

Report of the closed session of the Taskforce Spiritual Care, 5 June 2014

Participants:

Marie José Gijssberts (NL) (PhD); José Weststrate (NL, policy advisor Agora); Lucy Selman (UK) (co-coordinator research group); Bella Vivat (UK) (co-coordinator implementation group); Erik Olsman (NL) (PhD, theme Hope); María Teresa García-Baquero Merino (Madrid, Spain) (co-coordinator implementation); Dolores Mateo Ortega (ES) (clinical psychologist); Veronica de Pascual (ES) from from la Caixa Foundation; Xavier Gomez-Batiste (Barcelona, ES) (psychologist); Debby Hayden Ireland PhD; Peter ? internist/psychologist, geriatric department (Austria); Shane Sinclair (Calgary, Canada); Theresa Young (UK); Piret Paal (Munich, Germany) co-coordinator education; Carlo Leget, steering comity Taskforce SC (NL), Professor in Ethics of Care and Spiritual Counseling at University of humanistic Studies; Joep van de Geer, steering committee Taskforce SC (NL) Chaplain and researcher; Marijke Wulp, support Taskforce SC (NL) Policy advisor Agora, National Centre of Palliative Care

Presentations of the working groups

Research (Lucy Selman), Powerpoint presentation (ppp) attached.

The goal to involve more people in the research of spiritual care was successful! That's great.

Planned aims: see PPP.

Remarks:

- Maria Teresa can manage a focus group for International research on spiritual care in Madrid. Please contact her when you are interested. In Madrid there is funding for consultation teams (see presentation Dolores and Veronica further on).
- Debby works in Ireland alone on the theme Spiritual Care. There's no network. She should like to incorporate young investigators on this theme. She will give it a try in Ireland. At the EAPC there's a early researcher group. Maybe we can link? We can invite them in the taskforce and inform them about our goals. It's important that sc is integrated part of all pc research.
- Erik Olsman: What is the relationship with spiritual care research in other sections then palliative care? Maybe the research now is too much focused. Is there research that reports evidence?
- Carlo: There are different scenes in which the theme spiritual care plays a role. In the US Puchalski (Healthcare), Malta (broader healthcare). There are spiritual care-researchers we not yet know. Maybe we can use LinkedIn more intensive to find them.
- Maria Teresa is positive about the possibilities of European funding this theme. She will hear within a few weeks about the European possibilities for funding. Tip: Use Google trying to find funding. So you see who are interested in spiritual care. You can trace which people/organisations are interested.
- Piret Paal: Maybe we can incorporate young investigators in Summerschool projects.
- Carlo: In the Netherlands we are investigating what's going on in the field of spiritual care research. Are there other initiatives?
- Lucy: Is searching for people for specific tasks, namely
 - To build a website database. Make links to other databases as the Source database and Gwish. Who knows a funder to get in our information in those databases?
 - Writing blogs and collect reactions and answer them.
 - A key person in each country tot collect en coordinate (research) information.
- Austria is interested in spiritual care from the perspective of physicians. A key person should have a group of interested people around him with a diverse focus on the theme.
- MariaT: the concept spiritual care is still not clear. Yet she didn't wrote the blog about the working definition. She will do it soon and send it to the coordinators of the working groups in order to tighten the concepts internally.

- **Marie-José Gijssberts** will be the co-coordinator research as a replacement of Mieke Vermandere for one year.

Bella: How do the other taskforces work? How do they staff there taskforce?

Carlo: We are rather ambitious with 3 themes. It looks from the outside successfully, but too few people do too much work. Bella: This doesn't work on the long term. Funding is needed for structural support.

Education (Carlo and Piret Paal)

Carlo: The aim is to spread the enquiry about education (see <http://www.eapcnet.eu/Themes/Clinicalcare/Spiritualcareinpalliativecare/Educationenquiry.aspx> . Eventually there is the wish to publish a White Paper.

Piret: Trial Education Enquiry. Try out in Germany (see ppp attached):

There was a call in October 2013 and April 2014. She received 26 answers of which 2 persons answered there were no initiatives on education about spiritual care.

Striking: 81% used the TF definition of spirituality

Themes: most frequent: reflection and general competences of communication (Piret finds that's unfortunate, because it's no specific training on spiritual care). See ppp for all themes.

Key persons: Please promote people in your country to complete the enquiry!

A white paper is a standard of the state of the art. It contains a literature review and an overview of empirical work. See as example:

<http://www.eapcnet.eu/Themes/Education/EAPCWhitepaperoneducation.aspx>

Implementation:

Maria Teresa: There are a few articles under construction about spiritual care in different countries.

Maria Teresa informs us about the webpage <http://conceptospaliativos.blogspot.com.es>. It's about an stocktaking of concepts used in palliative/ spiritual care. Goal is to make a practical guide for professionals of different religions/ beliefs.

Piret Paal did such an investigation in 2009 about concepts in dreams, see

<http://academic.research.microsoft.com/Publication/45097056/dreams-and-dream-like-imagery-in-cancer-patients-narratives>

Presentation of a project in Spain

About The "La Caixa" Foundation and WHO Collaborating Center Spanish National Program for enhancing psychosocial and spiritual palliative care for patients with advanced diseases, and their families, by

Dolors Mateo Ortega (ES) (clinical psychologist); Veronica de Pascual (ES) from from la Caixa Foundation and Xavier Gomez-Batiste (Barcelona, ES) (psychologist)

The program is about psychosocial and spiritual support teams all over Spain. See article attached.

Bunnik, 16 July 2014

Marijke Wulp