

## Welcome to the 1st issue of the “Care2Work” project e-newsletter

The Care 2 Work (C2W) partnership is very pleased to introduce you to the first project e-newsletter that aims to bring to you project updates, free resources, news and events of the 2-year, pan-European project “Care2Work”.

Care2Work is an innovative, youth-led project that aims to tackle the barriers faced by young carers from Black, Asian and minority ethnic groups (BAME) when accessing employment, education and training. Having started in May 2015 and for the next 2-years, C2W aims to generate and pilot new knowledge on the needs of BAME young carers with an ultimate goal of achieving institutional and cultural change in the UK and Europe.

To achieve its objectives, this innovative youth-led project develops an evidence base on the needs of BAME young carers and use it to develop and pilot accredited, youth-led training (face to face and online). The training will target young BAME carers as well as service providers and professionals.

The project is supported by Erasmus+ (Key Action 2), and is delivered in partnership with three European Partners namely **Anziani e Non Solo** (Italy), **Linnaeus University** (Sweden) and the **Family and Children Care Centre** (Greece) under the leadership of the **IARS International Institute**.

We hope that you find this short e-publication useful and we welcome your feedback and involvement in our work.

For more information about us and our work you can also find on our project’s dedicated web-platform [www.care2work.org](http://www.care2work.org)

Warmest Regards,

*The Care2Work Partnership*



## International Conference in Italy: Barriers Understood: Black Minority Ethnic Carers in Europe

The first international conference entitled “**Barriers Understood: Black Minority Ethnic Carers in Europe**” was held on 10 February 2016 in Capri Italy in the framework of the pan-European, youth-led project “Care2Work”. The conference brought together over 110 researchers, policy makers, youth professionals and employment agencies representatives from across Europe to discuss the long-term implications of caring on young people’s personal and professional development with particular focus on youth from Black and minority ethnic backgrounds. The conference offered the opportunity to participants to discuss findings of the first-phase of the project that involved national

research reports from the partner countries UK, Sweden, Greece and Italy and highlighted among others caring as a positive experience that helps young people develop strong interpersonal and practical skills including empathy, responsibility and self-confidence. Strengths that if nurtured and managed well, can lead young carers to live successful and fulfilling lives. Keynote speakers included Patrizio Bianchi, Regional Ministry for European policies, development, school, VET, research and employment in the Emilia Romagna Region, Albert Bellelli, Mayor of Carpi, Giorgia Silvestri, Coordinator of services for children - Aliante social cooperative, Nora Marzi, Psychologist – Local Health Service - Modena. The event was chaired by Lalla

Golfarelli - President of CAR.ER; The Carers Association of Emilia Romagna. A young carer was also shared her experiences of caring for her bi-polar mother at young age. **More information about the conference and presentations can be found here**



## **E-book released: Young BAME Carers: Barriers and Opportunities for Employment and Education**

The “Care2Work” partnership released an e-book titled “Young Black and Minority Ethnic Carers”: Barriers and Opportunities for Employment and Education”. The publication aims to present the realities of young carers from Black and Minority ethnic communities, address their needs and highlight the impact of caring in their lives. It also presents the current policy and practice landscape in four participating countries; UK, Greece, Italy and Sweden with a view to identify gaps and opportunities in existing approaches that will further support young carers to bridge the gap between caring, employment and education and further training enabling them to live fulfilling lives. The report was produced following in depth youth-led qualitative research with young BAME carers and youth professionals in four European partner countries. The findings will guide the second phase of the project that aims to develop capacity building youth-led training for young carers and youth workers. **The e-publication and country reports can be freely accessed via the project's website here.**



## **Care2Work Website Platform**

In October the “Care2Work” Partnership launched its new web-platform “www.care2work.org”. The website supports the aims of the C2W programme that targets one of the most marginalized communities in Europe with a view to break the cycle of poverty and multiple disadvantage that they face. Interactive training tools, resources, blogs, project updates, events and news are featuring in this new interactive web-platform specifically designed for a diverse audience that includes young carers, youth workers, researchers, academics, policy makers and employers. The new platform aims to raise awareness on the needs of young BAME carers and provide a much needed space for resourceful debate among various stakeholders. The website will also host a range of innovative training tools addressed to both young carers and professionals that can be utilized to up level young carers’ skills and knowledge acquired through caring, enhancing their employability. The website welcomes blogs, news and events submissions at **<http://www.care2work.org/contact>**.



## **Video presentation: Young Carers and European Policies**

Stecy Yghemonos, Director of Eurocarers, the European Association of Working Carers, contributed to the “Care2Work” International Conference in Italy presenting the current situation of carers in Europe and outlining the work of European institutions to address the issue. **Watch his video presentation here.**

## C2W Next Steps / Get involved

Following the successful completion of the first phase of the project and the production of the literature review our European teams are working on the designing of training materials and workshops that will be addressed to young carers and professionals. In particular, over the course of the research, we identified 8 soft skills that young people develop through their caring experiences. Our training workshops will address and strengthen these transferable skills with a view to enable young people to pursue a better future for them and their families. Professionals' workshops will raise awareness and increase capacity of front line youth professionals to identify these skills and support young carers to utilize them as an important resource for their future employment and/or further education opportunities. If you want to attend the workshops or refer young people to attend contact Andriana at [a.ntziadima@iars.org.uk](mailto:a.ntziadima@iars.org.uk) Project's Testimonials



### PROJECT'S TESTIMONIALS

Dr. Christel Verhas, Directeur Gezinspolitiiek en Sociaal Cultureel Werk said: "I was very glad to have been able to participate in the conference on young carers. In recent years, Gezinsbond has tried to get more attention and support for young carers in Belgium, but due to a lack of information on their situation, the anonymity they live in, the difficulties to recognize them as a group... we could never develop a real advocacy strategy. Now, with the results of the research as presented in Carpi, we have more insights, more results we can compare with. Thus, our organization commits to undertake political action to improve the situation of young carers: In the domain of education (recognition of care competences, develop a special recognition allowing a more flexible study career, ...). In the domain of wellbeing (cfr. New Carers Act UK: providing a legal base for minor children to be taken into account when their parent is in need of care). In Europe: we will consult with COFACE, to see if we can take this matter higher upon the European agenda Furthermore, Gezinsbond hopes to find extra means to contribute to the knowledge on young carers. Should the project be extended or renewed, we would be interested in being a partner. Congratulations on your excellent work! Hoping to hear from you in the future and wishing you all the best."



### Current Vacancies

Youth Worker/Trainer to deliver Institute's community engagement projects; Deadline for applications 4th March - More info and to apply click [here](#).

Non-Executive Director to join IARS International Institute's Board of Trustees, more information can be found [here](#)

### Accredited Training Opportunities

15th March, London: CPD accredited training session 'Victims Voices in Restorative Justice' - Book your place [here](#)

2nd, 9th March, London: Accredited youth training session at The Oxford and Bermondsey Club (3 Webb Str. Bermondsey, SE1 4RP) - 18:30 - 19:30 \*Free event - Book your place [here](#)

### Publications

Elisa Impara (2015) "Radicalisation and Subcultures: a Theoretical Analysis", Published by Youth Voice Journal. [Click here to access the article.](#)

Royal Holloway Group PR3710 (2015) 'A codified constitution is a massive deal': young people, deliberative democracy and A new Magna Carta?', Published by Youth Voice Journal. [Click here to access the article.](#)

### Policy news

House of Commons Justice Select Committee Inquiry on Restorative Justice, IARS' full response is available [here](#).

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