

## **WORLD FEDERATION FOR MENTAL HEALTH**

The WFMH was founded in 1948 to advance, among all peoples and nations, the prevention of mental and emotional disorders, the proper treatment and care of those with such disorders, and the promotion of mental health.

The Federation, with members and contacts in 112 countries on six continents, has responded to the international mental health crisis through its role as the only worldwide grassroots advocacy and public education organization in the mental health field. The Federation's organizational and individual membership includes mental health workers of all disciplines, consumers/users of mental health services, family members and concerned citizens. The organization's broad and diverse membership makes possible collaboration among governments and non-governmental organizations.

Throughout its history, the Federation has been active in advancing the concerns of the mentally ill before international forums, both private and governmental, and in supporting the efforts of its member organizations at the national and regional level.

The Federation is accredited as a consultant to the United Nations and its specialized agencies, working closely with the World Health Organization, UNESCO, the UN High Commissioner for Refugees, the UN Commission on Human Rights, the International Labour Organization and others.

### **MISSION**

The mission of the World Federation for Mental Health is to promote, among all people and nations, the highest possible level of mental health in its broadest biological, medical, educational, and social aspects.

### **VISION**

The World Federation envisions a world in which mental health is a priority for all people. Public policies and programs reflect the crucial importance of mental health in the lives of individuals, families and communities, and in the political and economic stability of the world. The interdependence of mental and physical health within the social environment is fully recognized. Serious and effective programs are focused on research, training and services for promotion of mental health and optimal functioning, prevention of disorders, and care and treatment of those with mental health problems throughout the life cycle. Those who experience mental, neurological and psychological disorders are understood and accepted, and treated equitably in all aspects of community life.

### **GOALS**

- To heighten public awareness about the importance of mental health, and to gain understanding and improve attitudes about mental disorders.
- To promote mental health and optimal functioning.
- To prevent mental, neurological, and psychosocial disorders.
- To improve the care and treatment of those with mental, neurological and psychosocial disorders.