



COMMONWEALTH NURSES FEDERATION

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Dr Michelle Funk, Coordinator, Mental Health Policy, Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse, World Health Organisation (WHO), was the other keynote speaker at the Commonwealth Partners' Forum. Dr Funk shared with participants the excellent resources developed by WHO to support countries in the provision of appropriate mental health care.



Mental health policy, planning and service development

Mental health policy and action plans are essential because they coordinate all programmes and services related to mental health.

http://www.who.int/mental_health/policy/services/en/index.html



Mental health human rights and legislation

Too many people with mental disability are exposed to a wide range of human rights violations both within psychiatric institutions and in the community.

http://www.who.int/mental_health/policy/legislation/en/index.html



Mental health, poverty and development

People with mental and psychosocial disabilities can be actively excluded from development programmes.

http://www.who.int/mental_health/policy/development/en/index.html



Action in countries

Supporting countries to improve the lives of people with mental disorders.

http://www.who.int/mental_health/policy/country/en/index.html

Among the specific WHO mental health resources are the:

- The WHO *Quality Rights Tool Kit* which provides countries with practical information, tools and guidance for assessing and improving the provision of mental health care from a quality and human rights perspective.
http://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/10665/70927/3/9789241548410_eng.pdf
- The WHO *Mental Health Gap Action Program (mhGAP)* which aims to scale up services for mental, neurological and substance use disorders for countries.
http://whqlibdoc.who.int/publications/2010/9789241548069_eng.pdf
- The WHO *Mental Health Atlas Project* maps mental health resources around the world. The 2011 version represents the latest global picture of resources available for mental health.
http://www.who.int/mental_health/evidence/atlas/en/

Dr Funk informed participants about a new programme being developed titled: WHO *MINDbank*. WHO *MINDbank* is a new online platform for sharing international and national level resources in mental health, health, human rights, disability and development. It will provide easy access to a range of national level and international resources for mental health, disability, development and general health from across the world.

CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

The CNF is pleased to announce the 'Call for Abstracts' for the 2nd Commonwealth Nurses Conference: *Nurses and midwives - agents of change*, to be held in London UK 8-9 March 2014. The 21st CNF Biennial Meeting will also be held in London on 7th March 2014. For more information go to the CNF website:

<http://www.commonwealthnurses.org>.



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