

EAPC-East Newsletter
NR 13 – June 2003

Dear Friends,

This Newsletter is the last before summer. You will find grants available especially for Eastern Europeans as well as free education CD's and an invitation to take part in a photo documentation on palliative care and very interesting information on a national survey from Bulgaria etc.

This week is midsummer and summer's longest night.....this is very special in the north part of the hemisphere, so in Sweden next week is the start of the summer holiday season. This meaning the centre will be less active and not so frequently "populated" until mid August.

Volunteer conference – Grants available

4th National Conference on Hospice and Palliative Care Volunteerism
Columbus, Ohio, USA, August 2-4, 2003

It is a three-day conference and day one will contain programming especially useful for volunteers. Examples of session topics in days two and three will include equipping volunteers for excellence through skill building, leadership and management skills.

The National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization (US) and OSI – Open Society Institute have generously allocated funds to support some delegates from Eastern Europe to attend the Conference on Hospice and Palliative Care Volunteerism. The NHPCO will provide complimentary registration for delegates receiving these grants. For more information on the conference go to www.nhpco.org and click conferences.

For application form see under download on www.eapceast.org

Depict your palliative everyday- a palliative care photography project

We are turning to all of you working with palliative care in Eastern and Central Europe who would like to join this project to document palliative care through photography.

We hope that at least one person from each country will join the photo documentation. The plan is to compile enough material for a photo exhibition on the theme Palliative Care to open here in Stockholm in October.

When joining this project you will be sent two colour 24x36 mm 200 ASA films with 24 exposures. You commit yourself to return the films before August 25. You will of course get copies of the developed photos back for your own use. See more on the web www.eapceast.org under download

If you are interested please get in touch before June 30, 2003.

Bulgaria

In Bulgaria the local Open society Foundation in Sofia has made an extensive survey on public opinion to assess the need for hospices and attitudes towards this kind of care. The report also includes a database of the registered hospices as positions of the interested parties, discussions on possibilities, problems and prospects for hospice development in the country.

The report will be distributed to governmental and non-governmental institutions, as well as to donors. On June 26th there will be a public presentation of survey findings and all delegates who were present at the conference in February will be invited.

Get inspired by reading the report on: http://www.osf.bg/osfpress/health_pub_en.html and then click on "Needs assessment and attitudes to hospices January – April 2003"

In the next issue of the Newsletter you will get a report of some background and the reception of the report.

Slovenia

Development of palliative care initiative for organized palliative care services and infrastructure in Slovene health care system, January - June 2003

Activities are intense and the results to get support for establishing organized and well educated teams of palliative care paid by the government in the new health care reform is a great achievement. Read more in the report that can be Downloaded from the web site www.eapceast.org.

8 free CD's - Cancer and the puzzle of pain-an interactive educational programme

EAPC has year 2000 produced this interactive CD, with the faculty and co-editors Franco de Conno, Carl Johan Fürst and Friedeman Nauck.

The contents: Cancer pain- myths and facts, Pain assessment, Who analgesic ladder, Side-effects and their control, Routes of administration, Dose equivalence, Non-pharmacological methods of pain relief,

We have 8 CD's to send to those of you who are interested in receiving a copy.

Please let me know if you would like a copy and I will send it to you as long as I have copies left.

Directory of Open Access Journals(DOAJ) <http://www.doaj.org> - Lund University Libraries launched a Directory of Open Access Journals(DOAJ) May 20, 2003 that contains information from about 350 open access journals, i.e., quality controlled scientific and scholarly electronic journals that are freely available on the web. The service will continue to grow as new journals are identified.

"Course for the interdisciplinary palliative care teams in Eastern Europe".

The course will be organized by Hospice "Casa Sperantei", The Regional Resource and Training Centre for Palliative Medicine Brasov, Romania, September 22-26, 2003.

The following **countries** are **eligible** to apply: Albania, Bulgaria, Macedonia, Moldavia, Romania, and Yugoslavia. Organizers will pay for travel costs (by train only) and accommodation (including meals) for the period of the conference.

Participants should be part of the palliative care interdisciplinary teams, with the following specialties: GPs, nurses, psychologists, chaplains, social workers. From each country **3 participants** of different specialty will be accepted. Participants must be able to **communicate in English**.

Application to be submitted before August 15th, 2003 directly on www.anip.home.ro

Contact persons: Anca Pantea, Bianca Mihai, phone: 0040 268 47 24 15, 47 24 55, fax: 0040 268 47 54 33. E-mail: hospice@rdslink.ro

Making a case for hospital based palliative care

The Center to Advance Palliative Care has released a free publication for professionals who want to make a case for hospital-based palliative care to their key decision-makers. It is titled "The Case for Hospital-Based Palliative Care: Why Leading Hospitals are Starting Palliative Care Programs". It details how forward thinking hospitals are turning to palliative care to deliver high quality care for the seriously ill patients while increasing staff and patient satisfaction, and lowering costs. You will find the publication in PDF format at:
<http://www.capc.org/content/258>

Journal series on palliative care available online

The Journal of American College of Surgeons (JACS) has featured a 21-article series over the past two years entitled 'Palliative Care by the Surgeon.' The series, which has run on a monthly basis, addresses end-of-life issues, and was written for and by surgeons. The series was edited by Geoffrey Dunn, M.D., co-chair of the Promoting Excellence in End-of-Life Care Surgeons Palliative Care Workgroup, whose Executive Summary of their Report to the Field appears in the May JACS issue. You can view all 21 articles by visiting,
<http://www.promotingexcellence.org/navigate/surgeons.html>

2nd Global Conference Making Sense of: Dying and Death

21 - 23 November 2003, Paris, France

Call for Papers

For further information please have a look under News on the EAPC-East web site.

This is the last Newsletter before summer. The next Newsletter will be distributed in September. Do not forget to look under News/Archive on the web site as not everything is in the Newsletter

Until then keep in touch and let us hear from you.

Have a nice summer!

Sylvia Sauter

Carl Johan Fürst