



Care Alliance Ireland

Introduction to our Research

April 22 2015, Eurocarers Research Meeting, Dublin

- **Research a key element of the Care Alliance Ireland (CAI) Strategic Plan for 2014-2017**
 - **Priority 3 of 4:** *“Supporting primary and applied research on Family Caring and the role of Family Carers.”*
 - CAI aim to be thought leaders in family carer issues, and to act as a connector in the sector
 - Focus on bridging research-policy-practice gap
- **Multiple aspects of CAI research**
 - Primary Qualitative & Quantitative research
 - Literature reviews/ desk research
 - Collaborations with other not for profit organisations, state organisations & Universities
 - Collation of Research/Current Policy and Services – Overview Report on Family Caring in Ireland.(March 2015)
 - Dissemination (detailed later)
- **Primary Research- Examples**
 - Carers Week survey March 2015- ~800 Responses- valuable insights re: carer attitudes and experiences- both qualitative and quantitative
 - Health and Well-being of Family Carers in Ireland: Results of a survey of recipients of the Carer’s Allowance (2008) (quantitative)

- **Collaborations with other groups & Universities**

- Benefit Findings for Carers (Ongoing, with University of Limerick)
- Between Worlds: The Experiences and Needs of Former Family Carers (2011, with Trinity College Dublin)
- Together for Young Adult Carers (TOYAC) (2013, with other NGO's based around Europe)
- A number of collaborative research bids are currently under consideration for funding (EU, NDA, HRB)
- Other Carer/Condition Specific Organisations Research- limited collaboration to-date (The Carers Association, The Alzheimer Society)

- **Dissemination**

- Database of current & recent family carer research (Ireland) available on CAI website
- Research & Policy E-zine on family carer issues (2 editions to date) & general CAI newsletters
- Family Carer Research Group (Meeting June 2015)
- All CAI and collaborative project reports published on CAI website
- Conference presentations (e.g. International Carers Conference 2015)
- CAI Twitter (@CareAllianceIrl)