

BIO

For many years, **Maurits Eijgendaal** has provided direct services with a framework of Gentle Teaching and has mentored and trained others in their practice and profession. He has been a leader for development and policy-making for various social service organizations in Denmark and Scandinavia.

For several decades, Maurits served as the managing director for the largest institution in Denmark, **The Village of Solund**, mentoring 750 staff members within this organization that continues to serve hundreds of people with severe disabilities.

In the 1980's he introduced the MSE/Snoezelen concept in Scandinavia, and later, in 2009, when his country of Denmark proposed to build a state-of-the-art MSE/Snoezelen center, Maurits served as their senior consultant and designer.

Maurits also took up the role of senior consultant and developer for an educational research center in Denmark that improves educational practices and standards for more than 3000 courses taught throughout the country, and was the head of this task force for many years.

He wrote a book about MSE/Snoezelen that focused on how to be a family, growing and celebrating together while raising a child with a disability. It was published in Danish (1990).

In 2009, his years of work, development, and leadership with colleague and friend, Dr. John McGee, culminated in their collaborative establishment of **Gentle Teaching International**, an organization for which Maurits served as president through 2013.

Maurits is **President of the International MSE/Snoezelen Association** (ISNA-MSE.org) and has worked in this regard since 2010.