ABSTRACT

Background In this study we evaluated the long-term impact of a project in which families were individually supported in the realisation of personal future plans in the city of Almere, the Netherlands (2004–2006).

Method We used fourth-generation evaluation principles. Data collection consisted of semistructured interviews with family members and adults with intellectual disability as well as focus groups with both groups. Photovoice was used as a strategy to engage 4 young adults with Down syndrome in the research. The results of the photovoice were presented to the community at a town hall meeting. The data were coded and common themes were created.

Results The majority of the participants evaluated the project as having a positive impact on their quality of life.

Conclusions The results of the study support individual future planning for young adults with intellectual disability and their families in the transition to adulthood.

KEYWORDS: intellectual disability, family quality of life, person-centred future planning, photovoice, fourth-generation evaluation