



Mental Health Europe conference 2010, in collaboration with the Institut Wallon pour la Santé Mentale and the Vlaamse Vereniging voor Geestelijke Gezondheid, and with the support of the Ligue bruxelloise pour la santé mentale

**CHALLENGING POVERTY - CREATING HOPE.
BREAKING THE CYCLE OF POVERTY AND
MENTAL HEALTH PROBLEMS**

Mental Health Europe - Santé Mentale Europe is a European non-governmental organisation committed to the promotion of positive mental health, the prevention of mental distress, the improvement of care, advocacy for social inclusion and the protection of human rights for (ex)users of mental health services, their families and carers.

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www.2010againstopoverty.eu



**Brussels,
22-23 October 2010**

European Conference organised in the
frame of the European Year 2010 against
Poverty and Social Exclusion

First announcement and call for
contributions

CHALLENGING POVERTY – CREATING HOPE. BREAKING THE CYCLE OF POVERTY AND MENTAL HEALTH PROBLEMS

Research has shown clear bidirectional links between mental health and poverty. People experiencing poverty are particularly vulnerable towards developing mental health problems. Conversely people with existing mental health problems are more likely to experience poverty. Uncertainties about the future dominate their daily lives. Mental Health Europe (MHE) will present the results of a survey that was conducted among its members prior to the conference, with a focus on poverty and mental health problems of children and young people, women, older people and migrants.

Parallel sessions will be organised on the following topics:

- Intergenerational poverty and mental health problems
- Poverty in lone parent families and its impact on the mental health of the children
- Mental health problems and poverty in ethnic minority groups
- Mental health, poverty and human rights: triple discrimination
- (Un)employment and mental health : the working poor and the unemployed
- Mental health and poverty in older people
- Gender, mental health and poverty (tbc)
- Medicalisation of poverty (tbc)

We invite field workers and experts from various European countries to present and exchange their experiences and good practices on overcoming the vicious cycle of poverty and mental health problems.

Please contact info@mhe-sme.org by 20 March 2010 if you would like to share your experience with a large European audience.

Conference languages: English, French and Dutch for the plenary sessions; in principle English only for the parallel sessions.