



VISION

ELECTRONIC MAGAZINE FOR MEMBERS OF THE EUROPEAN ASSOCIATION FOR DIRECTORS OF RESIDENTIAL CARE HOMES FOR THE ELDERLY EDE

February 2008

Dear Members of E.D.E.,



You have expressed the wish to see E.D.E. more present in Brussels.

Here is a concrete invitation for E.D.E. to participate in an important event organised by the European Commission.

»Protecting the dignity of older persons the prevention of elder abuse and neglect.«

As you can read in the letter attached, I am invited to speak at this conference.

To speak in the name of E.D.E. I need the examples of what, today, exists in YOUR COUNTRY as recommendations or instructions to care home managers and owners on the subject of elder abuse.

I can speak about the situation in France, but I would like to speak about ALL OUR MEMBERS' situations.

Please send me in ENGLISH, FRENCH or GERMAN the main actions your ministries have taken to reduce the phenomenon of elder abuse in residential homes.

Please send me a short message telling me, if abuse occurs in YOUR HOME, what are the instruction for you to take.

Please tell me which are the cases the most frequent: verbal abuse by the staff, hitting, shaking or pinching by the staff, contention when it is not prescribed by the doctor, abuse of giving too much medication, aggressive behaviour between residents, abusive threats of residents to the staff, neglect of feeding or of changing incontinence pads, financial abuse and abuse of their intellect frailty.

Thank you for your contribution.

Latest date: 1st March

Best wishes
Angela Cluzel



Wilfried Schlüter & Angela Cluzel



European Commission
Employment, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities DG
Social protection and Integration
The Director

Dear Mrs Cluzel,

The number of older people, particularly over the age of 80, will be growing very fast over the coming decades. Many of them will depend of the care of others, be they relatives or professional carers, and will be vulnerable to neglect or even abuse. Protecting the welfare and dignity of these people is becoming a major challenge for our societies which, I believe, should be discussed also at the European level even though it will remain the responsibility of the Member States to take appropriate action.

In its Communication of May 2007 on »Promoting solidarity between the generations« the Commission announced that it will give thought to the quality of services for elderly dependent people and protection against ill-treatment. The Commission is currently preparing a communication on high quality elderly care and the prevention of elder abuse to be adopted at the beginning of March 2008.

EDE VISION 9

This is the 9th edition of the electronic newsletter of the EDE: EDE VISION.

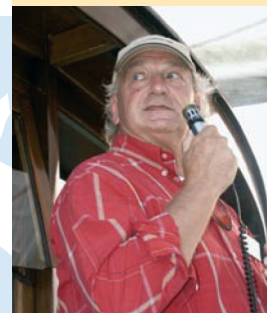
This newsletter will inform you of the Current developments within the European care centres and in particular on the position of the director/administrator. The EDE also intends to adopt a position on real issues in European politics in the context of care for the elderly.

EDE VISION's primary purpose is however to inform you about projects of the EDE and her member countries.



The fact that the newsletter is published electronically makes it readily accessible and enables national associations to pass the contents on to their members, EDE VISION is a publication of Skupnost socialnih zavodov Slovenije.

Editorial: Wim Schepers



Commissioner Vidale would like to offer policy makers and stakeholders from all over Europe an opportunity to discuss this communication at a conference which will take place on 17 March 2008. The title of the conference will be »Protecting the dignity of older persons the prevention of elder abuse and neglect«. It will take place in Brussels at the Charlemagne building, Rue de la Loi 170 and will be attended by Ministers, Members of Parliament, Members of the Social Protection Committee and the Expert Group on Demographic Issues, representatives of NGOs and other stakeholder organisations, academics and independent experts.

The main objective of this high-level event is to raise awareness of the issues linked to elder abuse and to trigger and open debate at the European level. The conference will present information on the prevalence of elder abuse, look at the causes and risk factors related to it and examine possible strategies for preventing elder abuse.

On behalf of Commissioner Vidale I would like to invite you to make an active contribution to the success of this conference as you can see from the attached draft agenda. Could you please inform us before 10th January 2008 if we can count on your participation.

For further information, please contact my collaborator:

Mr Julius op de Beke, julius.obdebeke@ec.europa.eu Tel: 32.2.29.93357

Yours faithfully,

Jerome Vignon

SERBIA (Belgrade)

The Association of Directors of Social Care Institutions of the Republic of Serbia has requested membership in E.D.E.

The association was constituted in May 2006 in Belgrade. It comprises of managers of institutions for older persons and for physically and mentally disabled persons, and for centres for social work and domiciliary care services.

It has 34 members.

Its statutes have been examined by the executive board and found to be conforming to E.D.E. requirements.

The members of the general board approved the application of the Serbia association and declared it a member of E.D.E.

The Netherlands

Neeltje Peters from the Dutch VDZ reported that the association was going into liquidation. The remaining 400 members will merge a larger workers association and will see about being able to rejoin E.D.E. as a branch professional sector of the overhead organisation. Neeltje Peters loses her job as head officer of the VDZ. She said her farewell to the General Board and thanked everyone for their good cooperation over the 18 years of E.D.E. Membership.



Neeltje Peters and Wilfried Schlüter

Switzerland (BVSL)

In the Swiss bvsl.ch association there is a similar decrease in members due to mergers into larger holding groups of homes. There remains only 120 members and they too are looking for a merger into another organisation for social welfare.



Carlos Marty and Wilfried Schlüter

Next General Board

The next General Board will be 14. 05. 2008 in Boras Sweden followed by the Swedish Conference.



Den I Internationella Äldreomsorg Konferensen
15-17 maj 2008
Anordnare
BORÅS STAD




THE RESIDENTIAL AND NURSING HOMES IN EUROPE
Finland, Hungary, Serbia, Denmark, France, Slovenia
Germany, Romania, Poland, Czech Republic,
Italy, The Netherlands and Sweden



Tema

- "The geriatric care in my country",
- "The care and nursing at my Residential Care Home",
- "How can we best assist our elderly citizens in Europe, in the world? Let us learn from each other and work together!"



You will find all details on:
www.boras.se/congress