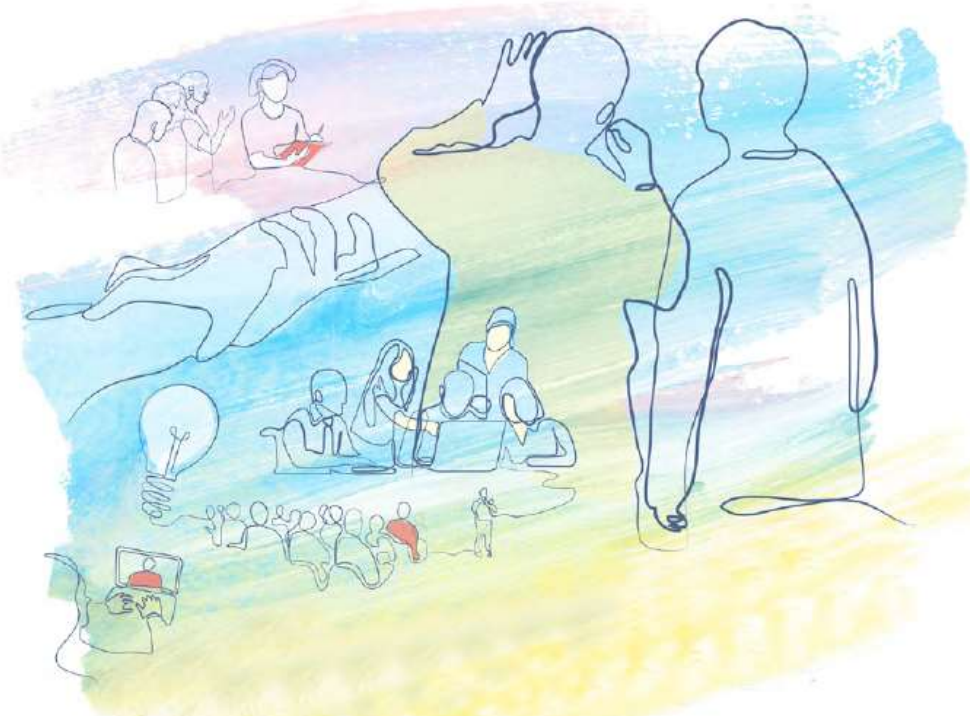
EPSM Lille-Métropole

World health organisation
Collaborating Centre for Research
and Training in Mental Health

GCS POUR LA RECHERCHE
ET LA FORMATION
EN SANTE MENTALE



# WHOCC (Lille – France)

## World Health Organization Collaborating Centre for research and training In Mental health

# WHAT IS THE WHOCC?

The Collaborating Centre of the World Health Organization for Training and Research in mental health is one of the 700 centres worldwide to carry out activities in support of WHO. It brings together a network of actions, skills and programs linked to the WHO mental health policy.

The centre is made up of a team of about twenty project managers, as well as a network of qualified people and an advisory scientific council, gathered around common values.

Finally, the WHOCC researchers are integrated into the team of the INSERM's joint scientific research unit and the University of Paris Diderot UMR-S 1123 ECEVE (Clinical epidemiology and economic evaluation applied to vulnerable populations).

# TERMS OF REFERENCE

The WHO Collaborating Center of Lille is a service of EPSM Lille-Métropole. It's the only collaborating centre specialized in mental health in France (they are 43 in the world) to be designated by WHO on the basis of four research themes and actions over the 2022-2026 period.

The four Terms of reference are:

- To assist WHO in promoting and documenting best practices in Community based mental health services (CBMHS)
- To support WHO's activities towards the implementation of the WHO QualityRights programme for selected French-speaking audiences
- To assist WHO in promoting users and citizens participation in mental health services, research and training
- To contribute to WHO's work for the development and knowledge base of digital mental health as an innovative technology for service scale up

# PROGRAMS

**Promoting Community Mental Health Services**

- VISITS PLANNING

The WHOCC is based in a community based service, situated in the suburban area of Lille and validated by WHO as an example of good practice. The centre is a platform for visits and training for professionals, politicians and NGOs. Since 2000, it has been welcoming around 100 professionals per year.

- DEVELOPMENT OF LOCAL MENTAL HEALTH COUNCILS

WHOCC is the National Resource and Support Centre for Local Mental Health Councils. It intervenes at the local level, by presenting this approach to local stakeholders, transmitting documents, helping to sustain existing mechanisms and, at the national level, by piloting the national training of coordinators, sensitizing local authorities, publishing guides and recommendations, organizing national and regional meetings, etc.

- SMPG SURVEY

"Mental health in general population: images and reality" (SMPG) study, is a multi-centre international action-research initiative led by the WHOCC since 1997. Useful in identifying mental health needs and necessary for assessing perceptions of mental health, this research is a tool to assist in the development of local and national mental health policies.

