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For more information, please look at the web site www.eufami.org or contact EUFAMI at info@eufami.org

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Caring for Carers Survey - C4C

On 12th January, EUFAMI & LUCAS' Caring for Carers (C4C) survey was the focus of a Joint Meeting of the European Parliament Interest Group on Carers and the Interest Group on Mental Health, Well-being and Brain Disorders. MEP Marian Harkin opened the session, which was also attended by MEPs Heinz Becker, Nessa Childers, Jean Lambert, Sirpa Pietikainen and Cristian Silviu Busoi.

Prof. Dr. Chantal van Audenhove (LUCAS KULeuven) presented the survey on behalf of EUFAMI, and pointed towards the inadequate recognition of family carers in mental health care despite high, cumulative and long-standing demands made on them. The presentation clarified the urgent need for a paradigm shift that views family carers as a resource and a partner in the care requirements of persons with severe mental illness. Other speakers included Spyros Zorbas (KINAPSI Greece), John Dunne (Eurocarers), and Jürgen Schefflein (EC DG Sante). Also in attendance from EUFAMI were Bert Johnson (President) Nadine Fossion (Board Member and Secretary) and Aagje Ieven (Secretary General). The results of the C4C survey were fed into the EC DG Justice consultation on working carers. Meantime, the C4C survey has also been [published in Spanish on online publication GeriatricArea](#)



ADOCARE

With the close of 2015, the ADOCARE project, in which EUFAMI was a collaborating partner and advisory board member, came to an end. The project's aim was to create an EU network of experts in the field of adapted care for adolescents with mental health problems, as the burden of mental illness is high in this age group while service provision is lacking in many ways. You can download the outcomes and recommendations in ten different languages here:

[English](#), [French](#), [Dutch](#), [German](#), [Italian](#), [Spanish](#), [Lithuanian](#), [Hungarian](#), [Swedish](#), [Finnish](#)



Joint Action on Mental Health and Wellbeing - JAMHWP

On 21 and 22 January, the [final conference](#) closing the Joint Action on Mental Health and Wellbeing was held in Brussels. EUFAMI President Bert Johnson co-chaired a plenary session and sat on the discussion panel about **Development of community based mental health services**. John Saunders, Board Member and Treasurer and Aagje Ieven, Secretary General, also attended. The final outcome, a [European Framework for Action on Mental Health and Wellbeing was published](#) on the same date. The EU Compass for Mental Health will be the main tool for further follow up, exchange of good practices and dissemination. In addition, the Framework for Action recommends a strategy of research and monitoring with yearly progress reports, and annual meetings supporting the mental health in all policies approach. Specific attention is paid to the transition to community based care which will need to be supported by good integration of services.



Value of Treatment Project – European Brain Council

The European Brain Council launched the Value of Treatment project on the economic argument for investing in prevention and treatment of six brain diseases on January 27th, in the presence of John Ryan, Acting Director of the European Commission's DG Sante. EUFAMI Secretary General Aagje Ieven took part in the work package on the economic argument for prevention and early intervention of schizophrenia and psychosis. A [discussion paper on the value of treatment of brain disease](#) was also published.



European Conference on Youth Mental Health – Dutch Presidency of the Council of the EU

The Dutch Ministry of Health, Welfare and Sports, as part of the Netherlands' presidency of the European Union (January-June 2016) organized a European Conference on Youth Mental Health on February 17th in Maastricht. The conference was opened and closed by young people with experience of mental health problems who set the agenda and evaluated the conference outcomes. An important topic of interest to EUFAMI discussed was the issue of prevention and early intervention in mental health issues, an area where services are greatly lacking. All information on the [conference website](#).



Health Programme

On the last day of February, the European Commission adopted the [Work Programme in Health for 2016](#). The overall total amount of EU funding available in 2016 covering grants and tenders is nearly **€58 million**, managed by the Consumer, Health, Agriculture and Food Executive Agency (CHAFAEA). The call for proposals will be launched in **March 2016**. Funding opportunities include projects and service contracts, as well as Joint Actions planned with national authorities – and while mental health is not a topic in itself, relevant topics to EUFAMI and its members and partners include refugee health and chronic disease.



Upcoming Work

European Psychiatric Association Congress – Madrid – 12-15 March - Bert Johnson (President)
Mental Health in France and in the World – Paris – 17 March – Aagje Ieven (Secretary General)
European Patiens Forum AGM – Brussels – 22-23 March – Bert Johnson and Aagje Ieven
EUFAMI will take part in the consultation on the Review of the EU disability strategy



From our Members

Representatives from Hafal presented [the 'Making Sense' report](#) to the Welsh Government on 19th January. The report makes 10 recommendations to improve Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) based on the findings of the consultation we held in autumn last year.



Resources

- Training resources for children of parents with mental health problems: www.camilletraining.net and <http://mailtodawson.wix.com/camilletraining#!welcome/c1nfo>
- Free online course "Literature and mental health: reading for wellbeing": <https://www.futurelearn.com/courses/literature>
- [Mental Health Channel: a new online](#), free to use network with 12 original documentary series on various topics of mental health: <http://mentalhealthchannel.tv/>



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