

28th European Social Services Conference

Hamburg, 8-10 July 2020

Call for Contributions



THEME

RETHINK. INSPIRE. DARE.

COMMUNITY CARE

With its focus on quality, from quality of care to quality of life, the [27th European Social Services Conference in Milan](#) organised by the European Social Network (ESN) brought a renewed focus on community care to achieve optimal personalised outcomes and services for people.

Community Care has been part of the ESN work since it was established in 1999. Our first project was on personal budgets for people with disabilities and older people. Afterwards, we ran a working group and a series of training on the development of social services in the community. In 2011 we launched the report '[Developing Community Care](#)'. Building on the experience of professionals and people using services, as well as human rights and social work principles, ESN's report made the case for community care, focusing on the transition itself and necessary elements to ensure an effective and coordinated delivery. All with the aim for a better quality of life within the community.

A decade later, across Europe, we have seen a growing emphasis on care provided in the community putting personal needs and relationships at the heart of social services. Policies are increasingly aiming to transform health and social services in order to reach people in their homes and communities. The focus has also shifted to early, effective interventions for children and their families, young people, and partnerships with people with long-term health conditions and their families.

Therefore, the [28th European Social Services Conference](#) in Hamburg is an invitation to rethink care in the community. We are asking public authorities, professionals, and care providers to join a discussion on re-imagining how we help people who need support to lead better lives within their communities.

Rethinking planning, implementation and evaluation of community care, the conference aims to inspire with examples, aspire for change, and dare for better outcomes for children and families, young people, older people, migrants, people with mental health problems or disabilities:

1. Social service professionals are key in transforming community care. Do we need to rethink their training, retention and wellbeing?
2. It is possible to get value for money when investing in community care. Do we need to rethink the financing of community care?
3. Beyond value for money what is the role of professional ethics in quality care? Do we need to rethink what empowerment in care means for professionals and people using services?
4. Technology has the potential to improve care, from planning through delivery to evaluation. How can technology help in rethinking community care?

ORGANISER

The European Social Services Conference (ESSC) is the annual flagship event of the European Social Network (ESN). Pioneering the value of knowledge exchange within the social services sector, next year's conference will look at key components of community care in constant transformation.

The 28th ESSC is being organised in partnership with the Ministry of Employment, Social Affairs, Family Affairs and Integration of the Free and Hanseatic City of Hamburg and the German Federal Ministry for Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth.

The 28th ESSC will again feature inspiring speakers drawn from the sector around the world including ministers, academics and social innovators.

[See the highlights](#) from the 2019 Conference in Milan.

YOUR CONTRIBUTION

The 28th European Social Services Conference in Hamburg will bring together leaders in social services to inspire new ideas on the future of community care. Contribute to the Conference to make your work and experience part of the discussions.

Based on the theme “Rethinking Community Care” we will welcome proposals on:

Workforce and the transformation of community care

Proposals under this thematic area may include programmes for social services professionals’ training, recruitment & retention, wellbeing, planning and management, and also consider how the workforce contributes to a broader transformation to high quality, economically sustainable and community-based care for any population group.

The economic case of community care

Proposals under this thematic area may include different approaches in financing community care, such as integrated pooled budgets, public-private partnerships, social impact bonds, payment by results. Proposals may also showcase new ways of planning, financing and budgeting or procuring contracts with service providers, as well as cost-benefits studies and evidence-based programmes comparing costs in community and institutional care.

Ethics in community care

Proposals under this thematic area should relate to the principles underpinning social and care work. These may include new forms of community care planning, design and implementation involving service users (e.g. co-production, design thinking, human-centred service design). Proposals may also refer to strategies and programmes related to safeguarding or aimed at engaging and empowering people and communities in care development, implementation and evaluation. Contributions may also include practitioners’ training and quality strategies rooted in human rights and ethics principles.

The use of technology in delivering community care

Technology has the potential for application at every stage of the care and support system, from planning through delivery to evaluation. Proposals under this theme may refer to the facilitation of different forms of services, such as counselling, individual support, and case management, improving communication with clients, facilitating independent living or the use of data tools to support decision-making.

[Submit your proposal here](#)

GENERAL INFORMATION

A maximum of 2 proposals per organisation can be submitted.

Interactive Workshops	Thematic Panel Discussions	Project Forum
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Up to 6 workshops will be running in parallel in 4 streams on the 8th and 9th of July - A minimum of two presenters must register - 50-150 delegates per workshop - Total time of the workshop is one hour - The workshop must be interactive (e.g. discussion groups for the audience, polls, question and answer elements) - Maximal presentation time is 15 minutes per workshop 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Up to 4 sessions running in parallel with 4 panellists per session on the 10th of July - Your proposal is matched with 3 other similar proposals to form a panel on a theme - 1 presenter on stage per organisation - 100-200 delegates per panel discussion - 10-15 minutes presentation with PowerPoint and moderated discussion - Total time of session is 1.5 hours - Opportunity to discuss a certain theme or topic with peers from across Europe 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 5-minute 'elevator pitch' style - 2 sessions on 9th and 10th of July - 1 presenter on stage - All delegates are able to attend - 5 projects per sessions - 5 slides maximum - Different to longer presentations, this involves outlining the main points of your project in 5 slides maximum - The aim is that you then discuss your project with colleagues in the coffee break

Deadlines

04 December 2019 - proposals in French, Spanish, German and Italian

11 December 2019 – proposals in English

31 January 2020 – confirmation of accepted proposals

Selection criteria

Content for all proposals: Good practice, service model, project, new ideas	Essential Criteria	Desirable Criteria
Original and innovative	X	
Relevant and deliverable to an international audience	X	
Involves cross-sector and/or cross-border approach		X
Transferable and could be implemented elsewhere		X
Long-term sustainability	X	
Been initially evaluated and shows initial results Or Will be evaluated	X	

Workshop format (Only applicable for those applying for workshops)	Essential Criteria	Desirable Criteria
Interactive & engaging (e.g. discussion format questions and answers)	X	
Clear goals achievable in workshop timeframe	X	
Employs visual tools (e.g. whiteboards, flipcharts, 3D objects) and uses multi-media		X
Run by experienced presenters	X	
Involves service user participation		X
Organisations from multiple countries are involved in the project		X

LANGUAGES

Interpretation between English and German will be guaranteed for all workshops, and there is also the possibility for interpretation from and to Italian, French, and Spanish if you wish to present in these languages.

COSTS

Selected **workshops must register at least 2 delegates** paying the **full delegate fee** for the conference. Please be advised that for workshops it is possible to have multiple presenters (registration is compulsory for all of them).

Selected **panel discussions and project forum presentations must register 2 delegates (1 presenter and 1 extra delegate)** paying the **full delegate fee** for the conference.

Selected Project Forum presentations must register 1 presenter paying the full delegate fee for the conference and 1 attendee paying the full delegate fee for the conference.

2020 FEES

ESN MEMBERS

Standard members €645*

Members from EU-13/neighbouring countries €565*

Organisations from Germany €475*

NON-ESN MEMBERS

Private organisations €965*

Public organisations €765*

NGOs/voluntary sector €625*

Organisations from Germany €475*

*Fees may be subject to VAT, depending the status of the delegate

Fee covers:

All plenary and workshop sessions

2 lunches during conference

All coffee breaks

Formal reception

Gala Dinner

Not included:

Hotel accommodation

Travel to venue

[Submit your proposal here](#)

Please ensure the availability of funds from your organisation for delegate fees, travel and hotel before submitting your proposal.