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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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News from UNAFAM – Launch of Mad Days

The first Mad Days event will take place at 16.00 on the 10th and 11th October 2014 at the University Centre Malesherbes, Paris-Sorbonne University Regional Health Agency Ile-de-France. At the initiative of the Regional Health Agency Île-de-France and the associations UNAFAM and FNAPSY, this cultural event, open to all, will aim to raise public awareness to mental illness, de-stigmatised those concerned and to change behaviour.



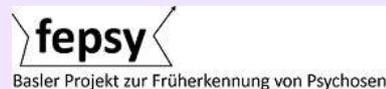
IMHCN Relaunch 2014

On Friday, 21st March the International Mental Health Collaborative Network (IMHCN) held its inaugural meeting as a reconstituted UK Charitable company. The members approved the new constitution of the Network. Fourteen Trustees were elected as members of the board. Roberto Mezzina will be the new Chairman, Mike Smith, Vice Chairman and the Honorary President is Franco Rotelli. The IMHCN is a formal network of partner organisations and individuals from across the world who are committed to the twin goals of deinstitutionalisation of psychiatric services and replacing them with a community based approach to mental health. The website is <http://www.imhcn.org/>.



FePsy Jubilee Congress

In celebration of the 15th anniversary of the FePsy project, the project coordinators are pleased to announce that a symposium on 'Early Detection and Intervention in Emerging Psychosis – State of the Art and Future Perspectives' will take place on the 25th and 26th September at the UPK in Basel, Switzerland. There will be different sessions with internationally renowned experts giving state of the art lectures in the most important fields of early detection and early intervention in emerging psychosis. On the 25th September, the main language will be German, one workshop and the lecture of Professor McGorry will be in English. On the 26th September, the Symposium will be in English. For more information on the congress and how to register, log onto www.fepsy.ch.



News from Hafal

Following a review over the last six months Hafal is making changes in anticipation of expansion of its activities including the development of a National Recovery Centre with inpatient services. The charity has recently completed purchase of the former Gellinudd Hospital in Pontardawe and is embarking on major works there as well as moving its headquarters to the site. Meanwhile the charity is restructuring its senior management to meet the challenges ahead.



News from OZMA

On the recommendation of OZMA, a EUFAMI member association from Israel, the Israeli minister of health visited the Jaffa community mental health centre on the 1st July. The centre operates several clinics, including intensive day care, dual morbidity (mental plus drug addiction) and the recently opened clinic ("Gesher") for work-seeking immigrants from Africa. The new clinic is also sponsored by UN agencies from Europe.



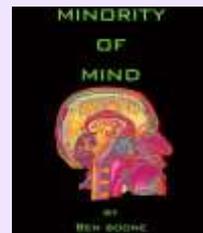
Early notification of important conference

A conference entitled 'Youth mental health - from continuity of psychopathology to continuity of care' will take place in Venice from the 16th to the 18th December 2014. The conference is being co-ordinated by IRCCS Fatebenefratelli (Italy) and is supported by the European Commission. EUFAMI is part of the organising committee. More details to follow.



Book demystifies struggle with schizophrenia

Benjamin Boone, the author of 'Minority of Mind', shares a journey few are able to take and talk about. Boone, now in his early 30s, was diagnosed with schizophrenia the day after he graduated with a degree in writing and publishing from Emerson College in Boston. He spent a month at Mclean Hospital and six months at a group home. During the past ten years he's been hospitalised nine times. Faced with the reality that he had a lifelong illness and his childhood ambitions would never be realised, he offered himself up as a test subject for dozens of research studies at Harvard Medical School and Massachusetts hospitals. His book 'Minority of Mind' tells a compelling story of his life as 'subject' for the study of schizophrenia and a host of other unrelated illnesses. Minority of Mind details a young man's descent into darkness, and his daily struggles to perform as a person, rather than a manifestation of his illness. It addresses how society treats those with serious psychiatric disorders and challenges our definition of 'madness'.



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