



- December 2013-



Season's Greetings from everyone at EUFAMI

We send greetings to all our readers and supporters for the festive season. We hope that you and all your families have a happy and peaceful time over the holiday period.

News from Hafal

Hafal have a new care and treatment planning course - 'How to get a great Care and Treatment Plan?'. The new course for people with a mental illness and their carers was developed by Hafal in collaboration with Bipolar UK and the Mental Health Foundation. The course gives students the skills they need to achieve an excellent Plan which identifies their needs and sets achievable goals. This is a 'pick up and go' course. The new course is already having an impact having won the Care Programme Approach Association UK Award in the 'Excellence in Providing Information about the Care Process for Service Users and/or Carers' category. To find out more about the new training course go to the Hafal website: <http://www.hafal.org/hafal/greatCTP.php>



Finnish Prospect Seminar

We briefly mentioned this event in last month's @Bulletin. It took place on the 29th November in Helsinki and was attended by over 50 delegates as well as the full Board of EUFAMI. It was the closing seminar of FINFAMI's two year project based on Prospect, EUFAMI's peer to peer empowerment and training programme, and the title of the seminar was 'The Power of Peer Support'. The seminar consisted of a number of presentations including the results of a wellbeing survey which was conducted during the project. The Chairwoman of FINFAMI, Anita Ruutiainen, officially opened the seminar and Bert Johnson replied on behalf of EUFAMI. A very positive outcome from this project is the development of 5 additional Prospect modules which will be released in 2014 as Prospect Plus. This has been warmly welcomed by EUFAMI. The seminar finished with the official acknowledgement of the Finish Facilitators and those involved in the development of Prospect Plus.



Survey on Empowerment Indicators in Mental Health for Users and Carers

The World Health Organization Collaborating Center for research and training in mental health (WHOCC, Lille, France) and WHO Europe invite you to participate in a survey aimed at assessing mental health empowerment of people using mental health services, families and carers in European countries. A questionnaire, based on 19 indicators defined during the WHO/EC Project for empowerment of users and carers in mental health (2009-2012), is now available. The objective of the survey is to test these indicators in European countries. The questionnaire is available on line: <http://enquetes.epsm-lille-metropole.fr/ccoms/empowermentccoms/questionnaire.htm>. Initial results will be presented during the European congress 'How to promote empowerment experiences for Mental Health users and carers in Europe? Indicators and good practices' that will take place on the 30th and 31st January 2014 in Lille, France (Information: www.ccomssantementalelillefrance.org). The quality of these results will depend on the involvement of people using mental health services, their families, carers, professionals and people interested in empowerment in mental health. Please feel free to disseminate this questionnaire through your own network.



David Nutt wins 2013 John Maddox Prize

Former ECNP (European College of Neuropsychopharmacology) President David Nutt has been awarded the international prize for courage in promoting science and evidence on a matter of public interest, despite facing difficulty and hostility in doing so. The judges awarded him the prize in recognition of the impact his thinking and actions have had in influencing evidence-based classification of drugs, in the United Kingdom and elsewhere in the world, and his continued courage and commitment to rational debate, despite opposition and public criticism.

NAMI Names Mary Giliberti as New Executive Director

The National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) in the US is pleased to announce the appointment of Mary Giliberti as the new Executive Director of the national organisation. Giliberti has served as a Section Chief in the Office for Civil Rights at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services since 2008. She previously served for three years as NAMI's Director of Public Policy and Advocacy for federal and state issues. She also has served as Disability Counsel for the Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions and senior attorney at the Bazelon Center for Mental Health Law. She is a graduate of Harvard College and Yale Law School. After graduation from law school, she clerked for Judge Phyllis Kravitch on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit. 'Mary has had a long and distinguished career advocating for individuals and families living with mental illness' said NAMI National Board President Keris Jän Myrick. 'She was selected after an extensive search informed by many NAMI grassroots leaders and others'.

EUFAMI Members – Please note

Dates for your diaries - Member training day and EUFAMI General Meeting – 6th and 7th June 2014. Venue will be Athens. More information will be sent out in the New Year.

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