Setting the scene

Alfonso Lara Montero

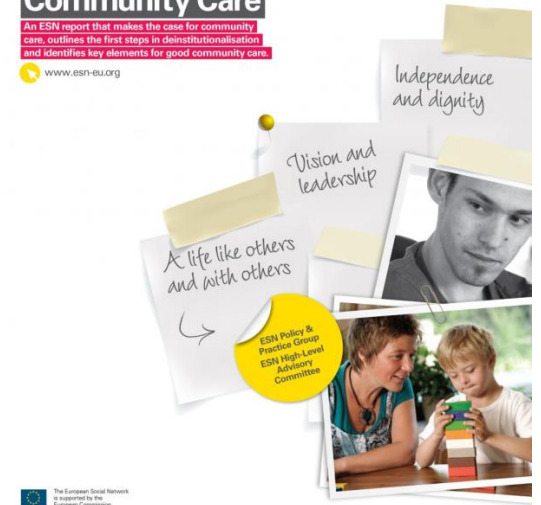Chief Executive Officer, European Social Network

What is Community Care?

*"Community care refers to any form of support and care provided in the **local community** enabling people to **overcome or manage any condition**, disability, or life difficulties they may face. Within community care, a key aspect of quality is ensuring the **involvement of people** using services."*

*"It is linked to the process of **de-institutionalisation**, which describes a shift in the type of care provided to vulnerable people from **institutional** services to **community-based** care."*

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Institutional vs Community Care

"Being cared for in an institution means **being away from home**, often in a different town or region altogether and **having limited contact** with the world outside, including with family and friends. It sets people apart, **segregates** and labels them."

"Community care aims to **keep people in the local community at home** or in a **home-like environment** for as long as possible, giving them the best chance of achieving full social inclusion."

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What is not Community Care?

- It is not a simple change from **large** to **small** care units

- It is not a 'one-size-fits all'

- It is not replication of **institutional culture** at a smaller scale

Institutional Culture

1) De-personalisation

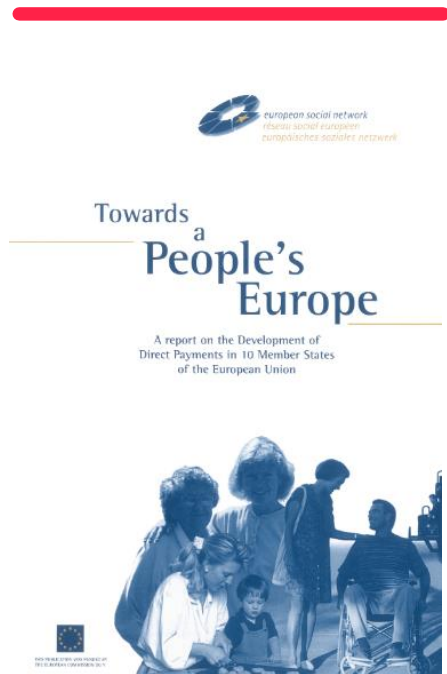2) Rigidity of routine

3) Block treatment

4) Social distance

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Our Community Care Journey

1999

2011

2013

2016

Our Community Care Journey

2017

2018

2019

2020

Community Care Projects we're involved

Valladolid, Castilla y Leon, Spain (2020 – 2023)
- Build Community-based integrated long-term care for people living in rural areal
- Make it easier for people to stay at home, when they need care and supportl

North Sea Region (2023 – 2026)
- Promoting "Smart Home Care of the Future."
- Tackling increasing home care demand with innovative technology

Asturias & Basque Country, Spain (2022-2024)
- Improve well-being of people living in residential facilities
- Create home-like environments

Key Community Care Elements

Social Planning	Information and advice	Individual assessment
Service Capacity	Choice	Quality of Life

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What is needed to make the transition?

