



## MENTAL HEALTH EUROPE



## MENTAL HEALTH EUROPE

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## NEWSLETTER N°10/2006

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## I.NEWS FROM MENTAL HEALTH EUROPE

### Mainstreaming Mental Disability Policies – Final Conference, 06-07 October 2006, Brussels

The final conference of the project "*Mainstreaming Mental Disability Policies*" presented the outcomes of the project and raised awareness of the fact that people with disabilities, including people with intellectual disabilities as well as people with mental health problems, are too often discriminated and marginalised. The aim of the project was therefore to promote the mainstreaming of mental disability policies to ensure the same services and structures for all. The conference, organised by the three implementing partners of the project - Inclusion Europe, Global Initiative on Psychiatry and the Open Society Institute -, was attended amongst others by the people with intellectual disabilities and mental health problems who had been trained in the frame of the project to promote the mainstreaming of mental disability policies at the local level.

Mary Van Dievel, MHE Director, gave a presentation on the contribution of the Green Paper on Mental Health to the social inclusion of people with mental health problems. She emphasised that social exclusion is a major public health risk that affects the mental health of a large number of people in the European Union. However, there is a scope for the Green Paper on Mental Health to act as a catalyst to promote social inclusion through:

- early interventions in childhood;
- support for employment;
- promotion of social networks;
- flexible funding and use of EU structural funding;
- empowerment through consumer-directed use of resources;
- legislative measures to ensure conformance.

Non governmental organisations play an important role in promoting the social inclusion of marginalised groups and are a key resource in pursuing the objectives of the Green Paper, although they are often under-funded! To all these challenges identified Mental Health Europe would like to add the importance of involving people with mental health problems and their carers at all levels of decision making. They know best what is good for them!

### Final partners meeting of the Grundtvig I project, Edinburgh (UK), 29-30 October 2006

The final partners meeting of the Grundtvig I project took place in Edinburgh, on 29-30 October 2006. It gathered representatives of the 6 partner organisations – the Polish Association for Child and Family Mental Health, the Czech Association for Mental Health, the Romanian Institute for Educational Sciences, Opportunity Associates (Romania), Mental Health Europe (Belgium), and InterMinds (UK) – together with the coordinator of the project, the Estuar Foundation (Romania).

The Grundtvig I project, "*Investment in Quality – Training Centres in Mental Health*", began in 2005. Its objectives are threefold:

1. to develop a training package in the field of mental health in order to improve the impact of social services offered to people with mental health problems;
2. to develop information, guidance and facilitate exchange of knowledge in the field of mental health;
3. and to promote the training network in order to inspire lifelong learning among the partner countries.

For this purpose, the partners worked together to develop and test a training course in mental health for a target audience (staff working in this field, representatives of the local authorities and administrations, service users...) and to train 15 trainers from the partner countries (Poland, Czech Republic and Romania). They also developed tools and methods for assessment, validation and certification, as well as promotion and awareness campaigns.

The project is now entering its final stage, as it is due to end on 31 January 2007.

The meeting was thus an opportunity, for the different partners, to assess what has been achieved so far and to talk about the future.

They agreed on the forthcoming release of 9 information leaflets covering various topics – such as the risk of social exclusion and discrimination, employment, stress management, risk factors for mental health problems or motivational interviewing - and targeted either to the general public or professionals of the mental health sector.

They also discussed about the deliverance of the 12 courses in mental health in the three partner countries (Romania, Czech Republic and Poland). It appeared that whereas the situation is very satisfying in Poland and Romania, where almost all courses have been delivered, the training courses will only start in November in the Czech Republic, due to unpredicted circumstances.

After compilation of the partners' reports, the Estuar Foundation will draft the final report of the project, which has to be sent to the European Commission.

Fanny Muller, MHE Information Officer, represented MHE at the meeting.

For more information: contact person, *Luminitia Costache*, Project Coordinator, Tel +4021 3321771, E-mail [luminitia.costache@estuar.org](mailto:luminitia.costache@estuar.org), or see the Estuar Foundation website, <http://www.estuar.org>

#### New online document on the MHE website!

Dear readers,

We are pleased to inform you that the French version of the report on the MHE Seminar, "*The EC Green Paper on Mental Health: Time for Action!*," which took place on 12 May 2006, is now available on our website at:

[http://www.mhe-sme.org/fr/publications/Compte\\_rendu\\_du\\_seminaire\\_du\\_12.05.06.pdf](http://www.mhe-sme.org/fr/publications/Compte_rendu_du_seminaire_du_12.05.06.pdf)

#### MHE representation at various meetings

On 2 October, Mary Van Dievel, Director, had a meeting with Mariana Atanasova to discuss the setting up of a mental health association in Bulgaria.

On 3 October, Josée Van Remoortel, Senior Policy Adviser, participated in a meeting with Mrs Wallis Goelen, DG Employment, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities, to discuss the European Coalition for Community Living activities.

On 4 October, Josée Van Remoortel, participated in the European Coalition for Community Living Management meeting.

On 5 October, Sogol Noorani, Project Coordinator, attended the meeting "*Preventing Exclusion: EU legal limitations and minority safeguards in the accession process of Bulgaria, Romania and the Western Balkans*", organised by the Minority Rights Group International (MRG) in Brussels (Belgium).

On 6 October, Mary Van Dievel and Sogol Noorani participated in the conference "*Mainstreaming Disability Policies*" organised in Brussels by Inclusion Europe, the Geneva Initiative on Psychiatry and the Open Society Mental Health Institute. Mary Van Dievel gave a presentation on "*The contribution of the Green Paper on Mental Health to the social inclusion of people with mental health problems*". (see p.2)

On 9 October, Elisabeth Muschik, Vice-President, visited the MHE office and participated in the Social Platform Steering Group.

On 10 October, Josée Van Remoortel, participated in the Social Platform Membership Accreditation meeting.

On 11 October, Mari Fresu, Project Coordinator, attended the DG SANCO stakeholders' consultation meeting.

On 11-15 October, Rita Donabauer (Pro Mente Austria) represented MHE at the Danube Symposium on Psychiatry, which took place in Albina (Bulgaria).

On 12 October, Mary Van Dievel met with Nicola Bedlington, Director of the European Patients Forum, to discuss possible collaboration.

On 16 and 17 October, Malgorzata Kmita, President, Elisabeth Muschik and Sogol Noorani, participated in the 5<sup>th</sup> Round Table on Poverty and Social Exclusion, organised in Tampere

(Finland) in the frame of the Finnish EU Presidency in collaboration with the European Commission's Social Inclusion Unit, DG Employment, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities.

On 16 October, Mary Van Dievel met with Joanna Dupont, from The Centre, to discuss collaboration possibilities.

On 18 October, Mari Fresu participated in the European Public Health Alliance Policy meeting.

On 20 October, MHE staff met with Mr Arild Sundberg from the Norwegian Ministry of Labour and Welfare.

