

OVERVIEW AND UPCOMING PRIORITIES

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DEASP Annual Carers Forum

20 November 2018



'Guiding support for family carers'

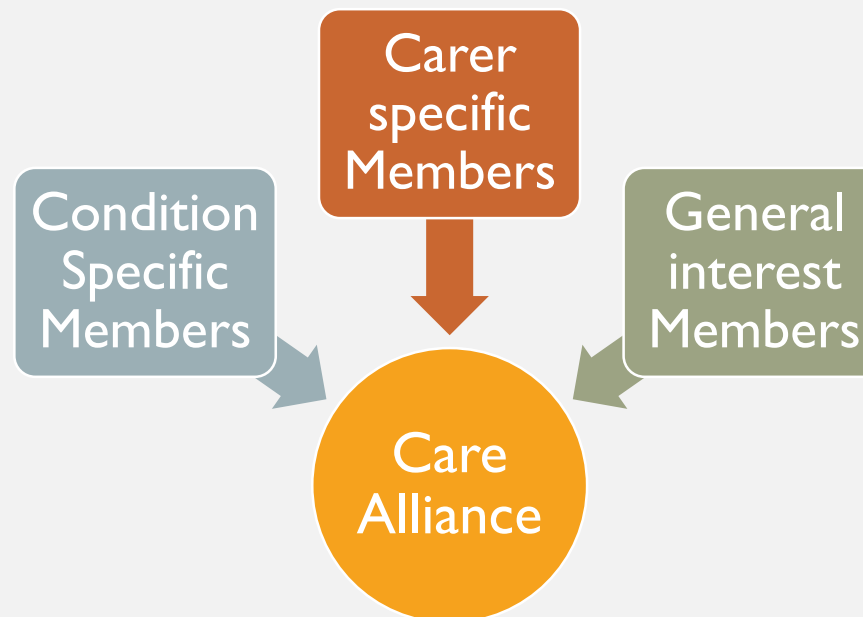


PRESENTATION OUTLINE

- Who we are & what we do
- Research & knowledge dissemination
- 3 core priorities:
 - Priority 1: Funded Policy Development
 - Priority 2: Funding of Services and Supports
 - Priority 3: Addressing Poverty and Income Inequality

CARE ALLIANCE IRELAND

- Umbrella organisation – 85 members
- Improve the lives of Ireland's 360,000 family carers
 - Supporting organisations
 - Research – Evidence informed Practice
 - Influencing Policy
 - Collaboration





RESEARCH

Primary Research Collaboration	Secondary Research/Resources
PPI (Public Patient Involvement) Ignite/HRB with UL, MS Ireland, Limerick City CDP & others	Briefing Paper Series (Home Care supports, etc)
EnCaRe (Resilience of Dementia Carers) with UCD, Alzheimer Society of Ireland & others	Discussion Paper Series (Minority family carers, rural family carers, stigma & family care etc)
CareWell (Working Carers) Programme with UCD, Family Carers Ireland & others	The Way Ahead (Resource for Former Carers)
Post Caring with UCC, West Cork Carers & FCI	



**Briefing
Paper 2**

**Public Provision
of Home Care
in Ireland – Update**
October 2018

The Way Ahead



A resource to support former family carers



**Discussion
Paper 7**

**Romancing the
Carer - Intimate
Relationships and
Family Caring**
November 2017

SUPPORTING RESEARCH & KNOWLEDGE DISSEMINATION

- Newsletters & Care Alliance Wakelet platform (<https://wakelet.com/@careallianceireland>)
- List-serv (national & international)
- Slack group for graduate students in the sector (national & international)
- Family Care Research Group
- Our focus is driving knowledge dissemination to our members and the sector at large – to facilitate better outcomes for family carers

**KEY PRIORITIES
2018+**

**Priority 1: Funded Policy
Development**

**Priority 2: Funding of
Services and Supports**

**Priority 3: Addressing
Poverty and Income
Inequality**

PRIORITY 1: FUNDED POLICY DEVELOPMENT

- National carers strategy in place since 2012
- “Cost-neutral” strategy no longer appropriate
- Not in sync with other relevant policies
 - National Dementia Strategy
 - National Youth Strategy
 - National Disability strategy
 - National Ageing Strategy etc.

- Opportunity to lead by example – solid actions that are specific in their remit (ref NCS 2012, UK Carers Action Plan 2018-2020)
- Need to involve every single Government department – because carers issues cross every department
- Needs a dedicated budget and action plan
- Need to involve minority/ hidden groups (see Discussion Paper 9 for more details)
- EuroCarers – towards an EU Strategy?

PRIORITY 2: FUNDING OF SERVICES AND SUPPORTS

- Much of our member feedback highlights lack of appropriate investment in crucial services
 - Home Care
 - Access to respite
 - Disability specific services
 - Access to mental health supports

SPECIFIC EXAMPLE: HOME CARE

- In spite of increased resourcing since 2014 – now up to €430m p. a (10% reduction in hours in 2011/12)
- Less Access (utilization ratio) than in 2008
 - 40% increase in aged 65+ population (NB 80+ population)
- Duration of Waiting Lists > 3 months
- Level of unmet need - >18%
- ESRI 2017 – Report c60% increase in demand 2015-2030
- Timely and high quality Home Care supports families to continue to care at home



PRIORITY 3: ADDRESSING POVERTY AND INCOME INEQUALITY

- Welcome the allocation of a budget for research into the *Cost of Disability and Caring* in Budget 2019
- Understand the budgetary limitations for allowance increases
- FC's more likely to live on or below poverty lines
- Creative solutions can be found – refreshed NCS?
- Look at work & care – encouraging employers (not just state employers) to understand needs of working carers

THANK YOU !

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