1. A **change of focus** on <u>people</u> rather than structures

2. A **vision** where people receive care at <u>home</u> or in a home-like environment

3. Involving **beneficiaries, families** & **carers** in service planning, design, provision and evaluation

4. **Well trained** staff to work in community-based services

5. An **open and accepting** community, consisting of neighbours, businesses and third sector in cooperation with public services

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Ensuring Quality of Life in Community Care

Shifting...

- from **inspections** of **structural standards** and processes to assessing **quality of life outcomes**

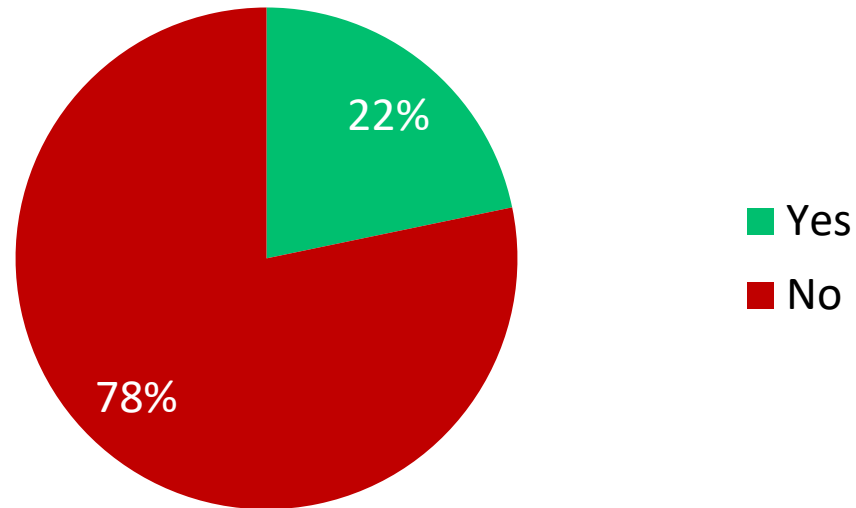- from **ensuring compliance and sanction based inspection** to **improvement**

Adapting our quality assurance mechanisms to the **new reality** of community-based care:

- Professionalisation and Quality Assurance in Foster Care
- New Quality Frameworks i.e. Ireland creating National Standards for Homecare and Support Services
- **Involving people** in Quality Assurance i.e. Young Inspectors in Scotland

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The Economics of Community Care

Do you feel that in your country institutional care is still seen more viable economically than community care?

- Yes
- No

22%

78%

Economies of scale are still seen as dominant. When comparing costs, the cost of so-called 'missed preventive care' is not always taken into account. (Respondent, Poland)
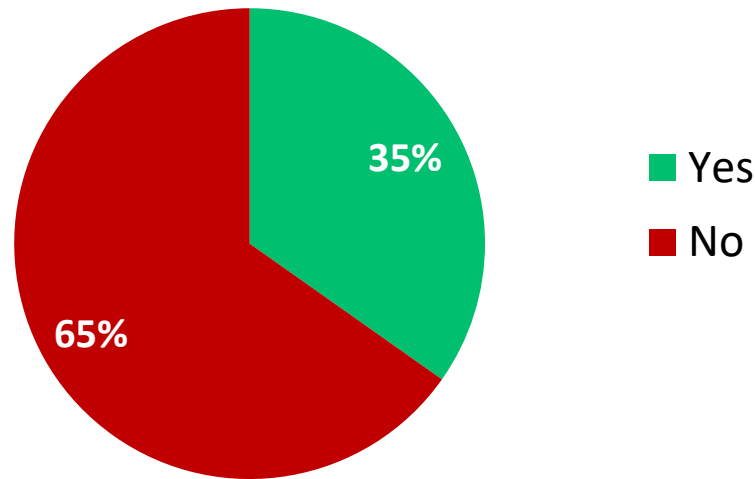
Especially for older people Community care means are ... not structurally implemented. (Respondent, Belgium)

Institutional care is generally more costly than community care. However, the problem is that there is not always enough investment in community care to make it effective enough to reduce the burden on institutionalisation. (Respondent, Malta)

The Economics of Community Care

Do you think there is sufficient funding available in your country to ensure people have access to community-based care and support?

