



Dear readers

We are very happy to share this compilation of news with you, we hope you will find it interesting.

We are currently working on a new way to disseminate this information and to interact to you. We are busy developing a new platform that will make sharing pieces of news more user-friendly and more dynamic. We are excited about this new development and cannot wait to share it with you. You will know more about this in the next newsletter, stay tuned.

In the meantime, if you have any ideas, comments or suggestions for improvement, please do not hesitate to share them with Olivier Jacquain, our Senior Communication Officer (oj@eurocarers.org).

Have a good reading!

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EU Policy Developments

European Parliament - Proposal for a directive on work-life balance for parents and carers



The European Parliament and the Council present their proposal for a directive on work-life balance for parents and carers and repealing Council Directive. The Commission's proposed directive is one of the first deliverables of the European Pillar for Social Rights. It is based on the 'New Start' initiative aimed to address the work-life balance challenges faced by working parents and carers. The initiative will help in the pursuit of the objectives set out in the Treaty of equality between men and women with regard to labour market opportunities and equal treatment at work and the promotion of high level of employment in the EU.

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Care services in the EU for improved gender equality

In the framework of the Committee on Women's Rights and Gender Equality, MEP Sirpa Pietikäinen, co-chair of the European Parliament Informal Carers Interest Group, published her draft amendments to the Care services in the EU for improved gender equality proposition.



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Ms Thyssen on the gender dimension of the European Social Fund +

The European Social Fund + (ESF+) has been created to support and implement the objectives of the European Pillar of Social Rights, including its



objectives within the area of equality between women and men as well as equal treatment. One of the crucial deliverables of the Social Pillar is the work-life balance package of legislative and non-legislative measures to increase women's rate of employment and equal treatment in the labour market. Enhancing equality between women and men, through work-life balance measures and more broadly, requires targeted funds to be invested at national level with a gender-sensitive approach. On behalf of the European Commission, Ms Thyssen answers a few questions on the matter.

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SMEs in Europe voice their concerns on EP vote on work-life balance

As discussed during the last General Assembly, a very positive and ambitious proposal made by the European Parliament regarding work-life balance for parents and people with care giving responsibilities is being put up to vote. Unfortunately, it is not supported by all stakeholders. As you will be able to read it in the link below, UEAPME (the employers' organisation representing Crafts and SMEs from the EU) is trying to water down the directive.



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The Italian Ministry of Education sheds light on young carers and the challenges they face at school

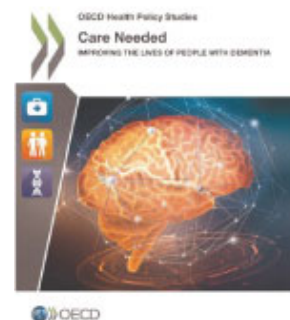


The Italian Ministry of Education, University and Research has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with organisations working for carers (Anziani e Non Solo, CARER, COMIP and Eurocarers). The aim is to raise schools professionals' awareness on young carers and to provide them with tools to identify and support young carers in their classes.

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Care needed - Improving the Lives of People with Dementia

Across the OECD, nearly 19 million people are living with dementia. Millions of family members and friends provide care and support to loved ones with dementia throughout their lives. Globally, dementia costs over USD 1 trillion per year and represents one of the leading causes of disability for elderly adults.



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CARE4DEM: first publication



Recently, CARE4DEM's partners jointly launched the study "How to support better informal carers of people living with dementia? the untapped potential of web-based support groups" The transnational project Care4Dem aims to support the development of web-based mutual aid groups for informal caregivers of people with dementia, through the design and the piloting of an innovative model of web-based support group, as well as a competence profile and a blended training for facilitators of such groups.

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INNOVCare Project results demonstrate need for integrated care for rare disease patients, and for their carers

The results of the INNOVCare Project (Innovative Patient-Centred Approach for Social Care Provision to Complex Conditions) were announced at the final project conference in Brussels on 5 September. They demonstrate the importance of integrated care for people living with a rare disease, as well as their carers. People living with a rare disease and their families need to access different types of care across various health, social and community services.



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Events and Calls for proposals

2nd EAPM Congress: Forward as One: Integrating Innovation into Europe's Healthcare Systems (November 26)

The European Alliance for Personalised Medicine's second annual Congress will, like the first edition and (by the end of March 2018) six Presidency conferences, pull together leading experts in the fast-moving healthcare arena.



