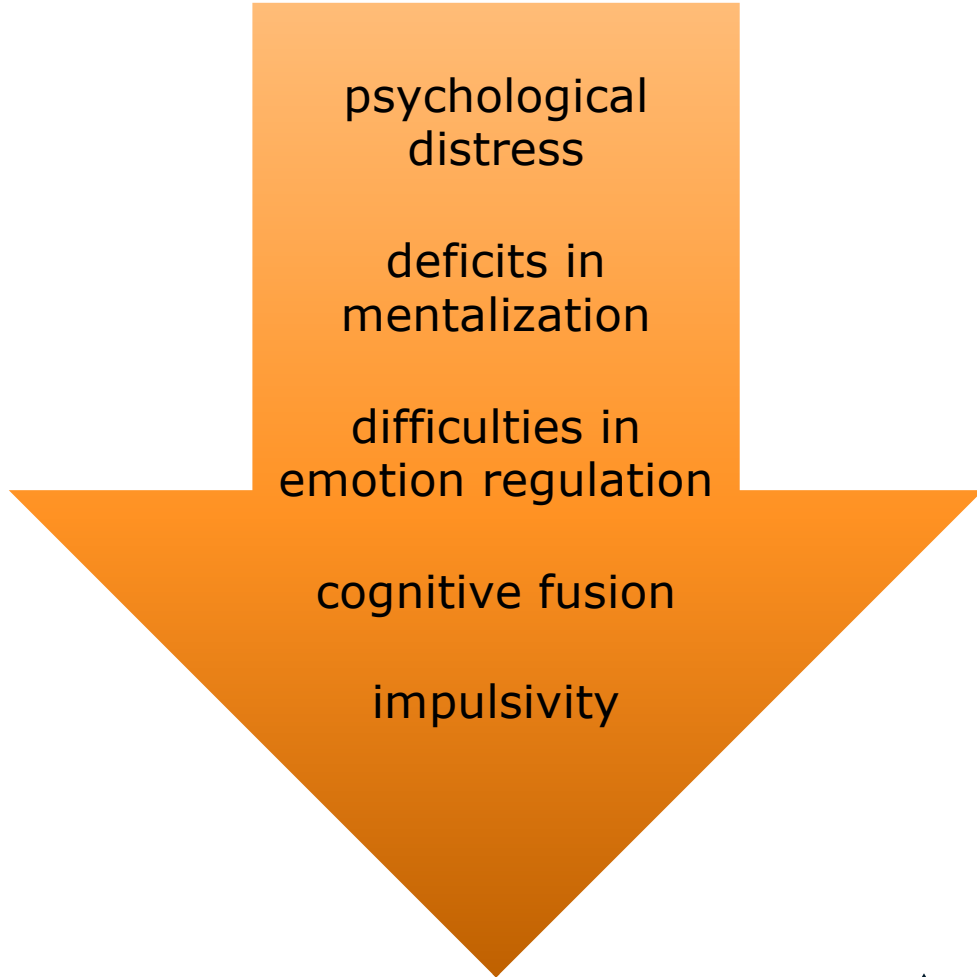
managing impulsivity

processing emotions

increasing self-awareness

understanding own
behavior

managing daily situations
overall

A large orange arrow pointing downwards, containing a list of negative outcomes.

psychological
distress

deficits in
mentalization

difficulties in
emotion regulation

cognitive fusion

impulsivity



Feedback from clients



Question	Scale 0-10
Respect and understanding	9,4
Relevance of the goals and topics	9,0
Methods	8,9
The usefulness of the rehabilitation	9,0



Experiences and feedback from prison staff

"The prisoners prefer the fact that Revion workers are not members of the prison staff, as many prisoners have difficulties in trusting officials and prison staff."

"The prisoner has made tremendous progress from the initial situation. The progress is probably due to many things, but Revion rehabilitation is clearly needed as an addition to medical care and the prison's own rehabilitation programmes."



Training for professionals

- **Specialized training** for prison staff, forensic mental health professionals, police officers, and other judicial authorities who encounter neurodivergent individuals showing signs of risk behaviour.
- The training blends *research-based knowledge with practical insights* from extensive experience.
- Examples of available training: recognizing the neurodivergent needs and establishing a working relationship, neurodivergent individuals and criminal behaviour, neurodivergent individuals and everyday contact work in prison