35% Yes
65% No

Yes - absolutely. (Respondent, Italy)

There are differences between municipalities as they have the independent power to allocate their own funding up to a certain level. (Respondent, Sweden)

Introducing deinstitutionalisation to a long and expensive process, the country is at the beginning of this process and there are not enough funds for everything (Respondent, Poland)

There's not enough funding for domiciliary care or other programmes that ensure people access to community based care. (Respondent, Spain)

The Economics of Community Care

Community care is not necessarily more expensive than institutional care (example Rural Care)

Home Care
- **681,94 €** monthly

Residential model
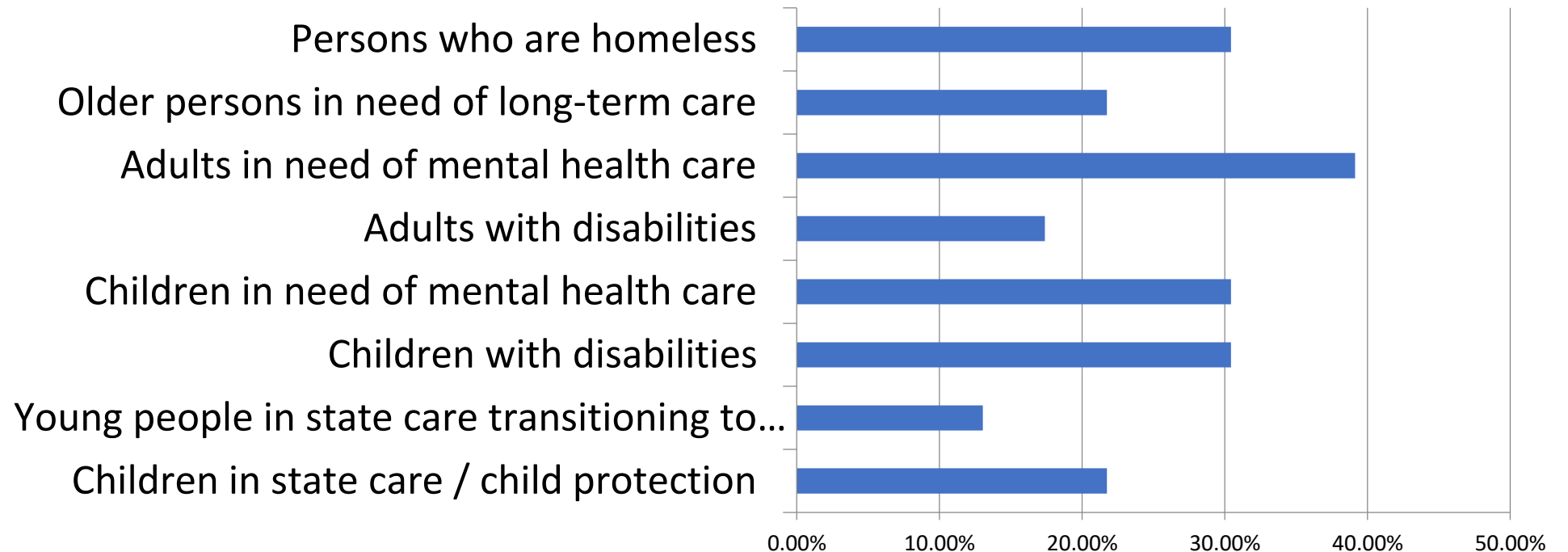- **1.392,87 €** monthly

RuralCare

Yet few economic evaluations that can help to make the case

Community Care for different Groups

Are there population groups for whom it is more difficult to provide community care and independent living.

Bar chart categories:
- Persons who are homeless
- Older persons in need of long-term care
- Adults in need of mental health care
- Adults with disabilities
- Children in need of mental health care
- Children with disabilities
- Young people in state care transitioning to...
- Children in state care / child protection

X-axis: 0.00% 10.00% 20.00% 30.00% 40.00% 50.00%

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Thank you

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