

# women's ministries



SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH  
INTER-EUROPEAN DIVISION



2019.16 October 06, 2019

## News from Women's Ministries Inter-European Division

### Fighting Breast Cancer with a Smile



#### October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month

At the recent EUD Inter-Ministries Summit in Lignano Sabbadiero, Italy, a part of the program was focused on life stories. People opened their hearts to tell about their experiences. These interviews touched many hearts.

Lorena is a radiant woman who was in charge of the music for the congress. The musicians lifted our hearts in praise to God with their beautiful voices and instrumental accompaniment. But Lorena had even more to give. She gave her testimony of her experience with breast cancer. This devastating diagnosis was very unexpected and sudden, but Lorena decided that she wanted to face it with a smile. It was so encouraging to hear how she decided that she wanted to help others by recording the progress of her therapy on youtube week for week. Under the title Bye bye Gecko she posted weekly updates of her treatment in English, Spanish and French.

We can be grateful that there are many forms of treatment for cancer and medical science has made great progress. Lorena's positive attitude is exemplary and encouraging. The videos on her youtube channel [https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCr8lx4\\_ms6KAmv2wFGSr6gw/videos](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCr8lx4_ms6KAmv2wFGSr6gw/videos) are available for all. Praise the Lord that Lorena is cancer-free today and that she has been able to help others gain a more positive attitude to this form of cancer through her videos!



### EUD Inter-Ministries Summit, September 18-22, 2019



#### Encourage, Uplift, Develop

Now it's over, the congress, or really the Inter-Ministries summit of three departments of the Seventh-Day Adventist church in the Inter-European Division in Lignano Sabbadiero, Italy. What a good idea to get all the people involved in Family Ministries, Children's Ministries and Women's Ministries together to address topics involved with people and calling the congress People 7.0. Living as Christians reflecting God's love to all people is a journey that we are all on and where we can use all the help we can get from professionals in various areas. That is what this summit was about. The EUD team picked up the letters of the division's abbreviation to make up an acronym: E – encourage; U – uplift; D – develop. Each day of the congress addressed one of these areas with short "EUD"-talks brilliantly presented by interesting speakers with professional experience in their respective fields. In the afternoon there was a



plethora of workshops to choose from. The evening programs told the real stories of real authentic people. The congress structure may have been surprising for some, but the organizers should be commended for their courage in taking up new and inspiring ways to pass on the message of living an authentic life, reaching out to our communities and letting out little

light shine. Let us take off our masks and be the people we are and let God heal our hurts. Maybe then we can reach others who are scared away by the perfect image that we project when we come to church with our Sabbath masks on our faces. The journey that was started here will not end here. The participants were encouraged to take up the challenge of passing on the inspiration to their homes and local churches and to call an accountability partner in a few days in order to remind them of what, how and when they will do this. It was a privilege to attend this congress and I want to thank the whole Division team for this wonderful experience. But most of all the success of the congress was due to God's presence and blessing in the whole event. Thanks be to God!  
Reported by Hannele Ottshofski

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## EUD Women's Ministries Advisory in Italy



### Union Leaders network

From September 22 – 24, 2019, the Union Women's Ministries Directors of the Inter-European Division gathered for an advisory at the conclusion of the People 7.0 congress in Italy. Very recently there have been changes in the leadership of the Women's Ministries Department in the EUD, and so it was a welcome opportunity for the leaders to meet each other. Networking is an important tool. The Women's Ministry Directors represented Austria, Bulgaria, France, Germany, Portugal, Romania and Switzerland. The advisory was led by Dagmar Dorn, EUD WM Director and facilitated by Heather-Dawn Small and Raquel Arrais of the the General Conference Women's Ministries Department.



Such meetings are occasions on which the leaders share reports of what is being done in their regions but also possibilities of finding new impulses and ideas for service. But it was most of all the opportunity for the new leaders to learn about the details of their new job. Many things like statistics, scholarships and budgets have to be dealt with on a regular basis. A highlight of

the meeting was a trip to Venice where the ladies got to know each other better in an informal and friendly atmosphere. We trust that God will bless their efforts in their respective fields as they work to enrich, empower and reach out to other women. Photos: EUD WM

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## Women's Ministry Planning session in Bulgaria



### Help for immigrants planned

Gabriela Kudinova, Women's Ministries Director for the Bulgarian Union called her team together to meet for a planning session in Sofia on September 28. Gabriela attended the People 7.0 summit in Lignano Sabbadiero, Italy, and came back home loaded with inspiring impressions and new ideas.



The team is in contact with Polin, an immigrant, who wants to help other refugees. The women's team is thinking of ways to help her and support her so that she will be able to help more people in need. They need provisions and help in finding jobs and medical help. May God bless them as they make plans.

Photos: WM Bulgaria

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## “Whole and Holy” Women’s Convention in Florida



### Emphasis on Spiritual, Mental, and Physical Health

More than 1,000 women were given the opportunity to enrich their lives spiritually, mentally, and physically during the “Whole and Holy” 2019 North American Division Women’s Convention. The four-day event, which included general sessions, breakout seminars, and worship services, was held at the Rosen Shingle Creek Convention Center in Orlando, Florida, September 26-29. The convention also featured a full day of community service activities,\* organized by the “God in Shoes” ministry, that took place across the city of Orlando.



### Relationships and Promises

A common theme highlighted by the general session speakers was the need for healthy interpersonal relationships. The speakers addressed the necessity through the lenses of their various disciplines and expertise. A key to being whole and holy is to let the impossible seeds God plants in our mind take root in the depths of our soul and permeate the pathway of our heart in order to ultimately flourish and bear fruit. All we’ve got to do is believe, trust, obey, and be patient.”

### “Made to Move”



NAD Health Ministries provided an opportunity to improve physical health by sponsoring the convention’s first 5K race. The race was also as the inaugural event for the ministry’s “Made to Move” campaign that will unfold next year.

“We are here to give God glory,” said David, a little before 6 a.m. on the convention’s final day, to the 260 walkers and runners getting ready to start the race

### Fond Farewell

Another important highlight of the convention came during the Sabbath afternoon program, which featured a violinist, saxophonist, and vocal groups. Between the musical performances, Jones and the women’s ministries leaders of the North American Division’s unions, and the women’s ministries directors of the Bermuda Conference and the Guam-Micronesia Mission surprised Carla Baker, who is preparing to retire next year, with a farewell ceremony. Each leader presented her with a gift, gave well-wishes, and thanked her for many years of service. Baker has been with NAD Women’s Ministries for 14 years.

“We’re all sisters. It’s not *work* when you’re working with such lovely people,” said Baker after her colleagues finished their remarks. “I’m going to miss all the friends I’ve made all across the NAD, Bermuda, and Guam-Micronesia. It’s been the best 14 years of my life. I thank God for giving me the privilege of serving North America with such a wonderful group of women.”

NAD Newpoints, reported by Mylon Medley Photos: Mylon Medley

Read the whole article on : <https://www.nadadventist.org/news/whole-and-holy-womens-convention-emphasizes-spiritual-mental-and-physical-health?fbclid=IwAR2euqhfVr6AVqDiY8u8J-W16MOCeuknLcWeMb4yFwA96GeMTA-kOqkXKAE>

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Events: Calendar Women’s Ministries EUD  
<http://women.euroafrica.org/calendar>

Homepage Women’s Ministries:  
[www.women.eud.adventist.org](http://www.women.eud.adventist.org)

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