



September 2011



▶ **EUFAMI Congress – Delegates affirm the right of Families to choose**

▶ **EUFAMI Board and General Meetings**

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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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Basel Declaration on Community Care

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5th European Congress

Community Care - a blessing or a curse

**24th and 25th September 2011
Basel, Switzerland**



Co hosted by VASK Schweiz



In local co-operation with UPK



EUFAMI Congress – Delegates affirm the right of Families to choose

Almost 200 delegates from 30 countries attended the Fifth EUFAMI European Congress, which was held in Basel, Switzerland on the 24th and 25th September. The Congress consisted of a series of keynote speeches from representatives of family carers, users and professionals. A broad range of interactive workshops also took place at the Congress covering a wide range of topics which were of major interest to the delegates. The Congress culminated in the release of the **Basel Declaration on Community Care**, in which the delegates called for action to be taken across Europe under a number of headings. Delegates also affirmed that Community Care is a Human Right and is everyone's responsibility. They also committed to meet the challenge which faced them in achieving this right. Families also have a right to choose whether or not to accept a caring role and the need for a tangible recognition of this right was noted. The full text of the Declaration can be downloaded at http://www.eufami.org/index.php?option=com_pressreleasesnewsdesc&Itemid=135&titleid=93. A comprehensive report of the Congress proceedings will be made available in due course.

EUFAMI Board and General Meetings

Delegates from EUFAMI's member associations came together in Basel over the Congress weekend to attend the Board of Directors and General Meetings of EUFAMI. Both meetings were chaired by Sigrid Steffen, who is the outgoing President of EUFAMI. Sigrid's term of office as President will end on the 31st December 2011. A number of new Board members were introduced at the meetings and also three new members were elected to the Executive Committee – Nadine Fossion (Belgium), Martine Frager-Berlet (France) and Spyros Zorbas (Greece). These three, together with Connie Magro (Malta), John Saunders (Ireland), Alessandro Svetini (Italy) and Bert Johnson (UK), make up the new Executive Committee. The new President of EUFAMI will be announced before the end of the year. At the Board meeting, three new members were formally admitted – METIS (Belgium), OZMA (Israel) and Social Psykiatriskt Forum (Sweden).

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.



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