

Better Psychiatry

The objectives of *Better Psychiatry* are to both achieve improved conditions for the relatives of psychiatrically ill persons as well as to accomplish a more effective cure for psychiatric patients. We offer support to next-of-kin, friends, colleagues and others experiencing problems typically related to psychiatric patients.

Founded in 1992, *Better Psychiatry*, is a relatively young organisation currently boasting more than 5.000 members. The main organisational mission statement is: "We support you, so you can support yours." *Better Psychiatry* is a nationwide organisation lead by the local members' engagement and voluntary work, which is carried out by more than 50 local unions. We are independent of political parties, economics, and religious beliefs. Since 2006 the membership has quadrupled making *Better Psychiatry* one of the largest organisations of its kind in Denmark.

We are working specifically:

- to support and advise next-of-kin, friends and colleagues; by providing information and advising on activities.
- to represent the interests of next-of-kin and patients before decision-makers.
- to represent the interests of next-of-kin and patients in local committees and councils.
- to increase the knowledge of and subvert the stigma surrounding psychiatric illness by means of information and events.
- to mediate, through dialogue, with the Psychiatric Wards and other treatment facilities to obtain the best possible treatment for the individual patient.