



NOVEMBER - DECEMBER 2018

EAHSA General Meeting decides final steps in E.A.N. merger



On Monday 10 December, the General Meeting of EAHSA took place in Brussels. This annual event was a special one, as the meeting decided to call for an extra-ordinary General Meeting in April 2019 to proceed with the merging process and the dissolution of the Association.

The dissolution of EAHSA is part of the merging process EAHSA and EDE that started in 2017. Both associations will merge into the newly created European Ageing Network, EAN. EAHSA and its members are already a member of EAN since summer 2018. All EAHSA members will receive an invitation for the extra-ordinary General Meeting soon. The meeting will take place on 12th April in Utrecht (NL) in the frame of the first EAN members' meeting.

The General Meeting also adopted the financial year report and the 2018 Activity report. The documents will be published on the EAN website soon and will be sent to all EAHSA members.

—Marcel Smeets-



Goodbye and Thanks, Dale Stevenson



After many years of good work for EAN and EAHSA our Boardmember **Mr. Dale**Stevenson will end his boardmembership. EAN decided to give him the EAN honorary membership.

Thank you very much, Dale!

... and thanks to <u>SENECURA</u> for hosting the last E.A.N. Executive Board meeting on 14th December. More details from the meeting in the next issue. —kv-

PARTNERS



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Going further for health



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CALENDAR

11 APR 2019, Utrecht /NL/ EAN Executive Board meeting

12 APR 2019, Utrecht /NL/ EAN General Board meeting

17-19 SEP 2019, Toronto/CAN/ GAN Conference on LTC

23 – 25 OCT 2019, Matera /IT/ ANSDIPP conference on LTC supported by E.A.N.





ECREAS launch symposium signals paradigm shifts



On Monday 10 December, EAHSA initiative ECREAS was launched at the symposium *Paradigm shift in Ageing Services: Sharing experiences*. The

Services: Sharing experiences. The European Centre for Research and Education in Ageing Services (ECREAS) is a digital platform to share and to consolidate research and best-practices in the elderly care sectors. At its launch symposium, ECREAS President Freek Lapré introduced the initiative and set out the future work plan.

In several presentations speakers identified significant paradigm shifts in ageing care across Europe. Tracy Paine, Deputy Chief Executive of BELONG VILLAGES (UK) presented the project *Your life, your pace, your way*. It consists of

seven brand new facilities in the North-West of England, Belong villages were founded on the vision that older people have the right to enjoy the same community belonging and richness of experience that they have always known.

François Scherer, Chief Executive Officer of Alice & Victor (France). Committed and innovative, Alice & Victor is an independent living community, linked to a nursing home, and based on a high level of sustainable development and technological domotica support.

Finally, Fabio Bonetta, General Director of ITIS (Italy) stressed the importance of the local environment and the role cultural expressions like music and photography can play in activating older people and in promoting social inclusion. Around the common and familiar building blocks lifestyles are built from a social approach. Bonetta urged elderly care service providers to look at day to day life and to create conditions for the residents so that they are challenged by recognizable incentives to remain active in daily, precious life.

— Marcel Smeets-

European Commission announces evaluation of Disability strategy

In a recently publishes roadmap, the European Commission is announcing an evaluation of the current Disability strategy. The European Disability Strategy 2010-2020 is a comprehensive multiannual framework which describes a set of objectives and actions for the implementation of the disability policy at EU level. The Strategy aims at promoting a barrier-



free Europe and at empowering people with disabilities so that they can enjoy their rights and participate fully in society and economy. The Strategy identifies eight thematic main areas for action (Accessibility; Participation; Equality; Employment; Education and training; Social protection; Health; External action) which mostly contribute to the objective of a barrier-free Europe.

The purpose of evaluation is to review the implementation of the Strategy and to assess to which extent the Strategy translated into accurate and/or new policies and planned changes, as well as the way it influenced implementation of the UNCRPD at EU level. Drawing on the available evidence, the results will be used as reference base for possible future policy development. The evaluation will assess the effectiveness, efficiency, relevance, coherence, and EU added value of the Strategy and will cover all the eight areas for action identified by the Strategy and the Strategy's general instruments.

An open online public consultation will be conducted during the first half of 2019.