On 29-30 October, Fanny Muller, Information Officer, attended the final meeting for the Grundtvig II project on "*Investment in quality – Training centres in mental health*" in Edinburgh (Scotland). (see p.2-3)

## II. NEWS FROM OUR MEMBERS

### Slovak League for Mental Health

After having spent almost 19 years in the Department of Psychiatry of the General Hospital Ruzinov in Bratislava (Slovakia), Peter Breier, from the Slovak League for Mental Health, moved to work in Great Britain.

From 1 October, his new E-mail address (previously [breier@nspr.sk](mailto:breier@nspr.sk)) will be: [pjbreier@yahoo.com](mailto:pjbreier@yahoo.com).

### Pro Mente Academy

Since its establishment more than 40 years ago, Pro Mente Vienna has got engaged in the field of professional training. For a long time the focus was on the training of volunteers. The founder of Pro Mente Vienna, Univ. Doz. Raoul Schindler, held introductory courses on social psychiatry in Vienna for many years. These courses were from the late 1960s until the 1980s an integral part of the education system in Vienna. In this context it was possible on the one hand to attract new volunteers and on the other hand the courses offered an opportunity to raise awareness among the Viennese society. The events made an important contribution to combating the stigma surrounding people with mental health problems.

Since 2005, the Pro Mente Academy is establishing new training courses and striving for the enlargement of networks in order to strengthen its position as expert and competent training instructor in the social and health field.

The Pro Mente Academy offers training courses in the areas of: psychotherapy, mediation, life and social counseling, sexual counseling, supervision, social management, borderline, schizophrenia, depression, alcohol, dependency, mental health at the workplace, conflict management, burnout, stress, dignified ageing, and social psychiatric basic knowledge.

The vision of the Pro Mente Academy is that professional training should not only be taken up by individuals, but that all groups of professionals working at different levels should expand their professional qualifications in order to upgrade their professional perspectives and to strengthen their competitiveness. Through professional training, core competencies such as team work, communication, independence and leadership can be successfully promoted.

The education and marketing of the training courses offered as well as the sensitisation of society are also of great importance at the Pro Mente Academy. Events such as "*University meets public*", the series of lectures "*When the mind needs help*" and health symposia on "*Mental health at the work place*" are some of the highlights.

In the forthcoming years, the Pro Mente Academy aims at enlarging networks at the European level and thus actively promotes its social psychiatry introductory course throughout Europe.

For further information contact: Mag. Andreas Schwab, Head of the Pro Mente Academy, [andreas.schwab@promenteakademie.at](mailto:andreas.schwab@promenteakademie.at), or go to [www.promenteakademie.at](http://www.promenteakademie.at)

**Your activities and initiatives are important! They may also inspire others!**

### III. WORLD MENTAL HEALTH DAY

#### Pro mente Steiermark Action Day, Austria

On World Mental Health Day 2006 (10 October), Pro mente Steiermark, which is the founder organisation of the "*Confederation against depression of the Steiermark region*", has together with partners organised an Action day at the Hauptplatz (Community Council Hall) of the city of Graz (Austria), on the theme: "*Depression can affect everyone*".

The aim of the actions was to raise awareness in society about the topic of "*Depression*" and to provide information. The maintaining and promotion of mental health and well-being were the focus of these events. Moreover, emphasis was placed on fighting the stigma surrounding people with mental health problems and combating all forms of prejudice.

*For more information: Pro mente Steiermark website, [www.promentesteiermark.at](http://www.promentesteiermark.at)*

*Thanks to Elisabet Muschik, from Pro mente Austria, for this contribution.*

#### "Make a Meal of it!", United Kingdom

To celebrate this year's World Mental Health Day, the Mental Health Foundation has encouraged people up and down the United Kingdom to "Make a Meal" of it by getting together with their friends and families to eat.

A ready-to-go online email invitation was designed in order to be sent to all interested persons.

*For more information: the Mental Health Foundation website, [www.mentalhealth.org.uk](http://www.mentalhealth.org.uk)*

#### Events/ Activities supported by the Advocacy Group for the Mentally Ill (AGMI), Cyprus

The ARTOS Cultural and Research Foundation 2006 Programme has been dedicated to the World Federation for Mental Health (WFMH) 2006 campaign, on "*Building Awareness - Reducing Risk: Mental Illness and Suicide*".

An art exhibition for people with mental health problems took place from 26 June to 1 July 2006, on the theme "*On the boarder line between sanity and insanity*". In parallel, some conferences were organised.

On 27 June 2006, a screening of the documentary, "*People say I am crazy*", by John Gardigan, was scheduled.

On the occasion of the World Mental Health Day, the AGMI sent a message to the country's carriers and newspaper.

*For more information: contact person, Elise Torossian, Tel +357 24 65 20 61, E-mail*

*[agftmi@cytanet.cy](mailto:agftmi@cytanet.cy)*

*Thanks to Elise Torossian, from the AGMI, for this contribution.*

**What have you done for World Mental Health Day? Send us your contributions!**

### IV. NEWS FROM OTHER EUROPEAN NGOS

#### European Disability Forum

EDF call for contact persons to cooperate with airports on the implementation of the EU regulation on air passengers with disabilities – **Deadline: 1 December 2006**

The EDF Secretariat is working with Airports Council International on the implementation of the recently adopted EU regulation on air passengers with disabilities and reduced mobility. This regulation states the rights of disabled air passengers when traveling in, from and to the European Union. Among other things, it states the right not to be denied boarding on grounds of disability and the right to receive assistance tailored to the needs of the disabled person free of charge.

The regulation will enter fully in force in August 2008, and the national authorities, the airlines and the airports all over Europe are currently working on the implementation. The regulation

has direct effect in all EU Member States, which means that it will not be implemented via national legislation.

According to the regulation, airports are obliged to cooperate with representatives of disabled people in a number of ways. Organisations of Disabled People should be involved in the definition of quality standards related to air travel for disabled passengers as well as the set-up of so-called designated points of arrival. These designated points are meant to be places in and around the airport where disabled people can present themselves in order to receive assistance when entering the airport instead of being dependent on finding the counter of a specific airline. In addition, the regulation obliges the airports and the airlines to give their staff training concerning disability awareness and other kind of training to staff dealing directly with disabled passengers. Organisations of disabled people could play an essential role in the provision of this training.

In light of this, the EDF Secretariat has agreed with the organisation of airports in Europe (ACI Europe) to try to work out a list of contact persons who could work with the airports regarding the issue mentioned above.

**Therefore, MHE members are requested to inform the MHE Secretariat about relevant persons that could be contacted by airports during the implementation of the regulation. This is relevant for local, national and European organizations since work is taking place on the three levels.**

*Please provide the name of the relevant person, the name of the organisation as well all contact details including E-mail address and telephone number to the MHE Secretariat: [info@mhe-sme.org](mailto:info@mhe-sme.org), Tel +32 2 280 04 68, by **1 December 2006**.*

*For more information: the EDF Secretariat, [ask.andersen@edf-feph.org](mailto:ask.andersen@edf-feph.org), Tel +32 2 286 51 85, or visit the EDF website, <http://www.edf-feph.org/en/welcome.htm>*

*Source: EDF Weekly Flash*

## **European Public Health Alliance**

### EPHA Environment Network launched its new name

Europe's leading non-governmental voice on health and environment has changed its name. From 21 September, the former European Public Health Alliance Environment Network (EEN) will be known as the Health and Environment Alliance.

