







Luisa Monini Brunelli Chair of BPW International Health & Wellbeing Taskforce





5 GENDER EQUALITY

President of Giorgio Brunelli Foundation

The Member States of the United Nations have adopted the 17 SDGs in 2015 because they are aware that a peaceful world unless measures are taken to achieve a sustainable sociomedical development of all the people in the world and a universal human rights protection.

The taskforce members work to create a peaceful world through the promotion of health and wellbeing, for Humans, Animals and the Planet.



















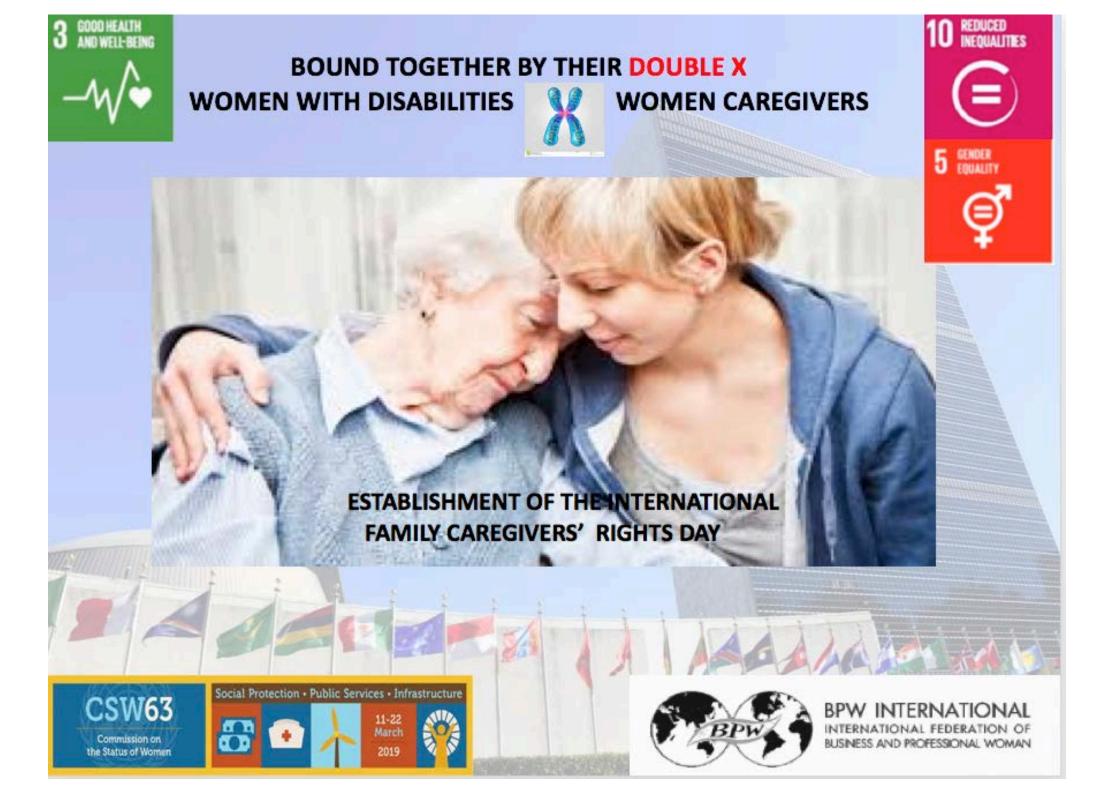














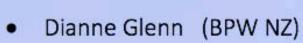


Members of the project





Myself





Cettina Olivieri (FIDAPA BPW Italy)



Alga Rossi (FIDAPA BPW Italy),



Cristina Rossello (honorary member of FIDAPA BPW Italy; member of the European Union Policies Commission).

Catherine Bosshart BPW International Vice President UN 2017-2020























Bound together by their double X

Women with disabilities and women caregiver



Principles: SDG 3, SDG 10, SDG 5 and

the Legal Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (drafted by the U.N. General Assembly on 13 December 2006, signed on 30 March 2007/ ratified by the EU on 23 December 2010)

Rationale:

ageing population -> more people with disabilities: the ratio of older women compared to men is of 2:1

gender differences in lifespan leaves women more vulnerable

Data:

Women with disabilities (7% of world's population) → double discrimination risks Average caregiver= woman between 45 and 65 years of age Regardless of the gender of the person with disability, it is estimated that 66% of caregivers are women, adding to the invisible part of society.







Main Issues

- Benefits are not enough to ensure a reasonable quality of life the plight of a woman who gives up paid employment to care for a family member with a disability (adult, child, husband, partner, parent) → she does not qualify for remuneration/ difficult to maintain a stable occupation → cannot save for retirement/ mortgage/ rent.
- Women with disabilities suffer from inherited diseases, chronic diseases (such as cardiovascular diseases, obesity, diabetes, cancer, neurodegenerative diseases, osteoporosis, etc.) and posttraumatic events with para- and tetraplegia – also they dedicate themselves to the cared person and are often 'annulled' by their loved one's illness → causes in turn a series of psychological and physical problems in the caregiver, such as: depression, detachment from friends and the community, disinterest in their own physical condition, resulting in the onset of chronic diseases.

Main Issues

 EU budget 449.4 million euros → only supervisionary role → yet, public services and institutions worldwide are currently inadequate to cover the needs and requirements of people with disabilities, therefore most of the family members became caregivers of their loved relatives.

BPW CALL FOR ACTION

THE GOLDEN GOAL

 Obtain public monetary and psychological support for caregivers, adequate social protection systems, implementation of measures at national level to effectively guarantee an adequate support to all caregivers; action should be coordinated with the public sector, social entities, employers' associations, and other people in the community.

STRATEGIES

- LAUNCH THE INTERNATIONAL FAMILY CAREGIVERS' DAY TO BEST PROMOTE THEIR RIGHTS THROUGH THEIR RECOGNITION (DATE TO BE DEFINED)
- Act to support caregivers through social protection, healthcare, and welfare at regional and national level;
- Promote financial support to caregivers through an allowance for healthcare and financial help for home adaptations;
- Reach an agreement with insurance companies for better insurance deals for caregivers;
- Promote agreements with employers' associations to achieve better work flexibility to improve the quality of life of elderly disabled people and their caregivers and relatives
- Recognize and value the role of caregivers and foster communication with social and care-workers through courses and programmes at city level

STRATEGIES

- Guarantee aid measures to support the caregivers' medical competences and cope with physical and mental stress;
- Drive governments towards the development of building plans that envisage the use of home automation and telematics when building homes for elderly and disabled people (smart houses) to support the demanding work of caregivers.



