



The European Pact for Mental Health and Well-being

Thematic Conference – Mental Health in Youth and Education

Stockholm 29-30th September 2009

Organised by DG SANCO and the Swedish Ministry of Health and Social Affairs
under the auspices of the Swedish Presidency

Objectives

- To raise awareness of the importance of promoting mental health and well-being and preventing mental disorders in children and young people;
- To enable exchange at EU-level on policy activities, good practices by stakeholders and research projects in Member States, supported by a Commission database;
- To endorse an implementation framework for the Mental Health Pact in the field of mental health in youth and education.

Themes

1. Parents, family and the early years;
2. Educational settings and learning;
3. The community environment;
4. The role of new media, internet and electronic games;
5. The role of health services in promotion and prevention.

Presentations

Presentations will cover policies at EU and Member State level; practical experiences from programmes/projects; research activities; and the point of view of young people.

Consultation

An interactive preparatory process will involve researchers, Member States and relevant stakeholder organisations. Both DG SANCO and the Swedish Ministry of Health and Social Affairs will guide preparations, with support from an Advisory Committee consisting of major EU-level actors in mental health in youth and education.



Preparatory work

- *Background document and key messages in Youth and Education*

A background document will build on the Consensus Paper "Mental health in Youth and Education" prepared for the 2008 High-Level Conference by adding options for implementation within the 5 sub-themes.

This document, consisting of a rationale, key messages, essential actions and more detailed background information will be prepared by a group of scientific advisors and will be further developed through the consultation of Member States, stakeholders and research experts from all relevant sectors. The consultation process should bring the endorsement of the key messages and commitments on how to support actions to be taken at the regional/national and European level.

- *Database of good practices*

As part of the implementation process DG SANCO is developing a database of good practice examples with the aim of collecting and disseminating relevant examples of good practice in mental health action for the priority area "Mental Health in Youth and Education". This will allow Member States, regional authorities and non-governmental partners to present and access good practices in this area, thereby promoting the exchange of solutions across the EU. The instrument will include information on different types of actions, such as policies, programmes, campaigns and training courses that are being developed at the national, regional and/or EU level.