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## PRESS RELEASE

*For Immediate Release*

### InterMinds Receives £53,517 Grant From National Lottery Charities Board.

The National Lotteries Charity Board has awarded **InterMinds**, an Edinburgh based Charity working in International Mental Health Development, a grant of **£53,517** for their work in the **Republic of Armenia**. This grant is additional to funding that **InterMinds** has already received from the European Union and is for a two year project to support the development of two community based mental health organizations in Yerevan, Armenia. The funding will be used to provide office equipment, UK and Armenian salaries, fees for trainers, information materials and travel and subsistence costs for the project. **InterMinds'** work will enable the carers, volunteers and professionals who work with the two Armenian organizations, **The Mental Health Foundation of Armenia** and **Tatev '95** to provide a greatly improved level of support to thousands of people with mental health problems.

**InterMinds** is grateful that our work in Armenia has been recognised by the **National Lottery Charities Board**. **Peter Kampman, Chief Executive** of **InterMinds** said, "We are delighted to receive this grant. The plight of people with mental health problems in Armenia is desperate and our work and that of our Armenian partners gives people some glimmer of hope. We would like to thank the National Lottery Charities Board for their support."

**For further information please contact Peter Kampman  
Tel: 0131 467 0117 or 07775 796944 (mobile)**

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# **InterMinds Background Information**

## **History**

**InterMinds** was established in April 1999 to take over the work of **Penumbra International** in the field of **International Mental Health Development**. The expertise, experience and network of contacts that had contributed to the success of Penumbra International, were all transferred to **InterMinds**. Staffing remained unchanged with **Peter Kampman** continuing as Chief Executive.

**InterMinds** has continued and developed the work of Penumbra International in **Romania, Bulgaria and Armenia** and has undertaken fact-finding visits to other countries within **Eastern Europe** and further afield. **InterMinds** continues to respond to requests for assistance and is developing projects and contacts in **Europe, Africa, Asia and Oceania**.

**InterMinds** aims to assist individuals and organisations to create realistic options and opportunities for people with mental health problems. It is committed to **challenging** the concept of **institutional care** for people with mental health problems. Projects are developed at the invitation of and in partnership with local non-governmental organisations and others in the public and not-for-profit sectors. **InterMinds** supports local organisations, within the parameters of their own cultures, by providing assistance with organisational development, addressing the need for legislative change, influencing mental health policies and supporting the development of community based initiatives.

Internationally, **InterMinds** is making its mark as an authority in the field of mental health, both in its own right and through its collaboration with the umbrella organisation **Mental Health Europe-Santé Mentale Europe**. **InterMinds** took the lead in organising the annual conference of **MHE-SME** in **Romania** in **September 1999**, successfully contributing to raising awareness of mental health issues within Eastern Europe and putting it on the political agenda.

Within Scotland, **InterMinds** is increasingly being recognised by **politicians** and the **media** as one of the leading authorities working in **International Mental Health Development**.

## **Policy Statement**

### ***There Is No Health Without Mental Health***

Mental health is an essential part of any citizen's health and well-being and as such is an essential component of any country's economic well-being. Good mental health is a basic human right. Factors that adversely affect mental health represent a major and growing threat to economic and public health in the world.

InterMinds' position is that improvements in the mental health and the dignity of people with mental health problems should be acknowledged as a national priority by the responsible authorities in each country, with special attention paid to the needs of socially and economically vulnerable people.

We believe mental health services should be integrated with the basic health care system, as part of a primary health care strategy (with special priority given to community services). Workplaces, schools and neighbourhoods represent. In our view, appropriate environments for the development of mental health promotion and mental illness prevention programmes.

We think a particular emphasis should be given to the education of professionals, users and their families, the provision of information for the general public and how to access needed resources. Modern mental health legal provisions should be developed, adopted and enforced in accordance with international articles on human rights.

## **Biographies of Chief Executive And Board Members**

### **Peter Kampman**

Peter Kampman was Chief Executive of **Penumbra**, a leading Scottish Mental Health Charity before founding **InterMinds**, an international mental health development charity currently working in Romania and Armenia. He has worked as a Psychiatric social worker in a wide variety of settings in Scottish Local Authorities and has served a period as Social Work advisor to the Scottish Hospital Advisory Service. He has, in addition, a background in Agriculture. He is currently an elected Board member and Treasurer of Mental Health Europe, the leading umbrella organisation in mental health in Europe. He has a long record of contributing to the development of Scottish voluntary organisations, including the Albion Trust, the Edinburgh Community Trust, and Clydesdale and Link Housing Associations.

### **Dr John Henderson, Chairman**

John was a Consultant Psychiatrist and is now a Consultant in Mental Health. His many distinguished posts include Policy Director of MHE-SME, and previously Vice president for Europe to the WFMH, Director for Grants and Projects, the Mental Health Foundation, London, and Advisor to the WHO for South East Asia and European Regions and advisor to the Secretary of State for Scotland.

### **Johan Willemse**

Johan has worked as an executive director in the field of social work, with homeless people and with an organisation that assists people with a mental health problem or with learning disabilities in their work and living arrangements. Since 1997 he has been a management consultant supporting and coaching directors and managers. His personal mission is the following: How can conditions be optimised for people to take control of their own life? There is no difference between people who have some sort of handicap or who hold leading positions within an organisation. Everyone should have the opportunity to take full responsibility for the choices he/she makes.

### **Josee van Remoortel**

Josee was a founding member of the European Regional Council of the World Federation for Mental Health (ERC-WFMH, now MHE-SME). In a distinguished career she has held many posts in Belgium and Europe at the highest level, including Vice President of ERC-WFMH. Amongst many other groups at local and international level she is a member of the European Women's Lobby, a member of the W.H.O. Task Force on Prevention and Promotion of Mental Health and a Board member of the Liaison Committee of NGO's with consultative status with the Council of Europe.

### **Kerry Napuk**

Kerry arrived in the UK in 1973 to act as a company doctor for a major clearing bank. Later he became interested in strategic planning for smaller companies and has published a best selling book on the subject 'The Strategy Led Business'. Realising the need to involve more people in organisations he uses large group processes, especially Open Space, to implement strategic plans and unlock potential and energy. He has facilitated events with local authorities, quangos, universities and voluntary organisations.

### **Charles Watters PhD**

Dr Watters has undertaken research and published several books about the mental health needs of minority groups and refugees. He is an internationally respected authority on these areas and holds several posts at academic establishments, including the Director of Graduate studies at the Tizard Centre, Chair of the Committee on Minorities and Mental Health (ERC-WFMH) and Director of the European Centre for the study of the Social Care of Minority Groups and Refugees, University of Kent.