



Dear Friends:

The World Federation for Mental Health (WFMH) is pleased to provide you with the results of *Keeping Care Complete*, a landmark international survey that quantified the experiences and viewpoints of 982 family caregivers of individuals with schizophrenia, bipolar disorder and schizoaffective disorder.

Not long ago, individuals with illnesses such as schizophrenia were condemned to long-term hospitalization. Today, at least in some parts of the world, the deinstitutionalization of people living with serious mental illnesses—largely due to newer medications and community-based programs—has resulted in families playing a significant role in the day-to-day care of their loved ones.

Keeping Care Complete is the first study of its scale and scope to assess the perspective of family caregivers on treatment, relapse, stigma and hopes for the future. This endeavor was made possible through the support of Eli Lilly and Company and the efforts of approximately 50 advocacy associations across the world that helped recruit participants for the survey. Caregivers from Australia, Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Spain, the United Kingdom and the United States participated in this project.

Enclosed you will find a fact sheet on results from each country and a brochure that highlights results across all countries. These materials show the physical, emotional and financial consequences of the disruption of a family member's treatment and the subsequent worsening of psychiatric symptoms. These materials also demonstrate the importance of effective medication, compassionate providers, robust community-based programs and empowered families in complete care.

Our hope is to alleviate the burden that these illnesses have on families by chipping away at the stigma of mental illness and increasing awareness of the need for improved access to psychiatric services, medications and wellness programs. Please consider ways you can use these materials to communicate with legislators, media and treatment teams about the importance of complete care.

On behalf of WFMH, I wish you great success in your own efforts to improve the lives of individuals living with mental illness and their families.

Sincerely yours,

Shona Sturgeon

President

World Federation for Mental Health