

## **Development plan Global Initiative on Psychiatry – Hilversum 2016 and beyond**

After 35 years of existence, GIP-Hilversum has reached a crossroad. As a result of the fact that all big projects came to an end and that apart from private donations no financial support could be found for a continuation of the organization at the same level, the decision was made to scale down to an absolute minimum of activities and related expenses.

It is a sad decision, but the fact that several other GIP organizations within the GIP Federation continue to function and even prosper very much softens the hard decision. The Federation GIP (FGIP) continues to be active in Bulgaria (GIP-Sofia), Georgia (GIP-Tbilisi), Lithuania (Mental Health Perspectives) and with a member organization in the United States (GIP-USA). However, GIP-Hilversum will remain a member of the federation and thus an active part of the GIP family.

The year 2016 will be mainly used to slim down the organization to the absolute minimum, reorganize the governing structure, work on a new development plan and make sure there is a financial basis to resume activities in 2017 and beyond. This year for this continuation we are dependent of donations from private parties and GIP friends. Our plan is to keep GIP-Hilversum at least during the initial phase as a 100% volunteer organization, and to bring in representatives of the younger generation to insert fresh blood and new approaches. We are very excited about the fact that we are entering a new phase, and full of optimism that we will succeed and continue to contribute to the cause of user-oriented and community-based mental health fully in line with the vision and mission of the GIP family.

Our main goal remains: to improve human rights conditions and (sustainable) mental health care in developing nations and countries that suffer from war and extreme poverty.

The board of GIP-Hilversum