The Health and Environment Alliance aims to raise awareness of how environmental protection improves health. It achieves this by creating opportunities for better representation of citizens' and health experts' perspectives in the environment and health-related European policy-making.

*For more information: contact person, Monica Guarinoni, Tel: +32 2 234 3640, E-mail: [monica@env-health.org](mailto:monica@env-health.org), or consult the Health and Environment Alliance website, [www.env-health.org](http://www.env-health.org)*

## **Social Platform**

### Commission decides to postpone publication of Green Paper on flexicurity

In the beginning of October, the Social Platform issued a press release heavily criticising the Commission for having decided to postpone the publication of the Green Paper on Labour law, under pressure of the employers' federation UNICE.

The document, which was supposed to be published ahead of the October Extraordinary Social Summit on flexicurity, has been prepared by Directorate General (DG) Employment and Social affairs and laid down the questions for a constructive debate on "adapting labour law to ensure flexibility and security". A draft version was leaked to EurActiv, which published it online.

"The sight of UNICE and the Commission running away from an open debate on flexicurity is both shocking and depressing," said Social Platform president Anne-Sophie Parent in the press release.

To download the Social Platform's press release: [http://www.socialplatform.org/code/en/pres\\_rele.asp?id\\_presse=125](http://www.socialplatform.org/code/en/pres_rele.asp?id_presse=125)

For more information: the Social Platform website, <http://www.socialplatform.org>

Source: Social Platform Weekly Mailing

## V. EUROPEAN UNION

### Bulgaria and Romania join the EU in 2007

The European Commission stated on 26 September 2006 that Bulgaria and Romania can join the European Union (EU) in 2007. But the final monitoring report by the Commission indicates tougher conditions on their entry and both countries will be closely monitored on the remaining areas of concern. The two countries will join as of 1 January 2007, unless the Council decides to postpone the accession until 2008.

The Commission also declared an "*enlargement pause*". Commission President Jose Manuel Barroso said: "*I do not think it would be wise to proceed with any enlargements before we have resolved the constitutional issue in Europe.*" This may raise doubts about Turkey and the Western Balkans joining the EU soon.

For more information: the European Commission website, [http://ec.europa.eu/enlargement/key\\_documents/reports\\_sept\\_2006\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/enlargement/key_documents/reports_sept_2006_en.htm)

Source: EurActiv Daily Update

## VI. EUROPEAN COMMISSION

### Publication of the EC work programme for 2007

The European Commission has just adopted its work programme for 2007. As the European Union prepares to celebrate the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Treaties of Rome, the Commission has mapped out the concrete action it will take to meet its strategic objectives for 2007.

For the first time, the Commission identifies a series of 21 strategic initiatives that will be the main focus of its work in 2007. In addition, the Commission sets out a further series of priority actions to be adopted over the next 12 to 18 months. The work programme takes the better regulation initiative to a new phase, by identifying simplification initiatives and withdrawals of pending legislation, and includes a list of priorities for communicating with citizens for the first time.

The 2007 strategic priorities build on the four overall priorities for the Barroso Commission: prosperity, solidarity, security, and a stronger voice in the world, and the "*Citizen's Agenda: Delivering Results for Europe*" document adopted on 10 May 2006.

The priorities for concrete action in 2007 are to modernise the European economy and equip Europe with the capacity to respond to the challenge of globalisation. This will include a new phase in the action at EU level on the Lisbon strategy for growth and jobs, a Single Market review and a comprehensive stocktaking of European society. The 2007 work programme also responds to the need for a better management of migration flows with specific proposals on economic immigrants and minimum sanctions for employers of illegally staying third-country nationals.

Energy will be at the top of the policy agenda in 2007 and the Commission will present the first Strategic Energy review for Europe. In parallel the Commission will put forward a Green Paper on options for climate change and the perspectives for international co-operation post-2012.

The Commission will also seek to provide value added by helping to make Europe a better place to live. A White Paper on health strategy will set out how the European level can contribute to health and a strategy will also be proposed in the field of social services and the contribution that can be made to better urban transport.

The work programme is only one part of the work of the Commission. Throughout the year, the Commission remains responsible for managing financial and operational programmes, within Europe and throughout the world. It has direct responsibility for managing a series of complex common policies and for ensuring the *acquis* is properly applied. It has a special role as guardian of the common European interest. This is also reflected for the first time in the Commission Legislative and Work Programme for 2007.

For more information: the Commission website, [http://ec.europa.eu/atwork/programmes/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/atwork/programmes/index_en.htm)

Source: Social Platform Weekly Mailing

### Commission launches public consultation regarding EU action on health services

After health services were excluded from the services directive, the Commission decided to establish an EU framework on healthcare services to ensure cross-border access to healthcare in the EU. The Commission believes that this kind of framework is needed to provide clarity and legal certainty on EU citizens' right to seek healthcare in other member states, with the cost being covered by their own health system. Currently, a number of individual European Court of Justice (ECJ) rulings guarantee such rights in certain cases.

Commissioners held an orientation debate on the issue on 5 September 2006.

On 26 September, the European Commission has launched a public consultation on how to ensure legal certainty regarding cross-border healthcare under Community law, and to support cooperation between the health systems of the Member States. Responses are sought by 31 January 2007. The Commission then plans to bring forward proposals later in 2007.

The consultation seeks input on issues such as:

- where greater legal certainty is required to facilitate cross-border healthcare in practice (eg: terms and conditions under which cross-border healthcare must be authorised and paid for; whose rules apply; and what happens when things go wrong);
- areas where European action can support Member States, such as networks of centres of reference and realising the potential of health innovation;
- what tools would be appropriate to tackle these different issues at EU level – whether binding legal instruments, 'soft law' or other means;
- and the current impact of cross-border healthcare on accessibility, quality and financial sustainability of healthcare systems, both for 'sending' and 'receiving' countries.

*For further information: the DG SANCO webpage,*

*[http://ec.europa.eu/health/ph\\_overview/co\\_operation/mobility/patient\\_mobility\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/health/ph_overview/co_operation/mobility/patient_mobility_en.htm), or the EU Public Health Portal, [http://ec.europa.eu/health-eu/care\\_for\\_me/mobility\\_in\\_europe/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/health-eu/care_for_me/mobility_in_europe/index_en.htm)*

### Commission announces new PROGRESS call

The European Commission has published a new call for proposals (VP/2006/019) for the forthcoming PROGRESS programme for employment and social solidarity. The call is open to non-profit European level networks active in combating discrimination, promoting gender equality and promoting the integration of disabled people in society.

