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**Care4U to improve the skills and competences of caregivers
by knowledge exchange on daily practices**

“Kindness can transform someone’s dark moment with a blaze of light. You’ll never know how much your caring matters. Make a difference for another today.” - Amy Leigh Mercree, author

Europe is currently under an ageing population stage and this, together with the reduction of public spending on health, causes the need of more home care services. Caregiving has appeared as an emergent job where more and more workers are demanded all across Europe. Even though the employability level, the majority of home care workers don’t have adequate training in the tasks they are regularly required to carry out as they receive more theoretical classes than daily practices training in the home care sector. Moreover the training has not taken into account the differences regarding health protocols and best practices in the different EU countries, limiting the caregivers’ capacities and opportunities.

In consequence, adequate training is required in the home-based sector for two reasons: on the one hand, it is recognized that adequate training attainment improves the employability of people and, on the other hand, because better and more innovative training programs are required in order to avoid that under-qualified people carrying out works where the lack of qualification could be translated in risks for those who require their services.

Partners from 4 European countries (Best Institut GmbH, Austria, Brain Injury Matters, UK, Spektrum Educational Center Foundation – Romania, Eolas S.L. and HI-IBERIA, the coordinator from Spain) gather their efforts together to develop innovative approaches within CARE4U



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project, funded with support from the European Commission by the Erasmus + KA2 Strategic Partnership programme. Care4U project aim is to improve the skills and competences of current caregivers by means of knowledge exchange on daily practices better than theoretical classes; moreover it fosters employability and capacity to work at EU level thanks to the Country guides about methodologies and best practices in each country. This skills and competences exchange will be done based on ICT technologies, by an online learning platform. The platform will offer learning opportunities tailored to individual adult learners' needs by means of providing contents for training and knowledge acquisition which is not normally offered to caregivers. These materials will be available for people from VET and higher education institutions but also for organizations and entities that provide training to future caregivers.

So, CARE4U delivers a pioneering idea that offers high quality learning opportunities based on previous experiences and on the high level expertise of the partners, the innovative tools, methodologies and approaches to be provided which have been validated in national and international environments. The materials and outcomes produced will be made freely available and promoted through open licenses after the end of the CARE4U project.

The first transnational meeting of the CARE4U consortium, took place in Madrid on 18th of October 2017. During the meeting, partners presented their institutions, CARE4U management information was provided and also initial technical discussions and new planning for Intellectual Outputs development (Platform and Handbook) took place. Dissemination activities were launched during this meeting. Dissemination tools (website, leaflet, social media groups) will be developed in the following period. The next transnational meeting will be hosted by Best Institut GmbH (Austria) in May 2018.



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