-Marcel Smeets-

E.A.N. partnership in EU projects





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New directive on Transparent and predictable working conditions will affect elderly care sector

On 15 November, the European Parliament voted for a report on Transparent and predictable working conditions. The proposal for a Directive on Transparent and Predictable Working Conditions is a direct follow-up to the proclamation of the European Pillar of Social Rights. It aims to set new rights for all workers, particularly addressing insufficient protection for workers in more precarious jobs, while limiting burdens on employers and maintaining labor market adaptability. Also elderly care workers are affected by the proposal.

The Commission is proposing that all workers in the EU should have the right to more complete information on the essential aspects of the work, to be received by the worker, in writing, at the latest on the first day on the job (rather than up to two months afterwards) and is also limiting the length of probationary periods at the beginning of the job

More specifically for the elderly care sector is the new requirement to inform workers a reasonable period in advance when work will take place. Especially in case of on-demand work and 'zero-hours contracts' for care workers with very variable working schedules determined by the employer, these can have planning implications. Another new right for workers in general will be to receive cost-free mandatory training that the employer has a duty to provide.

The proposal has a broad personal scope of application. It aims to ensure that these rights cover all workers in all forms of work, including those in the most flexible non-standard and new forms of work such as zero-hour contracts, casual work, domestic work, voucher-based work or platform work. It also comes with targeted provisions on enforcement, to make sure that workers in the workplace effectively benefit from these rights.

With the EP adoption of the report, the proposal for a new directive on Transparent and predictable working conditions is "in Trilogy", meaning that the European Commission, the Parliament and the European Council are negotiating final agreements.

- Marcel Smeets-

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The Future of Longevity - New Partnerships for a New Age

The Longevity Leaders Conference connects the leaders in longevity science, technology, business and investment to tackle the grand challenge of extending human health span at a groundbreaking congress on 4 Feb 2019 in London.

Key themes include:

- The Future of the Science of Ageing
- The Future of Care
- Realizing the potential of the Longevity Industry Revolution
- Derisking Longevity
- The Technology Challenge
- The Investment Opportunity



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The European Ageing Network (EAN) members can secure a 15% discount using the promotional code EAN15 when booking online.

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Breda (NL) wins 2019 Access City Award for making city more accessible to older people and citizens with disabilities

The 2019 Access City Award goes to the city of Breda, in the Netherlands, for continuously making improvements to make life easier for older people and people with disabilities. In Breda, public places such as parks and stores are accessible to everyone. Digital technologies ensure that all citizens can get around using public transport.

For the 2019 Access City Award, the European Commission received 52 applications. The city of Évreux in France and the city of Gdynia in Poland are the second and third place winners. The Access City Award, organized by the European Commission together with the European Disability Forum, is one of the actions of the EU Disability Strategy 2010-2020 to create a barrier-free Europe. It recognizes those cities that are leading lights in overcoming obstacles across Europe today. The Award is given to the city that has clearly and sustainably improved accessibility in fundamental aspects of city living, and that has concrete plans for further improvements. The purpose of the Award is to inspire other cities, which may face similar challenges, and to promote good practices across Europe.

—Marcel Smeets-

PHI (US) publishes 2018 Direct Care Workforce Review

US-based PHI has published its 2018 Direct Workforce Review. The direct care workforce expands every year, the reporters conclude. This trend is spurred largely by

the persistent growth in the number of older adults and increased longevity in the general population. The report states that the quality of direct care jobs hasn't improved commensurate to this expansion, which forces many workers to leave the sector and leaves clients stranded without support.

As in the EU, US home care providers are struggling to hire the right candidates, find enough workers to fill cases, and keep strong employees in these roles. Recognizing that the home care job needs a sector-wide transformation to remain attractive, PHI questions how long-term care employers can better recruit and retain home care workers.

As the US's leading authority on the direct care workforce, PHI promotes quality direct care jobs as the foundation for quality care. Direct care workers assist older adults and people with disabilities with daily tasks, such as dressing, bathing, and eating. Direct care workers include personal care aides, home health aides, and nursing assistants. Personal care aides also help their clients with housekeeping and might assist them with errands, appointments, and social engagements outside of the home.

The PHI 2018 Direct Care Workforce Review can be found here.

-Marcel Smeets-

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AgeingFit

Come and meet your colleagues at AgeingFit, Lille /FR/ -29^{th} and 30^{th} January 2019



AgeingFit is the leading international business convention dedicated to innovation in the healthy ageing sector.

AgeingFit will gathers nutrition industrials, E-health, medical devices, services providers and academic research groups, as well as health insurers and retirement home with one goal in mind: to connect with potential business, research and financial partner with the objective to launch new products and services for the senior market.

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