These three areas of activity make up the three "actions" of the call. Only networks that have these areas as primary objectives and activities are eligible. The call is also only open to European level organisations made up of national members from at least 15 EU Member States.

The deadline for submitting a proposal is **17 November 2006**. Through this call, EU financial support is available for a period of 12 months maximum starting from 1 January 2007 at the earliest.

Detailed information on the call is available in the online documentation. This should be checked regularly as any updates will be posted online. The Commission can respond to further questions, as long as they are sent via email to the relevant mailboxes.

In the course of 2007, under the PROGRESS Programme, other calls for proposals and calls for tenders will be issued and published online.

*To download the Commission's new call for proposals and for more information: the Commission website,*

*[http://ec.europa.eu/employment\\_social/emplweb/tenders/tenders\\_en.cfm?id=965](http://ec.europa.eu/employment_social/emplweb/tenders/tenders_en.cfm?id=965)*

### **DG Employment and Social Affairs**

#### European Year of Equal Opportunities: National coordinators gear up for the Year

Events and activities marking the European Year of Equal Opportunities for All will take place all over Europe in 2007. There will be European level events, such as the Equality Summit at the end of January, but national coordinators will be responsible for organising the vast majority of events and activities in their countries.

Almost all 25 EU Member States have now nominated a ministry or equality agency as their national coordinator. These coordinators, known as "implementing bodies", will take the lead in organising events at national, regional and local level.

They will also be the key contact point for anyone in a country who wants to get involved. Any trade union, NGO, school or individual wishing to host an event or contribute in some way can contact their national coordinator for advice and support.

A few countries are still in the process of nominating a national coordinator. These will be announced on the European Year of Equal Opportunities for All website in due course. Negotiations are currently underway with Norway, Iceland and Liechtenstein and it is hoped they will also take part in the Year's activities.

*For more information: visit the European Year of Equal Opportunities dedicated website, [http://ec.europa.eu/employment\\_social/equality2007/nb\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/employment_social/equality2007/nb_en.htm)*

#### National Action Plans on Social Inclusion 2006-2008

The *National Reports on Strategies for Social Protection and Social Inclusion 2006-2008* (incorporating the National Action Plans on Social vInclusion – NAPs/Inclusion) have now been published by most EU governments. Some are available on the European Commission website and others will be added soon.

The European Social network (ESN) will begin to review the completed NAP process and the content of the action plans themselves. This will be done with the support of network members in local and regional social services across Europe. This review process will culminate in the publication of a report in December which will be disseminated to ESN members, the European Commission, national governments and other stakeholders in the NAP process and wider EU structure on social protection and inclusion. An introduction to the NAPs is available on the ESN website.

*To consult the National Reports on Strategies for Social Protection and Social Inclusion 2006-2008: the Commission's website,*

*[http://ec.europa.eu/employment\\_social/social\\_inclusion/naps\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/employment_social/social_inclusion/naps_en.htm)*

*For more information: the ESN e-newsletter,*

*<http://www.socialeurope.com/inclusion/enewsletter/september06.htm>*

#### Equal Rights in Practice newsletter now online

The autumn 2006 edition of the Equal Rights in Practice newsletter can now be downloaded as a PDF in English, French or German.

The biannual newsletter reviews the Community Action Programme to combat discrimination. This sixth issue has a special focus on training. It looks back on the Warsaw Community Action Programme conference in spring that shared this focus and highlights a wide range of ongoing training in the field of anti-discrimination, such as for legal professionals and for civil society groups.

This issue of Equal Rights in Practice also looks forward to a busy 2007, which will see the European Year for Equal Opportunities for All and the launch of the new PROGRESS programme.

*To download the newsletter: the Commission website,*

*[http://ec.europa.eu/employment\\_social/fundamental\\_rights/public/pubst\\_en.htm#news](http://ec.europa.eu/employment_social/fundamental_rights/public/pubst_en.htm#news)*

#### Capacity building of civil society dealing with anti-discrimination

Training of non-governmental organisations (NGOs) is one way to ensure that victims of discrimination are aware of their rights and receive the support to defend them if necessary.

In the 10 Member States that joined the EU in 2004, and in Bulgaria, Romania and Turkey, the EU-funded project "*Capacity building of civil society dealing with anti-discrimination*" offered training on the EU Equality Directives of 2000 and also national legislation and policies.

The partners of this project, Human European Consultancy and the Migration Policy Group, published a training manual that brings together material used in sessions to train trainers and national seminars. It covers key concepts in the Equality Directives and also thematic subjects such as awareness raising and providing support to individual victims.

The manual was produced in the local languages of the 13 countries involved in the training and also in English. Copies are available online or as hard copies in limited numbers. To

request hard copies, contact the European Commission by e-mail at [empl-antidiscrimination@ec.europa.eu](mailto:empl-antidiscrimination@ec.europa.eu)

To download the manual:

[http://ec.europa.eu/employment\\_social/fundamental\\_rights/public/pubst\\_en.htm#train](http://ec.europa.eu/employment_social/fundamental_rights/public/pubst_en.htm#train)

## **DG Health and Consumer Protection**

### Health-EU – Public Health Thematic Portal

The European Commission's EU Health Portal is now available in Polish!

To directly access the website: [http://ec.europa.eu/health-eu/index\\_pl.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/health-eu/index_pl.htm)

## **VII. EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT**

### Parliament gave green light to the PROGRESS Programme

On 27 September, Parliament gave the green light to the Council Common Position concerning the PROGRESS programme. PROGRESS is a new Community Programme relating to employment and social cohesion. The programme will enter into force, as foreseen, on 1<sup>st</sup> January 2007. The programme will be running for seven years (until 2013) and has a budget of €743,25m (at current prices) for the 2007-2013 period.

The budget was agreed by the three institutions in the context of the inter-institutional agreement on the Financial Perspectives for the years 2007-2013.

PROGRESS brings together, simplifies and rationalises a number of action programmes, which are due to expire (on combating discrimination, gender equality, cooperation to combat social exclusion and incentives to boost employment) and various budget lines in relation to working conditions into one common programme. The programme will be divided in 5 sections corresponding to the 5 main fields of activities: employment, social protection and inclusion, working conditions, anti-discrimination and diversity and gender equality.

For more information: the European Parliament website, [http://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/expert/infopress\\_page/047-10964-268-09-39-908-20060922IPR10881-25-09-2006-2006-false/default\\_en.htm](http://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/expert/infopress_page/047-10964-268-09-39-908-20060922IPR10881-25-09-2006-2006-false/default_en.htm)

Source: European Parliament Press Release

### Adoption of Daphne III Programme

In September, Members of the European Parliament (MEPs) overwhelmingly voted to approve €125 million in EU support over the next six years to help organizations that tackle violence against children, young people and women in Europe. The money is vital, as according to German Socialist MEP Lissy Gröner

(PSE, DE), who drafted the report, "a mere 17% or so of the projects submitted to date have received funding" under the "Daphne" programme.

