



CENTER FOR OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE COLLABORATION

**The Foundation COME Collaboration ONLUS
Annual Report – 2016**

- A Year Full of Dreams -

Table of contents

1. President's Message
2. Dreaming as a Community
3. A Successful Networking
4. A Bright Future
5. Our Accounts
6. Our Supporters
7. Organisational plan – Who is who?
 - COME Collaboration Board of Trustees
 - COME Collaboration International Scientific Advisory Board
8. Our thanks
9. What they say about us

1. President's Message



This is my second year as President of C.O.M.E. Collaboration (COME). I was glad to be part of a *year full of dreams*. I am committed to continuing strong governance and transparency to ensure we continue to help the osteopathic community as much as possible.

I have always been immensely impressed by the dedication of COME supporters and members, which last year, culminated in COME publishing 15 papers, starting 2 major projects to help preterm children, disable kids and their families when they need it most. Together with our supporters and volunteers, we seek to achieve our Mission: to carry out high quality research and use these studies to help people living better.

In 2016, our team grew even stronger. We launched the **Neonatology and Osteopathy Programme (NeO Project)** and we were able to support, help and treat preterm babies in neonatal intensive care units of Italian Hospitals.

Furthermore, we started the **COME for Children project** with the aim to treat children with different disabilities, making every effort to make these families' lives, just a little bit easier. Here is the story of how, thanks to your support, the COME team has helped the community.

COME Collaboration will continue dreaming high and building strong realities to improve people lives and wellbeing.

Francesco Cerritelli
President – Foundation COME Collaboration

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Francesco Cerritelli". The signature is written in a cursive style.

2. Dreaming as a Community

"COME is like a spring of ideas, feelings, good vibrations, relationships, nights spent studying and writing, hours in Skype meetings, friends working restlessly also while travelling... That is COME! COME does research, but does not describe reality, describes a dream. The dream of building a better World focus more on people than on therapists and the health system, a futuristic vision where collaboration, sharing and autonomy exist. That is COME to me!" (Quotation: Alessio, volunteer)

In 2016, we achieved many milestones, extended services, thanks to our supporters, 50 amazing volunteers and committed staff. Our three National Centres (Italy, Belgium and The Netherlands) and seven division teams within the area of Research, Clinical Practice and Health care, supervised 25 projects, supported 20 families with disabled children and established several national and international partnerships – 30% more than last year.

Following a successful pilot of our professional and independent Neonatal Care Service, our first neonatal national project was appointed (*Neonatology and Osteopathy Programme NE-O* <http://www.comecollaboration.org/it/ne-o/>), involving nearly 25 neonatal intensive care units in Italy, more than 50 osteopaths and paramedical professionals in just one year.

We launched a new project *COME for Children* (<https://www.facebook.com/COMEforCHILDREN/>) across the country for the support of children with disabilities, to give opportunities to the families for friendship, support and respite.

We extended our clinical projects service to the *RIO DE ORO Foundation*, a charity association devoted to the support of disabled children from Africa. The research activities provide important information, advocacy and outcomes to the community for improving health services and health policies, promoting a multidisciplinary healthcare approach. This creates connection between the science of data and the reality of needs.



Little Aurora looking at the sky – summer 2016

3. A Successful Networking

Throughout the 2016, more than 20 partners allowed the Foundation to establish new projects, achieve planned results and create an insightful networking. This was part of the success derived by the policy to be inclusive, open-minded and active listeners towards the suggestions, needs and critical feedbacks of our network.

By broadening our perspectives, we achieved to plan other three international projects. The aim is enhancing a high quality of osteopathic services in Europe, identifying the key areas of needs for 2017 Project Plan and creating the basis for robust, multidisciplinary and innovative research.

The most successful example came from our QUANTUM Global conference event that was organised by the NACE – Belgium on October 2016 (<http://www.comecollaboration.org/come-to-quantum/2016-2/>). Researchers, clinicians, academics, students gathered in a fantastic location, Mechelen, to share, discuss and provide new knowledge to the field of osteopathy and beyond.



COME Meeting in Milan - November 2016



QUANTUM Global – Mechelen – Belgium – 2016

4. A bright future

This is an exciting time in the field of osteopathic research. There have never been more treatment options and better outcomes for patients than there are right now. Researchers continually improve our understanding of the basic biology of the disease and develop new combinations and therapies to more effectively treat. During this time of great promises, COME Collaboration Onlus is proud to be at the forefront of advancing osteopathic research and practice.

Indeed, also this year two prizes were awarded to the two most successful researchers/clinicians within the COME Foundation: Giandomenico D'Alessandro – Italy - (breakthrough prize) and Gerard Alvarez – Spain - (Excellence prize).

To make it even more real, we thank our partners that strongly support and financially sustain our activities carried out during the whole year. We need every day more to enlighten a brighter future.