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ECHAlliance and the Digital Health Society are partnering with other European Organisations



ECHAlliance and the Digital Health Society are partnering with other European Organisations to hold a Health Summit in Brussels on 29 November 2018. The ECHAlliance is leading one of the 4 Working Groups on eHealth, data and digital.

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19th International Conference on Integrated Care

As we mentioned in our previous newsletter, the 19th International Conference on Integrated Care will take place in San Sebastian, the Basque Region, from 1-3 April 2019. We provide you with further information on registration and paper submission.



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News from the network

Carers UK appoints new Chief Executive

Carers UK is delighted to announce the appointment of a new Chief Executive, Helen Walker. Helen joins the organisation from the national volunteering charity TimeBank where she has spent ten years as Chief Executive.



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Care Alliance Ireland Launches New Discussion Paper on the Topic of Family Care and Minority Populations in Ireland

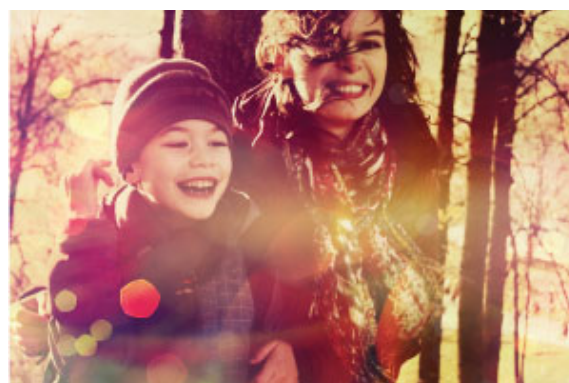


The latest in the ongoing Discussion Paper series, this new Discussion Paper, entitled 'Family Caring and Minority Populations', continues the series' goal of introducing some less-discussed topics which may affect family carers.

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"Heavy burden on narrow shoulders - when children care for their relatives": Young Carers in the Swiss television

In Switzerland, the awareness of children, adolescents and young adults providing care, assistance or support for other family members or friends (also called «young carers») remains low. To increase the awareness of this topic among the general population, and to enable young carers to share their personal experiences, the Swiss channel SRF will broadcast a documentary film by Helen Arnet entitled «Schwere Last auf schmalen Schultern – wenn Kinder Angehörige pflegen» (Heavy burden on narrow shoulders - when children care for their relatives).



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International Journal of Care & Caring: August 2019 issue



The Care Ethics Moment: International Innovations is guest edited by Prof. Maurice Hamington, Portland State University, USA. He explains: 'Care ethics has emerged as an international intellectual phenomenon, and is a relatively new area of care scholarship. This Special Issue provides an opportunity for global intellectuals advancing the frontiers of care ethics to discuss how care ethics scholarship is evolving in their region at this extremely generative time in the field.'

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Coordinators for Swedish parents with children with disabilities

In Sweden there is now a call for municipalities interested in testing and developing the role of coordinators for parents with children with disabilities. Supporting the call is the National Board of Health and Welfare Sweden (Socialstyrelsen), together with the Eurocarers member "The Swedish Family Care Competence Centre" (SFCCC, Nationellt kompetenscentrum anhöriga).



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EPYC Project - A guidance report to support young carers is available online



All over Europe, there are children, teenagers and young adults who take care of an ill or disabled family member. Studies suggest that 1-2 teenagers in every school class are taking on those responsibilities. We call them Young Carers and they are not yet recognized as a specific target group in the healthcare and youth sector in most countries. This is despite the fact that they are in need for targeted support as care responsibilities can limit their potential in education, work life and participation.

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A selection of APPs useful for carers now available thanks to the APPS4CARERS project

Support services based on information and communication technologies (ICTs), can do a lot to support informal carer. Mobile devices, in particular, are highly widespread and easy to use, allow the access to a wide range of internet-based mobile applications (apps) and websites already available on the market. These solutions are extremely useful to address some of main carers' needs (i.e. care scheduling and task sharing; health information and training; reminders; remote communication with other family members and care professionals), but in most cases carers are not aware of these solutions, how to install and use them, or the potential benefits they could get.



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ENOC statement on child mental health includes a clear reference to young carers!



Eurocarers participated as observer in the 22nd annual conference of the European Network of Ombudspersons for Children (ENOC), on 19-21 September, in Paris. This year's topic - 'Children's Rights and wellbeing, promoting mental health' - was particularly relevant for our work. Indeed, taking on a caring role constitutes a relevant risk factor for the occurrence of both immediate and long-term problems in young carers' mental health, well-being and development (as well as for their transitions to adulthood, social inclusion, education and employability).

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