This initiative, launched in 1997, supports organisations to fight against violence, including: fighting domestic violence, supporting victims of trafficking, contribution to the prevention of interethnic violence in schools and integration of help to neglected and abused children. Efforts to widen Daphne to include the fight against drugs were refused as it would be too wide a mandate.

For more information on the Daphne Programme: the European Commission website,

[http://ec.europa.eu/justice\\_home/funding/daphne/funding\\_daphne\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/justice_home/funding/daphne/funding_daphne_en.htm)

Source: Eurochild e-News Bulletin

### European Parliament postpones final vote Fundamental Rights Agency reports

The European Parliament decided to postpone the final vote on the reports by Kinga GÁL (EPP-ED, HU) and Magda KOSANE KOVACS (PES, HU) on the establishment of the EU Fundamental Rights Agency to signal that it insists the scope of the new body to be extended to intergovernmental cooperation in policing, justice, immigration and counter-terrorism issues.

Members of the European parliament (MEPs) adopted with a large majority amendment to the initial proposals of the European Commission but postponed the final vote on the legislative resolutions of the reports, deciding to refer both reports back to the Civil Liberties Committee for reconsideration. The rapporteurs proposed the final vote to be postponed in order to give

more time to the European Commission in consultations with the Council to reach an eventual compromise.

The European Commission proposed that the agency should deal not only with first pillar issues but also third pillar ones such as police and justice cooperation which also includes measures on immigration and counter-terrorism. Several Member States are opposed to this but the MEPs strongly support the proposal of the European Commission.

For more information: the European Parliament website, [http://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/expert/infopress\\_page/017-11584-284-10-41-902-20061011IPR11558-11-10-2006-2006-false/default\\_en.htm](http://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/expert/infopress_page/017-11584-284-10-41-902-20061011IPR11558-11-10-2006-2006-false/default_en.htm)

Source: European Parliament Press Release

## VIII. EUROPEAN COURT OF HUMAN RIGHTS

### Hungary: Man wins Historic Psychiatric Detention Case

Mr. Laszlo Gajcsi was detained for over three years in a psychiatric hospital in Hungary. His detention was reviewed by a District Court, in accordance with Hungarian law. However, the District Court failed to provide adequate reasons for the detention. On 3 October 2006, the European Court of Human Rights (ECHR) found a violation of the right to liberty, a core provision of the European Convention of Human Rights, holding that "*the reasoning of the court decision to prolong his psychiatric detention had been very superficial and insufficient to show that his conduct had been dangerous*" for the purposes of the relevant law, an assertion which the Hungarian Government did not dispute.

The Court ordered the Hungarian government to pay two million Hungarian forints (7,350 euro) in respect of non-pecuniary damage.

To download the ECHR judgment: the ECHR website,

<http://cmiskp.echr.coe.int/tkp197/portal.asp?sessionSimilar=8953092&skin=hudoc-fr&action=similar&portal=hbk&Item=1&similar=englishjudgement>

For more information: contact person, Jan Fiala, Tel +361 413 2730, E-mail [mdac@mdac.info](mailto:mdac@mdac.info), or see the MDAC website, <http://www.mdac.info>

Source: MDAC Press Release

## IX. VARIOUS

### Julie Renson Foundation – Info on mental health

The Julie Renson Foundation may help you to find addresses and information re. mental health in Belgium.

It may provide you with contact details of mental health institutions, day care services, sheltered living initiatives, mutual support groups, abused children support services..., but also with in-depth helpful information for university works, articles, presentations, researches...

Besides, if you prefer to carry out researches on your own, you may use the free on-line search engine, [www.theseas.be](http://www.theseas.be), which assists users with the finding of relevant offers in the huge mass of preventive and curative structures.

For more information: contact the Julie Renson Foundation, Tel +32 2 538 94 76, E-mail [info@julierenon.be](mailto:info@julierenon.be)

### News from the UK

- An initiative to protect mental health patients from the risk of hurting themselves or other people was announced on 15 September by the Department of Health. A Risk Management Programme has been set up to improve the way that professional assess risk, ensure that lessons are learnt from past incidents and make sure that information is shared between agencies to help prevent any future incidents.
- A damning report found that the National Health Service (NHS) is failing people with mental health problems because of a belief that they "*just do die younger*". The Disability Rights Commission (DRC) said the Government could face a legal challenge under new laws unless it takes action to stamp out discrimination.

For more information: the Mental Health Foundation website, <http://www.mentalhealth.org.uk/welcome>

Source: Mental Health Foundation newsletter

#### Brazilian city offers Zippy's Friends to all children

The Brazilian city of Sorocaba has become the first place in the world to run Zippy's Friends in all of its elementary schools.

Zippy's Friends is a school-based programme that helps six and seven year old children to develop coping skills. Sorocaba's Mayor Vitor Lippi set education and health as the priorities for his term of office, and recognised that Zippy's Friends brought these two strands together. The result is that all of Sorocaba's 74 public elementary schools have joined the programme. A total of 281 teachers were trained in the first year, and 10,050 children took part.

Amigos do Zippy is also running in other parts of Brazil, with 15,776 children enrolled nationwide, but Sorocaba has become the programme's shop window.

For more information: the Partnership for Children website,  
<http://www.partnershipforchildren.org.uk/docs/latestnews.html>

## **X. WEBSITES/ONLINE INFORMATION**

#### Website of the Scottish Centre for Confidence and Well-being

The Scottish Centre for Confidence and Well-being's core activities include providing information, networking interested parties and improving the quality of confidence building approaches and activities through the provision of workshops and conferences and the dissemination or development of tools for evaluation.

This website provides a lot of information on the centre's projects and events, as well as huge resources covering many topics, such as Positive Psychology, Cultural Questions or Well-being. If you wish to learn more on the centre's activities, you can download its Activities Report 2005 at <http://www.centreforconfidence.co.uk/index.php?pid=3&sid=26#>

For more information: the Centre's website, <http://www.centreforconfidence.co.uk/index.php>

#### Mental Health Foundation website

The Mental Health Foundation exists to help people survive, recover from and prevent mental health problems. For this purpose, the Foundation:

- undertake research;
- develop services;
- design training;
- influence policy;
- raise public awareness.

The foundation uses its findings to provide high quality information, publications, training materials and online services for statutory, voluntary and community organisations, and for the general public.

It also works to influence policy development, including government at the highest levels. The Foundation uses its knowledge to raise awareness and to help tackle stigma attached to mental illness and learning disabilities.

On the Foundation's website you will find a very good publications section, with interesting material that can be downloaded for free.

To directly access the Mental health Foundation website:  
<http://www.mentalhealth.org.uk/index.cfm>

#### New Committee on Mental Health website

The NGO (Non Governmental Organisation) Committee on Mental Health has a new website! The Committee was established in 1996 under the auspices of the Conference of Non-Governmental Organisations (CONGO) in Consultative Status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council. The creation of this Committee has fostered a strong collaboration between NGOs that has strengthened the efforts to bring understanding and appreciation of Mental Health issues to the global agenda at the United Nations.

