



Interim Annual Report 2019 - 2020 -- date 19 October 2020

## **Overview**

After the successful fifth European conference on FASD in Berlin in September of 2018, the Board prepared a training session for professionals in Ljubljana, Slovenia. Next we prepared for the sixth European conference on FASD, which was planned for September of 2020, but which had to be postponed due to the the covid-19 pandemic and its associated restrictions on travel and meetings. Finally, during this report period but before the pandemic, members of the EUFASD Board represented the Alliance at several international conferences.

## **Training Ljubljana**

At the invitation of Matej Košir of UTRIP, on April 11, 2019, the board of the European FASD Alliance gave a training on FASD in Ljubljana, Slovenia. The program included a general intro to FASD (Diane Black, Netherlands), an overview of cognitive function and morbidity (Gro Løhaugen, Norway), an overview of activity on FASD in Slovenia (Marjetka Kersmanc-Hovnik), and short talks about community involvement (Thierry Maillard, France), biomarkers (Simona Pichini, Italy), FASD in addiction care (Teodora Ciolompea, Romania), and a story about raising children with FASD by Martha Krijgsheld. Workshops in the afternoon included diagnosis (Jon Skranes, Norway), supporting families (Jan de Vries, Netherlands), and evidence-based prevention (Sylvia Roozen). There were about 100 attendees, including physicians, social workers, and teachers. Presentations are posted at <http://www.preventivna-platforma.si/mednarodni-strokovni-simpozij-na-temo-spekter-fetalnih-alkoholnih-moteni-fasd/>. The text is in Slovenian, but you can see the photos and download a zip with the presentations at the bottom of the page. Most presentations are in English.

## **Sixth European conference on FASD postponed to 12 to 15 September 2021**

Due to the uncertainties around the Covid-19 pandemic, the Board decided in May 2020 that the wisest decision was to postpone the conference until 12 to 15 September of 2021. In discussion with the conference hotel, it was possible to move our reservation to September of 2021 with only small changes in the fees. The conference organizing service Easy Conferences agreed to either refund registration fees or just keep the reservation to apply in 2021.

## **Loss of a Board Member**

We were saddened by the death of our Board member, Philippa Williams, after a long illness. She will be remembered as a strong voice in support of birth mothers in the U.K., Europe, and around the world.

## **General Assembly to be held on 28 October 2020**

Due to the postponement of the 2020 conference, the General Assembly will be held electronically this year. See agenda and minutes of the meeting.

## **World Health Organization FADAB**

Diane Black represented the EUFASD Alliance at the "Second WHO Forum on Alcohol, Drugs and Addictive Behaviours" or FADAB. The Forum was held at WHO headquarters, Geneva, on June 27 and 28, 2019, with an extra session on Saturday from 9:00 to 14:00 on "Alcohol, the way forward." The days were full and very intense, with presentations but also very extensive and free-ranging discussions on alcohol, drugs, gambling and gaming. The topic of FASD was represented by Diane Black (European FASD Alliance), Kathy Mitchell (NOFAS, USA), and Sylvia Roozen (Governor Kremers Centre, Maastricht University, Netherlands). For more info see <https://fasdglobal.org/fasd-at-the-who-call-for-action/>.

## **Conferences in Krakow and Katowice, Poland**

Gro Løhaugen, vice-chair, represented the EUFASD Alliance at a conference held on 09/09/2019 in Katowice, Poland. The conference was organized by the Polish Fascinating Child's World Foundation and entitled "Accurate FASD diagnosis? There is a proven way to do this – Properly adjusted therapy is the key to success."

At the same time, Diane Black, chair, represented the EUFASD Alliance at the Jagiellonian University Medical College in Krakow on 9 & 10 September at the conference "FASD—many aspects, many specialists, common goals." The conference was organized by Katarzyna Anna Dyląg and hosted by the Dean's Proxy for Students' Mobility and International Cooperation and members of the Council of Medical Faculty.

## **Financial Report**

See separate Financial Report for this period.

## **Members**

The EUFASD Alliance has 37 Member Organizations as of 19 October 2020. See [https://www.eufasd.org/members\\_2.php](https://www.eufasd.org/members_2.php).