



- October 2014-



EUFAMI Family Carer Survey

World Mental Health Day 2014 saw the release by EUFAMI of the initial results of its major survey on family caregivers. The release was timed for the 10th October as the theme for this year was Living with Schizophrenia. The initial results were based on responses from 7 countries. Readers will already have received a copy of the results and the press release on that day. As part of the release EUFAMI undertook an intensive two week social media campaign on both Facebook and Twitter. This campaign has turned out to be highly successful in reaching an enormous amount of people and has certainly convinced us that social media really needs to be used a lot more in order to get our messages out in the wider public arena. Regarding the survey, we are planning to have the overall survey of approximately 25 countries completed by the end of 2014 with results published in early 2015.



New Video from the WHO

The mhGAP Team at the WHO has recently launched a new video on depression which focuses on partners, carers and sufferers of depression. It advises those living with and caring for people with depression on what to do, what not to do, and where to go for help. It can be viewed at <http://tinyurl.com/n86sehq>. "Living with a Black dog" is a follow-up to "I had a black dog, his name was depression", which offers practical advice for coming to terms with and overcoming depression. The latter was launched during the 2012 mhGAP Forum and until today it has reached more the 4 million hits in YouTube and can be viewed at <http://tinyurl.com/pzuzr9d>.



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▶ **6th European Alcohol Policy Conference**

▶ **Careif – Global Suicide and Suicide Prevention Essay Competition**

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6th European Alcohol Policy Conference

Eurocare has the pleasure to announce the 6th European Alcohol Policy Conference which will take place during *Awareness Week on Alcohol related Harm* on 27th and 28th November 2014 in Brussels. The main aim of the conference is to bring together a broad representation of stakeholders concerned with alcohol related-harm (policy and decision makers, scientists, alcohol and health experts,) in order to strengthen networks, build capacity and stimulate action to prevent and reduce alcohol related problems at all levels. Further information can be found at <http://tinyurl.com/lzktrof>.



Careif-Global Suicide and Suicide Prevention Essay Competition

Careif is an international mental health charity with a special focus on protecting and promoting the health and well-being of young people living in culturally diverse societies around the world. Each year, they have held a highly successful essay prize competition to encourage 'state of the art' essays on key mental health themes. These are published on their website and in the lay and academic press. The essays aim to bring together a wide range of disciplinary perspectives, integrating the academic research, theoretical, conceptual, and public health perspectives. Careif are inviting persons to submit, in open competition, an essay on *Suicide and Suicide Prevention* and to explore its socio-religious context, cultural meaning and its association with stigma. The essay should include an incisive and synoptic literature review, focusing on improving knowledge about the ethno-aetiology of suicide together with the policy and practice implications for suicide prevention. More information about how to apply etc. is available at <http://www.careif.org>.



Unusual Drama School in Rome is set to Expand

Changing people's perceptions of mental illness has been a longtime mission for Dario D'Ambrosi, an Italian avant-garde actor and author. For the past five years, he has led Teatro Patologico, or the Pathological Theatre, an innovative drama school here that offers classes to people with mental disabilities. Now Mr. D'Ambrosi is trying to turn his school into a full-fledged university.



EUFAMI Member Planning Day

EUFAMI will be holding a very important planning day for its member associations on the 28th November in Leuven. As the future direction and strategy for EUFAMI for the coming years to 2020 will be the central item, we encourage all members to send their representative to this important meeting. Details have already been emailed to our member associations.



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

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