The primary mission of the Committee is the promotion of psychosocial well-being, the improvement of mental health care services, and advocacy and education in the prevention of mental illness. The Committee works with the United Nations, and its specialised agencies, to

ensure the inclusion of mental health issues within a broader context of concerns such as vulnerable populations, human rights, poverty, violence, the environment, peace and well-being.

To visit the website: <http://www.mentalhealthngo.org>

## **XI. PUBLICATIONS**

### EU Funding Explained

It is estimated that a total of more than € 100 billion is available to all kind of organisations in Europe via direct grants or co-funding processes. Therefore, this book, published by e-ISOTIS (Information Society Open to ImpairmentS), is a direct answer to the need of hundreds of thousands of enterprises, corporations, foundations, non-governmental organisations and public authorities to find financial support from the European Union in order to run and develop their current activities. This book can be considered as a lifeline for anyone who is seeking financial support from the European Union and/or has ever struggled to achieve that.

For more information: send an E-mail at [publications@e-isotis.org](mailto:publications@e-isotis.org) , or consult the e-ISOTIS website [www.e-isotis.org/publications.php](http://www.e-isotis.org/publications.php).

### Psychiatric Power: Lectures at the College de France 1973-1974

In this new addition to the College de France lecture series, Michel Foucault's historical enquiry into the uses and techniques of power and knowledge finds itself directed towards a study of the birth of psychiatry. Psychiatric Power shows not only how Western society's division of the mad from the sane began, but also how society, medicine, and law and their treatment of the mad developed into what we now recognise as modern psychiatry, and how modern social and political attitudes towards madness developed. A seminal work by this leading thinker of the modern age, Psychiatric Power builds on Foucault's published writings while opening new vistas within historical and philosophical study.

Michael Foucault is acknowledged as the pre-eminent philosopher of France in the 1970s and 1980s.

The book is available in English, French and German.

To order a copy: the Amazon website, [http://www.amazon.com/gp/product/product-description/1403969221/ref=dp\\_proddesc\\_0/002-6326400-2175212?ie=UTF8&n=283155&s=books](http://www.amazon.com/gp/product/product-description/1403969221/ref=dp_proddesc_0/002-6326400-2175212?ie=UTF8&n=283155&s=books)

### Human Rights in Mental Health Care in Baltic Countries

Throughout the Baltic region, people with mental disabilities still lack access to community-based services and their human rights are still ignored. The conditions in mental health care institutions are somewhat similar in all three Baltic countries: Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania. However, at a policy and legislative level, Lithuania and Estonia have moved forward more rapidly than Latvia.

This policy paper has been developed under the European Commission (EC) funded project, "Monitoring Human Rights and Prevention of Torture in Closed Institutions: Prisons, Police Cells and Mental Health Care Institutions in Baltic Countries." The paper was developed by the following partner organisations: the Latvian Centre for Human Rights and its partner organisations, the Vilnius office of Global Initiative for Psychiatry, the Mental Disability Advocacy Centre, and the Estonian Patient Advocacy Association.

It gives an overview of current developments in mental health care policy in all three Baltic countries and provides recommendations to move services toward the norm of least restrictive care and community-based services and away from institutions. Recommendations are geared to governments, institutions in the countries addressed, national and international human rights advocates, and private and public donors. The text serves as a source of information for program planners, an advocacy guide for human rights organisations, and guidance for funds allocation for governments and donors.

For more information and to download the full report: the Open Society Mental Health Initiative website, <http://www.osmhi.org/index.php?page=202&news=210&pages>

### Who cares? The state of dementia care in Europe

On 21 September 2006, in order to celebrate the World Alzheimer's Day, Alzheimer Europe published a pan-European report: "*Who cares? The state of dementia care in Europe*", which highlights serious gaps in dementia care.

5.4 million people in the European Union currently have dementia and one in every 20 people over the age of 65 has AD, the most common form of dementia. However, the real number of people affected by dementia is much larger than these statistics suggest, as beside most patients is a carer – a wife, husband, daughter, son or other relative – who may have given up a normal daily life to look after their loved one.

The report summarises the findings of the "*Dementia Carer's Survey*". The survey, which involved more than 1,100 carers from five European countries, was conducted by an alliance of Alzheimer's associations to investigate the state of dementia care, how carers cope with looking after someone with dementia, and the services made available to them.

The majority of survey responders were caring for someone with AD, which can cause changes in personality and mood, as well as impaired memory and cognition. Carers reported that the most difficult problems to cope with were in managing daily activities, such as using the lavatory and washing, and behavioural symptoms such as aggression and irritability, which often cause a loved one to behave completely out of character.

To download the full report: <http://www.alzheimer-europe.org/?lm3=6C831951B6DF>

For more information: contact Alzheimer Europe, Tel +352-29 79 70, or visit the website, <http://www.alzheimer-europe.org>

#### Non-discrimination: a human right

The Seminar "*Non-discrimination: a human right*" was organised by the Council of Europe in Strasbourg on 11 October 2005, to mark the entry into force of Protocol No. 12 to the European Convention on Human Rights. Its aim was to examine the challenges to the effective application of this Protocol - which sets out a general prohibition of discrimination - with a view to promoting further ratifications by member states of the Council of Europe. These proceedings will be of interest to all those who follow the developments of human rights protection in Europe, particularly government representatives, legal professionals, researchers and NGOs.

To place an order directly:

[http://book.coe.int/sysmodules/RBS\\_page/admin/redirect.php?id=36&lang=EN&produit\\_aliasid=2012](http://book.coe.int/sysmodules/RBS_page/admin/redirect.php?id=36&lang=EN&produit_aliasid=2012)

For more information, the Council of Europe Publishing website, <http://book.coe.int>

#### Articles and results of the EUMAP survey on advocacy

Used in the context of civil society organisations (CSOs), the term advocacy has become something of a catch-all term, encompassing a wide range of activities carried out by non governmental organizations (NGOs). Advocacy can be broadly defined as activism, or campaigning, around a particular issue. However, its precise definition and content are still an evolving concept.

To open a broad discussion on the theme of advocacy, EUMAP (the website of the Open Society Institute's EU Monitoring and Advocacy Program) called for papers on the theme of CSOs and advocacy, and asked readers to take part in an informal survey.

The first of two rounds of Feature articles on the subject has now been published on the EUMAP site at <http://www.eumap.org/journal/features/2006/advocacy>, under the header "*Lessons from the field; deriving good practice from on-the-ground challenges*".

In total, six papers will analyse the opportunities and pitfalls that advocacy work presents to CSOs, including both overall analyses and presentations of individual case studies and examples of good practice.

Of the three papers in this first round, two focus on advocacy work in the field of disability and health rights (i.e. a paper on "*Supporting user led advocacy in mental health*"). The papers are complemented by a review of the results of the EUMAP survey by Miriam Anati.

