

**ITALIAN LLP NATIONAL AGENCY  
GRUNDTVIG PARTNER SEARCH FORM – LEARNING PARTNERSHIPS**

• **Preliminary project title**

**E.L.S.A.-Net  
(European Local Supporting-groups for Alzheimer - Network)**

• **Institution**

<b>Name</b>	Associazione Solidarietà Volontariato A Domicilio (ASVAD)
<b>Type of institution</b>	Non Profit
<b>City</b>	Torino
<b>Country</b>	Italia
<b>Website</b>	www.asvadorino.org

**Main activities of the institution**

ASVAD (Voluntary and Solidarity Association for Home Assistance) is a voluntary organization (Regional Voluntary Register number DPRG 2938/96) based in Turin (North-West of Italy) that has been working since 1990 in the social sector. ASVAD aims to enhance conditions of life of vulnerable elderly, especially people with dementia and their families. Currently ASVAD has 25 members-volunteers and reaches 70 beneficiaries.

Some activities developed by ASVAD:

- It offers information, support and counseling to people with dementia and their families and carers.
- It organizes additional professional training and supervision for the association members and for the professional caregivers.
- It opened in 2010 the first *Alzheimer Cafè* in Turin and works for promoting new openings in the region.
- It leads Art Therapy sessions for Alzheimer's caregivers.
- It promotes events and campaigns for a better public awareness and understanding to reduce the stigma associated with dementia.
- It welcomes students from the Faculties of Psychology and Political Science of Turin for their University Internship Program.

• **Seeking for...**

<b>Coordinator</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Partner</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

• **Project proposal**

**Main covered fields**

E.L.S.A.-net aims to create an European network of organisations in order to comparing experiences and to sharing and increasing skills in the field of both education and support to vulnerable elders, as well as family members or professionals who care for these patients. In this frame, all partners will carry on an study with a participatory approach to better know which are the needs of this vulnerable group and which are the existent (and the possible) answers and

	best practices.
<b>Target groups</b>	Volunteers, informal caregivers, professional carers (doctors, nurses, social workers, psychologists), students, teachers, researchers and other interested parties.
<b>Objectives</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To share and compare different teaching methods for training volunteers, students and professionals interested at various levels in dementia</li> <li>• To observe and learn techniques for increasing resources and competences of the families of this vulnerable category of people</li> <li>• To explore and collect existing good practices in response of their special needs (Alzheimer Cafès, Meeting Centers, Art Therapy sessions, etc.)</li> <li>• To promote public awareness and voluntary activity in this field.</li> </ul>
<b>Activities</b>	Workshops, seminars, observation sessions, team building activities like social events will be included during the mobility meetings. Every partner will actively participate to the study using common tools (questionnaires, focus groups) and involving at least 50 people per country. Locally each organization will arrange courses (e.g. English, Skype, project management, etc.) for the best communication between the partners, participation in the project and dissemination of the results. At the end of the project will be held an international conference.
<b>Outcomes</b>	Web and social network pages Publication of a brochure (in English and in the language of each partner) with the result of the local study about need, existent, possible future answer and good practices A common methodological tool to monitor and evaluate the training project for vulnerable elders and their families
<b>Period of the project</b>	September 2013-August 2015

• **Potential partners**

Universities and Research Centres, adult training providers, non governative and voluntary organizations, charities, public and private institutions dealing with the vulnerable families and the elders afflicted by dementia.

• **Contact person**

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