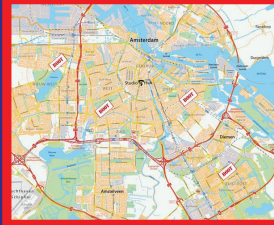


## NEIGHBORHOOD STORES for EDUCATION, RESEARCH, and TALENT DEVELOPMENT

*Buurtwinkels voor Onderzoek, Onderwijs en Talentontwikkeling (BOOT)*



# BOOT

THE KNOWLEDGE SHOP

## How did BOOTs come about?

Neighborhood Stores for Education, Research, and Talent Development (BOOT) are an initiative of the Amsterdam University of Applied Sciences (HvA). The nationwide Community Development Program ('wijkenpak') that started in 2007 raised the question about how the HvA - the largest institute for higher professional education in Amsterdam - could connect the knowledge and the competences of its students, teachers, researchers and network to the 'problem areas' in Amsterdam, in such a way as to contribute to the socio-economic development of these neighborhoods. At the core of the Community Development Program lays an intensified collaboration between governmental, for-profit and not-for-profit organizations. In the meanwhile, the University of Applied Sciences aspired to be the university of Amsterdam, for Amsterdam. After discussing it with the municipality, the HvA came up with the BOOT concept, where students, under supervision of teachers and professionals, provide certain services for the residents in 'problem areas'.



## What is new?

- Collaborative networks between previously disconnected welfare providers.
  - BOOTs seek to fill the gaps in welfare provision that are left by other (municipal) welfare organizations that are already active in the neighborhood. To be able to fill this gap and to adjust the services that are offered by BOOTs to those that are provided by other organizations, close collaboration with existing (welfare) organizations in the neighborhood is crucial.
- University directly involved in the provision of welfare services.
  - The standard set of services provided in all BOOTs comprises financial, legal, social and nutritional consultation hours, homework support for 6 to 10 year-olds, and an atelier for urban renewal. In addition, depending on the needs of the neighborhood/residents/organizations, BOOTs may also engage in other (specifically tailored) activities.



## Who is involved?

- Amsterdam University of Applied Sciences
- City districts
- Housing corporations
- Various local welfare organizations



ROCHDALE

Ymere



Hogeschool van Amsterdam



Gemeente Amsterdam

In particular the districts of:

- West
- East
- South East
- New West

## What is their impact?

- BOOTs play a binding role between welfare organizations operating within the same territorial boundaries, yet not necessarily cooperating much. They bring different, often disconnected organizations together, which not only provides a clearer overview of the facilities/services that are present in a certain neighborhood and of those that are lacking, but also stimulates all partnering organizations to have a more 'outward look'.
- BOOTs are an easily accessible point of information and assistance for the residents. Whilst some residents, for one reason or another, may be more hesitant to approach 'formal' services, they seem to be less hesitant to approach (students in) BOOTs for help. On average, every week, 350-500 residents visit the various BOOTs.



For more information, see <http://www.boot.hva.nl>



Or visit one of the BOOTs on location!

- BOOT West: Witte de Withstraat 100
- BOOT East: Molukkenstraat 147
- BOOT South East: Gravestein 23
- BOOT New West: Jan de Louterstraat 17

Radboud University Nijmegen



WILCO

Welfare Innovations at the Local level in favour of Cohesion