For more information: the EUMAP website, <http://www.eumap.org/about>

## **XII. FORTHCOMING EVENTS**

**NEW!! 25 November 2006**

**MDAC (Mental Disability Advocacy Centre) Conference on inspectorates of mental health and social care institutions in the European Union, "Inspect!", Budapest (Hungary)**

Inspectorates, or monitoring bodies, are a crucial element in protecting the human rights of people with disabilities, yet few countries in the European Union (UE) have effective systems. The conference aims to share best practices from "old" and "new" Member States, and will encourage all EU countries to ratify and implement the Optional Protocol to the United Nations Convention Against Torture.

The conference is funded by the EU. It focuses on governments' obligation to establish independent inspecting/monitoring systems of mental health and social care institutions. The conference brings together non governmental organisations, ombudspersons and governments from a number of different countries in "old" and "new" member states of the EU.

For more information: the MDAC website, [www.mdac.info/conference](http://www.mdac.info/conference).

**7-8 December 2006**

**EASPD 10th Anniversary Colloquium and Seminar on the Right to Education for All, Brussels (Belgium)**

On 7 December, EASPD (the European Association of Service Providers for Persons with Disabilities) will celebrate 10 years of very fruitful networking between service providers and cooperation with stakeholders towards true equalisation of opportunities for people with disabilities through effective and high quality services. The anniversary-colloquium will be on social service provision for people with a disability in Europe.

On 8 December, EASPD organises a seminar on the right to education for all in order to examine the state of play of implementation of the Salamanca declaration (1994) and to discuss the proceedings with all stakeholders.

For more information: send an E-mail at [info@easpd.be](mailto:info@easpd.be)

**10-14 December 2006**

**5<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Social Work in Health and Mental Health, "Living in Harmony: Promoting creative synergy in a stressful world", Hong Kong (China)**

With internationalisation and advancement in medical technology, global citizens live under increasing stress due to growing poverty, health inequalities and uncertainties resulted from emergence of new diseases, natural disasters, human tragedies and pain caused by social problems and conflicts. Social workers all look for creative solutions and long for pragmatic interventions leading to harmony and bliss for all. The Fifth International Conference on Social Work in Health and Mental Health will provide a platform to share evidence-based practices among social workers from diverse cultures and societies.

Within the five-day programme, there will be physical exercises, tai-chi, hands-on techniques of Asian origin, Satellite Symposia in social service organisations, field visits as well as social programme and local hospitality with "Hong Kong style". Study Tours and Post-Conference Tours will also be organised to give the participants a first-hand experience of the cultural heritage of the East.

For more information: the conference dedicated website, <http://www.swh2006.com/en/welcome.html>

**NEW!! 30-31 January 2007**

**1<sup>st</sup> Equality Summit and Opening Conference of the 2007 European Year of Equal Opportunities for All, Berlin (Germany)**

Increased diversity in a changing, multicultural society is one of the greatest challenges facing the European Union (EU). In recognition of this diversity and in order to highlight its positive value in society, the EU has declared 2007 the European Year of Equal Opportunities for All and hopes through this initiative to contribute to a just society.

In order to help achieve this goal, an Equality Summit at ministerial level will be held every year, bringing together high-ranking representatives at EU and national levels. The first Equality Summit is to be held by the German Presidency of the European Council in Berlin on 30 and 31 January 2007. At the same time, the 2007 European Year of Equal Opportunities for All will be inaugurated in collaboration with the European Commission.

This will be the first time that high-ranking representatives from the Member States, the social partners, civil society and European anti-discrimination bodies come together to discuss the promotion of equal opportunities in Europe.

For further information: the conference office of the agency Steinrücke+ich, Tel +49-30-400 44 590, E-mail [berlin@steinrueckeundich.de](mailto:berlin@steinrueckeundich.de)

### **16 February 2007**

#### **EAP-SFU European Symposium "PSYCHIATRY - PSYCHOLOGY – PSYCHOTHERAPY: Similarities and Differences", Vienna (Austria)**

The European Association for Psychotherapy (EAP), in collaboration with the Sigmund Freud University (SFU), organises a European Symposium on the theme "PSYCHIATRY - PSYCHOLOGY – PSYCHOTHERAPY: Similarities and Differences" at the Sigmund Freud University in Vienna.

Based on the "Strasbourg Declaration on Psychotherapy of 1990" the EAP represents high training standards for a scientifically based and stands for a free and independent practice of psychotherapy.

To register to the conference: send an E-mail at [eap.headoffice@europsyche.org](mailto:eap.headoffice@europsyche.org)

For more information: EAP website, <http://www.europsyche.org>

### **9-11 March 2007**

#### **"Investing in Mental Health Policy and Economics Research" conference, Venice (Italy)**

The 8<sup>th</sup> International Workshop on costs and assessment in psychiatry "Investing in Mental Health Policy and Economics Research" is taking place in Venice on 9 - 11 March 2007. The event is organised by the International Center of Mental Health Policy and Economics (ICMPE) with the support of the World Psychiatric Association (WPA) - Section on Mental Health Economics.

This event would provide a good opportunity of exchanging experience and key results in the field of mental health as well as raising awareness about the MHEEN II (Mental Health Economics European Network phase II - 2005-2007) network. MHEEN members are strongly encouraged to send their contributions to the ICMPE before 30 October 2006.

For further information and to download the abstract and registration forms: the ICMPE webpage <http://www.icmpe.org/test1/events/events.htm>.

### **17-21 March 2007**

#### **15<sup>th</sup> European Congress of Psychiatry, Madrid (Spain)**

This annual congress is organised by the Association of European Psychiatrists (AEP).

The theme of the congress will be: "European Psychiatry – Science and Art".

The aim of the congress is to open new perspectives on the Science and Art of psychiatry and on issues related to treatment and patient care. The state-of-the-art lectures, plenary lectures and core symposia will provide a full update on the most important aspects of treatment in psychiatry and on the latest achievements in this field.

The congress also intends to comprehensively cover all various aspects of modern psychiatry and to favour meetings of psychiatrists with different backgrounds and orientations. This fruitful exchange of knowledge and experience aims at further developing a feeling of identity of European Psychiatry. Deadline for submission of abstracts: 22 November 2006.

For more information: the congress website, <http://www.kenes.com/aep2007/welcome.asp>, or send an e-mail at [aep2007@kenes.com](mailto:aep2007@kenes.com).

### **NEW!! 25-27 March 2007**

#### **6<sup>th</sup> International Conference "Public benefit for the Disabled", Cracow (Poland)**

**Due to unpredicted circumstances, the conference has been rescheduled from 26-28 November 2006 to 25-27 March 2006.**

The conference will take place in connection with ceremonial inauguration of 2007 – European Year of Equal Opportunities for All.

Debates will proceed about oncoming matters:

- obtaining the status of organisation of public benefit and organisational and administrative service;

- cooperation of national and local governments with non-governmental organisations on the base of legislative regulations and disability laws;
- impact of laws, concerning non-governmental organisations, on: rehabilitation, accessibility, transport, education, etc... of disabled people; anti-discrimination activities and equal opportunities for all; mass media as instruments exposing activities of non-governmental organisations...
- practices of non-governmental organisations of public benefit (or their counterparts in other European countries) and their influence on activities for equal opportunities for all.