The QUANTUM Global 2016 in Mechelen – Belgium. Giandomenico D'Alessandro (Italy) – the first on the left – and Gerard Alvarez (Spain) –the fourth from the right – were the two COME members awarded

5. Our accounts

The tables in Annex 1 report at glance COME Collaboration's balance sheet for 2016. (page 13 of this document).

6. Our supporters and partners

This was a fantastic year of collaboration, networking and sharing with several national and international institutions. We hope to continue a strong collaboration in the future to complete the projects we have started in 2016.

Our supporters and partners are:

- *A.T. Still Research Institute – Kirksville MO – USA*
- *University of North Texas Health Science Center – Dallas – USA*
- *Associazione per la medicina centrata sulla persona ONLUS – Boulogne – Italy*
- *The British School of Osteopathy – London – UK*
- *CORPP – Mechelen – Belgium*
- *SWOO – Amsterdam – The Netherlands*
- *IdHEO – Nantes – France*
- *Osteopatia per Bambini – Genoa – Italy*
- *Ohio university – Athens – USA*
- *Tuttosteopatia – Italy*

7. Organisational plan – Who is who?

COME Collaboration works without hierarchies and with a horizontal approach, where every opinion and vote has the same weight. The Board of Trustees is the Central decision making core of the Foundation. The members are all professional osteopaths, with a strong scientific and clinical osteopathic knowledge. The Board is international as osteopathic professionals coming from different part of Europe compose it and Middle East compose it.

COME Collaboration Board of Trustee

- *Francesco Cerritelli – President – Pescara, Italy*
- *Alessandro Accorsi – Vice President – Macerata, Italy*
- *Patrick van Dun – Mechelen, Belgium*
- *Jorge Esteves – Dubai, UAE*
- *Rafael Zegarra-Parodi – Paris, France*

COME Collaboration has also an internal scientific advisory Board, which gives directions and guidelines for the annual research programme and plan. The Board is international, with experts coming from Europe, USA and India.

COME Collaboration International Scientific Advisory Board

- Paolo Roberti di Sarsina, MD - Università di Milano-Bicocca – Milan - Italy
- Lisa Hodge, PhD – University of North Texas Health Science Center - Department of Cell Biology and Immunology – Texas _ USA
- Serge Gracovetsky, PhD – Canada
- Peter Huijing, PhD - Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam – The Netherlands
- Paul Standley, PhD - The University of Arizona College of Medicine – Phoenix - USA
- Harald Walach, PhD - Europa Universität Viadrina - Germany
- Michael Loughlin, PhD - Manchester Metropolitan University - UK
- Bhushan Patwardhan, PhD - Savitribai Phule Pune University - India
- John Weeks, PhD – Seattle - USA
- Juan Carlos Duran – Majorca - Spain

8. Our thanks

COME's special thank goes to all our fantastic volunteers and collaborators who generously give their time and effort, sharing their skills and professional experiences to help COME Collaboration reaching its goals. This year, we had 50 volunteers who donated around 5000 hours of support and work. Comparing the living wage, this equates to an incredible €50,000 of donated time. COME Collaboration is grateful to receive so much care and attention by its volunteers. We hope to continue growing more and more as a big family, as we strongly believe that people can make the difference!

thank you

9. What they say about us.

"I see COME as a group of very well prepared people, who really want to do, and to do well, a group of people with whom to share my knowledge and skills and from which to learn so much to improve and grow" (quot. Marco)

"[...] my expectations are to share with you, grow personally and professionally [...]" (quot. Lorenzo)

"COME is a breath of fresh air; the freshness that has long been missing in the Scientific Community and a brand new approach to the osteopathic community. It is the right synthesis of what the research must be: modular, scalable and open source. Each of us will be able to share our professional experience, depending not only on our own knowledge but also on our own desires and ideas. This is to me the real goal. COME it is also friendship and passion" (quot. Alessandro)

"My idea of COME is represented by group, research, passion, enthusiasm, innovation ... the desire to grow all together and to give all professional osteopaths this possibility" (quot. Diego)

"I believe that COME is the fruit of the passion, dedication, love and commitment that each of us puts into this wonderful profession (osteopathy) that unites us. That profession that gave me victories but also defeats and I am here to grow and constantly find incentives that push me to go further" (quot. Alessandra)

"I see COME Collaboration as an opportunity for professional growth through a high quality of SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH, enclosing all professional areas and aiming to improve the quality of life and therefore the people well-being" (quot. Luca)

"Personally I see COME as a brilliant idea, an innovative project of great prospect not only in the osteopathic field. It aims to increase collaboration between osteopaths, as well as between osteopaths and other health professions. I believe that COME represents a huge opportunity for personal and professional growth" (quot. Nicola)

"For me the HOW is possible to do RESEARCH that leads to RESULTS that can improve the world we live, all done with ENTHUSIASM [...] I feel that it is an environment where I can be free to make mistakes because I know I'm with open people and critically positive" (quot. Giandomenico)

Find out more on www.comecollaboration.org
For information: info@comecollaboration.org

COM'ON