EUROPEAN
HEALTH FORUM
GASTEIN

Gelissen, Paul
Mental Health Europe

Paul Gelissen is a peer-support worker, with lived experience of depression and youth mental health care. He has worked with service providers as a trainer and consultant and later transitioned to providing professional education to peer-workers in training.

All the while, he has worked on youth mental health with several organisations, including the Amsterdam University Hospital, Dutch National Youth Council and the Dutch Youth Institute. As chair of the Mental Health Europe Youth Taskforce, he brings youth-specific mental health issues to the NGO’s agenda.

His work focusses on prevention, early intervention, youth agency and the role of mental health in education. Together with his lived experience and current research education on Development and Socialisation in Childhood and Adolescence, he hopes that children, adolescents and young adults of the future will have the skills and literacy to take care of their own mental health, before problems arise.