Is it a burden for families?

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Abstract

This presentation has two main objectives: 1) to introduce the European Federation of Families of People with Mental Illness (EUFAMI), a European non-profit organisation that primarily advocates on behalf of families and family carers. Founded in 1992 after a meeting where members from all over Europe shared their experiences of helplessness and frustration when living with someone with severe mental illness; 2) to present preliminary results of an international survey carried out in 2014 and 2015 in more than 20 counties to get a clearer picture of the experiences, well-being and needs of family caregivers for persons with a severe mental illness. This study focuses on family caregivers of people with schizophrenia in different Western countries. 431 family caregivers filled in a questionnaire about experiences, well-being, and needs, and data from 7 countries (Australia, Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Spain and United Kingdom) will be discussed.