



November 2018

**WELCOME TO CIRCLESEUROPE**  
***The Association for European Providers of Circles of Support and Accountability and their supporters***

Since the last newsletter, the CirclesEurope Interim Board have been busy. We held an Away Day to create the work plan for the interim period until the first permanent Board of the Association can be elected. We agreed that the main purpose of the Interim Board is to ensure that the first incoming elected board can start with a robust structure for the Association, adequate resources and clear initial priorities and goals which can sustain and develop CirclesEurope and its work.

To achieve this, our work plan for this interim period will focus mainly on the following:

- Promoting CirclesEurope by building a communication infrastructure (social media) and a communication strategy
- Recruiting members
- Finding funding
- Expanding the CirclesEurope network
- Securing the Intellectual Property Rights, as captured by the first edition of *the European Handbook* (2010, Circles4EU) and the *revised edition of the European Handbook for COSA implementation*.

The first permanent CirclesEurope Board will be elected at the first General Meeting of the Association which we are pleased to confirm will happen on 14<sup>th</sup> June 2019 at the first General Meeting of the Association. This will take place at Avans University in the Netherlands from 11h00 to 16h00. We will provide more information of this meeting as well as the nomination and election procedures closer to the time, but in the meantime, please put the date in your diaries– it will be wonderful if you can attend.

We are also pleased to say that social media accounts have now been set up for CirclesEurope – Twitter, Facebook and LinkedIn. So take a look and start posting interesting bits and pieces when you get a chance. It will be nice if these accounts can become active spaces.

You are also reminded again that the official launch of **CirclesEurope** will be at the CEP Reframing Sexual Abuse, Practical Directions Conference in Riga, Latvia, on 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> November this year, where we have a session dedicated to introducing and launching the **CirclesEurope** Association and where we can say more about its purpose and process. Here is a link to the conference details: <https://www.cep-probation.org/reframing-sexual-abuse-practical-directions-riga/>.

The Interim Board thought that it would be good to use the next Newsletter to share news from various Circles Providers and projects to get an update of what everyone is doing. So please can you send short updates about your activities to Riana Taylor at the email listed below. The updates do not only have to focus on our European Providers and projects. We also look forward to receive updates from non-European projects like our Canadian and other colleagues. I am sure you will agree with us that the international developments of COSA are very relevant for all of us.

In the meantime, please get in touch if you need more information and we look forward to seeing some of you at the Riga Conference!

**From the Interim Board of CirclesEurope (Riana, Audrey, Ann, Mechtild and Stephen)**

*Here is a photo of the Interim Board, together with Mechtild and Stephen at our strategic planning day which took place in August 2018 at the Probation Offices in Utrecht. It was a hot day but we got lots of work done!*



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