For more information: the website of the Polish Association of Disabled People's website, [www.pson.ip.krakow.pl](http://www.pson.ip.krakow.pl)

### **10-12 May 2007**

#### **Europe in Action Conference, "Citizens' Rights for All – Full citizen's rights and legal protection for people with intellectual disabilities", Warsaw (Poland)**

During the European Year of equal Opportunities 2007, people with intellectual disabilities, family members, legal professionals and policy makers will discuss at this event the following main themes:

- Support in decision-making and legal representation;
- Full citizenship and legal protection;
- Withdrawal of legal capacity and its consequences.

For more information: the conference dedicated website, [www.EuropeInAction.org](http://www.EuropeInAction.org)

### **31 May–2 June 2007**

#### **MHE conference 2007, "No Health without Mental Health: from slogan to reality", Vienna (Austria)**

The MHE conference will focus on the outcomes of the consultation process of the European Commission's Green Paper "Improving the Mental Health of the Population" and the upcoming strategy for the next years.

The focus of the conference will be on the connection and the coherence between European policies and the impact they have on the mental health of the population.

Lectures, round-table discussions and workshops will give opportunity for sharing information and deepening knowledge but also for exchange of best practices.

Participants coming from all European countries will be encouraged to discuss the possibilities of implementing strategies on mental health throughout the whole life-span and to initiate cooperation between the different organisations and institutions working on mental health issues at the national and European level.

Additionally, MHE's annual General Assembly will take place at the end of the conference.

You can contribute by sending us your ideas for workshops you would be interested in.

For further information please contact: [office@promente-Wien.at](mailto:office@promente-Wien.at) or [info@mhe-sme.org](mailto:info@mhe-sme.org)

### **NEW!! 13-15 June 2007**

#### **8<sup>th</sup> European Union of Supported Employment (EUSE) Conference, Belfast (Northern Ireland)**

The Conference, "Supported Employment – Working for All?", aims to promote good practices in Supported Employment as well as exploring how the model can be used with other disadvantaged groups. The Conference will also pose the question "Is Supported Employment working for all?" and if not, why not?

For more information: the conference dedicated website, <http://www.euseconference2007.org>

### **19-23 August 2007**

#### **World Mental Health Congress of the World Federation for Mental Health, Hong Kong (China)**

The 2007 Congress will bring together international and local experts with diverse backgrounds including mental health practitioners, community partners, as well as users and carers of mental health services, to address a wide variety of topics of significant interest in mental health.

This year's congress theme is "Impact of Culture on Mental Health: East meet West". The innovative programme will cover four tracks: Importance of Environment on Mental Health,

Cultural Issues on Mental Health, Advancement in Care and Treatment, and trends in Promotion and Prevention of Recovery. Post-congress workshops will also be arranged in major cities in Mainland China to promote cultural exchange and exposure for the delegates from both the East and West.

For more information: the Congress Secretariat, Tel +852 2778 7173, Fax +852 2770 9345, e-mail [info@wmhc2007.com](mailto:info@wmhc2007.com), or the congress dedicated website, [www.wmhc2007.com](http://www.wmhc2007.com)

**NEW!! 25-29 August 2007**

**13<sup>th</sup> International Congress of the European Society for Child and Adolescent Psychiatry, "Bridging the gaps – Integrating perspectives in child and adolescent mental health", Florence (Italy)**

The advancements in neuroscience, as well as the development of an imperative for evidence-based medicine have created dramatically new challenges for Child and Adolescent Psychiatry. The 13th International Congress of ESCAP will be designed to offer clinicians, researchers, health workers, and others interested in the welfare of children and adolescents with a genuine appreciation of contemporary and appropriate methods of assessment and intervention. The program will be especially sensitive to the fact that the developmental periods of childhood and adolescence represent a crucial time for timely diagnostic evaluation and for the implementation of effective treatments.

The themes for this congress will include, among others, developmental neuroscience, assessment instruments, treatments and treatment effectiveness and many other varied issues that will be addressed at a highly scientific, yet clinically relevant level.

For more information: contact person, Cecilia Sighinolfi, E-mail [cecilia.sighinolfi@azzurro.it](mailto:cecilia.sighinolfi@azzurro.it), or visit the conference dedicated website, [http://www.escap-net.org/web/index.php?option=com\\_content&task=view&id=69&Itemid=148](http://www.escap-net.org/web/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=69&Itemid=148)

**18-21 November 2007**

**SMES-EUROPA 10th Conference, "After 15 years...", Rome (Italy)**

15 years ago (1992), in Rome, a first seminar was organised to mark the beginning of the SMES' movement.

The aim of the conference is:

1. A retrospective evaluation: "...what is the situation after 15 years?," what has been changed in a positive or a negative way?
2. Perspectives and proposals for the future, for absolute priorities in right and access to health and social services for homeless people.

For more information on the conference: the SMES-EUROPA website, [http://www.smes-europa.org/Rome2007\\_10conf\\_SMES\\_UK.htm](http://www.smes-europa.org/Rome2007_10conf_SMES_UK.htm)

**NEW!! 19-21 June 2008**

**World Psychiatric Association Thematic Conference, "Depression and relevant psychiatric conditions in primary care", Granada (Spain)**

Depression will be second to cardiovascular disease as a global cause of disability by 2020.

PREDICT is the European Commission 5<sup>th</sup> Framework Study of the predictors of depression in general practice attendees in six European and one Latin American country.

The results of this ground-breaking research will form the basis of this conference, with the following key objectives:

- To present new data on predictors of depression;
- To debate their significance for health promotion and prevention of depression in family practice;
- To promote inter-professional exchange between mental health and primary care professionals on management of depression and other common mental disorders in family practice.

For more information on the conference: contact person, Dr. Francisco Torres- González, E-mail [ftorres@ugr.es](mailto:ftorres@ugr.es), or visit the conference dedicated website, <http://www.wpa2008granada.org>

For Diversity



Against Discrimination

[www.stop-discrimination.info](http://www.stop-discrimination.info)

**Do you wish to share information, announce something or make a contribution to the MHE Newsletter?**

**Please send it to [info@mhe-sme.org](mailto:info@mhe-sme.org)**

Mental Health Europe is committed to:

- the promotion of mental health and prevention of mental distress;
- protecting the rights of people with mental health problems;
- removing stigma and discrimination;
- ensuring a fair share of resources for mental health.

Do you share our vision? Then join MHE now and you will strengthen the voice for mental health in Europe.

First name:

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Family name:

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Address:

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City:

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Country:

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Tel.:

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Fax:

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E-mail:

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Occupation or organisation:

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Date:

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Account number:

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Bank details:

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Completed form to be returned to:

Mental Health Europe  
Santé Mentale Europe  
Boulevard Clovis 7, B – 1000 Brussels  
Fax: +32-2-280 16 04  
E-mail: [info@mhe-sme.org](mailto:info@mhe-sme.org)

