



Mental Health Europe' statement of support for the European Pact for Mental Health and Well-being

Brussels, June 2009

We, Mental Health Europe (MHE), as European non-governmental organisation devoted to the promotion of positive mental health and the prevention of mental distress, welcome and fully support the European Pact for Mental Health and Well-being. We commit ourselves to contribute to its actual implementation, also through our member organisations.

Since the early stages, Mental Health Europe and its members have been engaged in key activities and events around the Pact's thematic priorities:

- Youth, Education and Mental Health;
- Prevention of Depression and Suicide;
- Mental Health and Older People;
- Mental Health in Workplace Settings; and
- Combating Stigma and Social Exclusion

MHE calls for actions at all levels to promote mental health and well-being and to raise awareness on the Pact's priorities. In order to keep mental health and well-being high on the EU and national political agendas, MHE actively contributes to the Pact implementation by providing strategic advice on relevant mental health issues; by gathering examples of action and good practices; by raising awareness of the Pact at the EU, national and local level; by assisting with building capacity for all the actors involved and mobilising support for the Pact.

MHE vision is of a Europe where mental health and well-being is given high priority in the political spectrum and on the European health and social agenda, where (ex)users of mental health services live as full citizens with access to appropriate services and support when needed, and where meaningful participation is guaranteed at all levels of decision-making and administration.

MHE's mission is to promote mental health and well-being of all citizens, for all minority groups and the whole of Europe. MHE's values are based on dignity and respect, equal opportunities, freedom of choice, anti-discrimination, social inclusion, democracy and participation. MHE believes that much more can be done in the promotion of mental health and well-being and the prevention of mental disorders if we address civil society, those suffering from mental illness, their carers and families.

On behalf of Mental Health Europe

Mary Van Dievel, Director