Book to be published by SYMPATEA

Our Czech member association, Sympathea, informs us that they have published a book about children’s experiences of mental illness. It contains a set of ten personal stories with graphics drawn by Sylvie, a daughter of one of Sympathea’s members. Sylvie suffers from paranoid schizophrenia and had newly her own exhibition of pictures together with two other persons affected by mental illness. The book also explains what parents should know, the legislation and how it should be respected and gives advice on how to get a subsidy for social service.

News from EUFAMI’s Greek members

FEAFES agreement with the Spanish National Federation of Psychotherapists

As part of the WHO QualityRights Project, which aims to improve service quality and human rights conditions in facilities as one of its objectives, the paper on Quality Rights Assessment in Greece was written by Katerina Nomidou, a member of SOFPISI N SERRON. It can be downloaded at http://www.who.int/mental_health/policy/quality_rights/en/index.html. We send her congratulations for her contribution to this important subject.

International Conference on Recovery 2013

This conference will take place in Bolzano, northern Italy from the 8th to the 10th May 2013. EUFAMI is delighted to be associated with this conference as a Patron. One of our Board members, Alessandro Svettini, is very much involved with the organisation of this conference. Bert Johnson, EUFAMI President, will also be participating as chair of one of the conference sessions. The website for the conference is http://convention.eurac.edu/conferences/2011/recovery/index_en.

FEAFES agreement with the Spanish National Federation of Psychotherapists

Our Spanish member association, FEAFES, has recently signed an agreement with the National Federation of Psychotherapists, in order to promote the inclusion of psychotherapy in the usual portfolio of services for people with mental issues. This National Federation is also connected to the European Association for Psychotherapy (EAP) and both are willing to share with the rest of the European countries their experience of collaboration between national associations of families and psychotherapists and invite them to do the same in their countries.

Malta Mental Health Association – Empowering Caregivers Course 2013

MHA is organising their 20 hour annual Empowering Course which will attempt to help participants understand mental illness and work on skills like problem-solving, communication skills and crisis management, that help the person affected recover a better quality of life. This course is intended for family members, all those working or planning to work in the mental health sector like psychiatric nurses, psychologist, social workers, counsellors, educators, community health workers, NGO staff and volunteers.

FRA publishes report on inequalities and multiple discrimination in access to healthcare

The European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA) has published a new report on “Inequalities and multiple discrimination in access to and quality of healthcare”. The report looks at some of the practical barriers and experiences of unequal treatment in accessing healthcare that people may face because of a combination of their traits for example, ethnic origin, gender, age and disability. The report looks at how multiple discrimination is legally addressed and examines relevant case law with a special focus on healthcare. The report can be downloaded at http://fra.europa.eu/en/publication/2013/inequalities-discrimination-healthcare.

IAPO re-launches the Patients’ Exchange

The Patients’ Exchange has been updated with new information, tools and resources to support the work of IAPO members. The Patients’ Exchange is an online resource library available to IAPO members. It offers a “one-stop-shop” to look-up the tools and resources of members and other non-profit organizations, as well as to share and exchange information online – (www.patientsorganizations.org)

Upcoming EUFAMI Meetings

The next EUFAMI Board meeting will take place on Thursday, 23rd May and the EUFAMI General Meeting will take place on Saturday, 25th May. Both meetings will take place in Dublin with the EUFAMI Conference taking place on Friday, 24th May.

Note to readers – if for some reason you no longer wish to receive the EUFAMI @Bulletin, please send an email to info@eufami.org, with the words ‘Unsubscribe Bulletin’ on the subject line.