EHMA’s European Mental Health Systems Network launched in Brussels

On the 9th December, the European Health Management Association (EHMA) launched its new European Mental Health Systems Network in the European Parliament in Brussels. The main aim of the Network is to provide a European forum for senior policy makers, managers and researchers to look at mental health care from a management and system perspective. The conference included an opening session hosted by MEP Nessa Childers and an interactive workshop on day 2 aimed to link the network launch to the wider European scene. Speakers included MEP Nessa Childers, Kevin Jones, EUFAMI, Manuel Gomez-Benyeto, University of Valencia, Alan Yates, Mersey Care NHS Trust, Mervyn Morris, University of Birmingham, Centre for Community Mental Health, Isabelle Durand Zaleski, University of Paris, Juan Manuel Cabases, Public University of Navarra and Jeni Bremner, EHMA. Positive messages in support of the initiative were also received from WHO Europe and the European Commission.

New Europe for patients’ website online

The new Europe for Patients website is now online. The multilingual and thematic website has now a vibrant new look and content. The website is the information hub where one can find updated fact sheets, news, events, press releases and videos related to the campaign. This information is presented by 11 policies of the campaign that put patients first, at the centre of EU health policy including mental health, cross border health care and many others. On the homepage one can find a brief description of the policies, latest updates, upcoming conferences and the initiatives linked to the campaign such as EU health prize for journalists. To surf on the brand new website, log onto http://ec.europa.eu/health-eu/europe_for_patients/index_en.htm

Conference on children and young people with intellectual disabilities

This conference was held in in Bucharest, Romania on the 26th and 27th November 2010 in partnership with UNICEF. A full report and a copy of the declaration, signed by the WHO, UNICEF and the Romanian Ministry of Health, can be found at http://www.euro.who.int/en/what-we-do/health-topics/diseases-and-conditions/mental-health/activities/intellectual-disabilities.

Winners of the EU Health Prize for Journalists announced

At an Award Ceremony in Brussels, Paola Testori Coggi, Director-General of DG Health & Consumers, announced the winners of the 2010 EU Health Prize for journalists. The first prize of €5,000 € was awarded to a team of 2 Italian journalists, Gianluca Ferraris and Ilaria Molinari, writing for 'Panorama', for their article "Stealing Hope". The prize rewards the work of journalists across Europe that raises awareness of healthcare and patients’ rights issues. For more information about the EU Health Prize for Journalists, and to read the winning articles and short listed articles, log onto http://ec.europa.eu/health-eu/journalist_prize/2010/index_en.htm

Prospect – EUFAMI’s Training Programme

Prospect, EUFAMI’s Training Initiative, is currently being used by people in over 14 European countries. Prospect is a very unique peer to peer programme and was developed by EUFAMI members from many countries. If you would like to get further information, contact Rita Geerts on project.admin.office@eufami.org.

Happy New Year to all our members, friends and supporters from everyone at EUFAMI

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