

EAPC-East Newsletter

NR 1 – MARCH 2002

Dear Friends!

This newsletter is sent to all affiliated to the EAPCeast web site, EAPC board and also to person's active and interested in palliative care in Eastern Europe to whom we have an e-mail address.

There are so many positive activities connected with palliative care going on that we would like to share as widely as we can. This newsletter is one of the means to do so! Some of the information is also accessible through our web site www.eapceast.org.

Second year for EAPC coordination centre

First of all we are happy and proud to announce that the EAPC coordination centre for Eastern Europe has received funding for another year from the OSI. This means we will be able to support your activities and to apply for grants, develop the network and the strategies for positive development etc.

Grants distributed for Lyon conference

We also have had the pleasure and possibility through funding from the OSI to distribute 6 grants for the second EAPC research conference in Lyon May 2002. The recipients are:

Agim Sallakus, physician, Albania

Galina Kuznecova, nurse, Latvia

Sergejs Kuznecovs, physician, Latvia

Irina Baicalov, physician, Moldova

Pawel Wozniak, physician, Poland

Tofik Biktimiriv, physician, Russia

2005 conference in Eastern Europe - application deadline in April 2002

Please note that the EAPC conference 2005 will be hosted in an Eastern European Country. If you want to apply to host it in your country please cheque the web site for details.

www.eapcnet.org or www.eapceast.org.

Reduced membership fees to EAPC for organisations in Eastern Europe

New and old palliative care organisations are welcome to become members of EAPC. The membership fee has been reduced to 40 €per organisation and year. Being a member means that all members in the organisation are members in EAPC and get a reduced fee for conferences etc.

Supplement on Eastern Europe and palliative care in EJPC

European Journal of Palliative Care EJPC is EAPC's official journal published 6 times yearly.

We have extensive plans to make a supplement about Eastern Europe to one issue of the journal and to translate it into the different languages in the region. Please give your opinion and ideas on the content for such an issue. All input is welcome!

Twinning

There is a great interest for twinning both in the East and in the West but somehow it is hard to get a twinning arrangement "going". Is there anybody who is engaged in a successful twinning that would like to share with us how it started, what one should think of before starting a twinning, initiating problems etc.

At our own institution, Stockholms Sjukhem, we are just about to start a twinning program between our comprehensive palliative care centre and a hospice in the Czech Republic. We will let you know later on how things move on.

Council of Europe Recommendations and report

The Committee of Experts on the Organisation of Palliative Care is working on producing a report on palliative care for Europe. The report will have an extensive part on palliative care and a part with actual recommendations. The report and the recommendations will be presented to all the 43 countries health ministries at their meeting in June. After that the report will be public and for general use. When public the document will be accessible to download on the eapceast web site. We will keep you posted!

An initiative of implementation - an application to EU for a palliative care project

It has been possible to apply for funding of palliative care projects within the 5th Framework of the EU. The areas to apply for concerned pain, palliative care and elderly. An application was sent to EU for a joint project with 15 countries concerning palliative care. The Newly Associated States, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Romania, Slovakia and Slovenia are all included. From EU and EES, France, Germany, Italy, Norway and Sweden. When (not if!) we will receive the funding we will find supplementary sources to include other countries in Eastern Europe in this project.

The four-year project consists of several parts. One part is to get a consensus on minimum palliative care standards and to implement them in each country. Other parts concern assessment and quality of palliative care and networking.

Samples of palliative care activities in the Eastern European Countries

In Zagreb, **Croatia** there will be a conference on "Crucial problems in palliative care"- March 21 – 23, 2002 with invited international experts and under the auspices of the Croatian Ministry of Health.

In Poznan in **Poland** there will be a one week course in palliative care May 12 – 17, 2002 with international experts. The program consists of plenary lectures, workshops etc.

In Tirana, **Albania** a national conference will be held June 27 – 28, 2002 with one of the aims to establish a National Palliative Care Association of Albania.

As you see and understand a lot of activities and initiatives are carried out in the Eastern part of Europe and we are interested in knowing what you are up to. Please keep us and the others informed.

More will follow this letter but we are happy to get feedback from you to know what you would like to be informed about through this newsletter. If you would like to put something in writing and share it with us we will be happy to help you distribute it through the newsletter or put it on the web.

If you know someone that would like to be included in the mailing list please let us know.

Keep in touch!

Sylvia Sauter Carl Johan Fürst