- INTERNATIONAL

For a number of years, the WHOCC, in partnership with Expertise France, has been carrying out various international missions, particularly in French-speaking African countries. These missions involve both local initiatives (development of local mental health councils, SMPG surveys, Quality Rights observations, etc.) and national initiatives (advice on drawing up mental health plans).

## WHO QualityRights program

Based on the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, this program aims to support voluntary mental health facilities in assessing and improving respect for the rights of people with disabilities in their care pathways. As well as translating the programme's observation and training materials into French, the WHOCC is carrying out the observations in France and is leading a national research program to evaluate the way in which it has been implemented, its effectiveness and efficiency.

## Promoting users and citizens participation

- PEER SUPPORT WORKER PROGRAM

Since 2012, the Peer Support Workers program has been used to train and hire ex-users of mental health services who are sufficiently advanced in their recovery process, in hospitals and medico-social structures. It is organized around training in mental health mediation and the valorization of experiential knowledge. The theoretical training is provided by Bobigny Paris 13 University and Bordeaux University, in collaboration with the WHOCC, as part of a specific degree course. Vocational training takes place in parallel within the psychiatric services and medical-social structures that have recruited peer support workers.

- THE COUNCIL OF EXPERIENTIAL KNOWLEDGE CONSULTANTS

The WHOCC wanted to structure the systematic, cross-disciplinary participation of people affected by a mental disorder in its programs, research and training activities. This structuring involves a group of people, brought together in the Council of Experiential Knowledge Consultants.

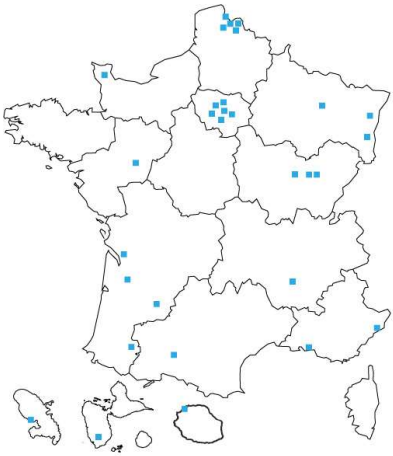
- GIVING CONCRETE FORM TO THE PARTICIPATION OF USERS AND THEIR CARERS

The WHOCC wanted to work with the GCS hospitals on the participation of users and carers in improving mental health care. An educational pathway co-designed and co-produced with the people concerned is offered to professionals in these establishments to develop participation.

# GCS

GCS POUR LA RECHERCHE ET LA FORMATION EN SANTE MENTALE

The health-care cooperation group (GCS) brings together 30 hospitals, both specialised in psychiatry and general hospitals. The purpose of the group, whose scientific council is that of the WHOCC, is to research, train and implement actions aimed at the development of integrated mental health systems in the community, including prevention and integration. The GCS works to promote professional exchanges and any action to combat stigmatization in mental health and psychiatry. It relays the WHO recommendations at national and local level and highlights all the studies and experiences of its members in the field of community based mental health services. It is carrying out research on a variety of subjects (QualityRights program, smoking in psychiatry, somatic co-morbidity...).



**THE 30 MEMBERS OF THE GCS:**

EPSM de la Réunion; CH de Cadillac-sur-Garonne; CH La Chartreuse; CH Edouard Toulouse; MGEN Lille; CASH de Nanterre; CH Sainte Marie Nice; CH Sainte Anne; Centre Psychothérapique Nancy; CHU de Lille; EPS Roger Prévot; CH de Plaisir; CH Gérard Marchant; EPSM de Guadeloupe; CESAME; Hôpitaux de Saint Maurice; CH Les Murets; Fondation Bon Sauveur de la Manche; CH de Rouffach; EPSM Val de Lys Artois; EPSM Lille Métropole; EPSM des Flandres; CH intercommunal de Créteil; CH départemental La Candélie; CH des Pyrénées; CH de Jonzac; CH d'Erstein; CH Drôme-Vivarais ; CH Novillars ; CH Saint Ylié Jura.

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www.recherche-sante-mentale.fr

# VALUES

Involvement of all citizens to make mental health everyone's business

Asserting the rights and full citizenship of people who use mental health services, as promoted by the UN International Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD)

Combating the stigmatisation of and discrimination against people with mental suffering, disorders or disabilities

Promoting mental health services - health, psychiatric, social and medico-social - integrated into the community, in local areas

Effective participation of mental health service users, carers and relatives in improving the quality of services, research and training

Recognition and enhancement of experiential knowledge in mental health

A leitmotiv: improving living conditions, access to care and the rights of users and carers

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