Press Release 7

CARE + CONNECT

Delivering Mental Health Supports in Higher Education Institutions across Europe

CARE + CONNECT

Project No: 2025-1-PL01-KA220-HED-000357751

CARE+CONNECT Advances Digital Platform Testing and Continues Development of Peer Support Content

Following the design of the **CARE** modules, the CARE+CONNECT consortium has reached an implementation phase by initiating user testing for its digital mental health platform. The platform is currently undergoing practical testing across partner institutions to evaluate its functionality and content. This evaluation phase ensures that the technical features and localized resources are fully adapted to the daily realities of European higher education communities before final deployment.

In parallel, significant progress is being made under the **CONNECT** initiative, which focuses on community-based peer support. The consortium is actively developing and refining content for both student-to-student and professional-to-professional support networks. These frameworks focus on enhancing skills in active listening, emotional intelligence, and safe referral pathways, paving the way for structured care networks within participating universities.

To ensure long-term impact and visibility, the consortium is simultaneously expanding its regional and international stakeholder networks. By strengthening ties with higher education leaders, mental health experts, and student organizations, CARE+CONNECT continues to build a sustainable ecosystem dedicated to improving mental health awareness and early intervention across Europe.

Looking ahead, the project partners will convene in Germany in November for the second **Transnational Project Meeting**. This gathering will serve as a key platform to review testing feedback, align on next steps, and further consolidate the rollout of both the CARE and CONNECT frameworks across partner institutions.

www.careandconnect.eu

https://www.facebook.com/careandconnectproject/

https://www.linkedin.com/company/care-connect-project

careandconnect_eu

Co-funded by the European Union

Co-funded by the European Union. Views and opinions expressed are however those of the author(s) only and do not necessarily reflect those of the European Union or the Foundation for the Development of the Education System (FRSE). Neither the European Union nor FRSE can be held responsible for them.