Dear colleagues working in European organisations and institutes,

All over Europe, there are children, teenagers and young adults who take care of an ill or disabled family member. 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.

There are however, initiatives and projects that want to change this and shine a light on Young Cares in Europe. One of these projects was our Erasmus+ funded European partnership EPYC: empowering professionals to support Young Carers.

In the last two years we have developed resources and tools that support professionals in gaining knowledge about Young Carers. There are also tools that help professionals understand the need to support them and how to support them. We created a guidance report for policy makers and service providers with valuable recommendations on how to set up group support services for Young Carers.

These tools are available online for free on the website www.ep-yc.org. You can find resources and tools in English, but also in German and Italian. In addition, a useful database that lists numerous other resources that the partners collected in an analysis of good practice can be accessed on the website as well.

We encourage you to forward this information about Young Carers and the available resources and tools into your networks. It would be our pleasure to support your dissemination activities with further information if helpful. Moreover, of course you can get in touch with us for discussions on the topic of Young Carers or for possibilities of small or larger scale cooperation.

Best wishes,

Benjamin Salzmann and Licia Boccaletti

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