



**Care Leavers' Community**

# **ONLINE CARE LEAVERS CAFE**

**REPORT JANUARY**





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# INTRODUCTION

The first Online Care Leavers' Café took place on January, 31st 2021. It was organized by Karishma Singh (care leaver, India), Fabienne Landerer (care leaver, Austria), Martine Tobé (Stichting Kinderperspectief, Netherlands), Dorothee Kochskämper (University of Hildesheim, Germany) and Leena Prasad (Udayan Care). Fabienne and Martine were moderating the session while Dorothee arranged the (technical) part.

# PROGRAMM

- Check-in and welcome
- Introduction to the new care leavers' community website
  - [careleaverscommunity.org](https://careleaverscommunity.org)
- Care Leavers chit-chat
- Concrete ideas of fellow care leavers
  - Gurmeet's idea of launching a YouTube channel for care leavers community
- Idea of the Care Leavers Cafe meetings
- (Open Space)

[careleaverscommunity.org](https://careleaverscommunity.org)





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# CHECK-IN

The café started with a mentimeter-survey to get to know the participants. In total, 31 persons (not all were using the mentimeter) from at least 10 different countries participated. The majority of the participants were care leavers. Additionally, there were some representatives of the Organising Committee of the convention and some professionals from like SOS Children's Villages.

# COMMUNITY SITE

After the survey, Karishma (care leaver, India) presented the care leavers community website. By sharing her screen she gave all participants a virtual tour through the website.

The website is offering care leavers the opportunity to share personal blogs, exchange best practices, search for care leavers networks in other countries on the " world map" and explore a rich amount of reports and other resources related to leaving care.

Please check out [careleaverscommunity.org](https://careleaverscommunity.org), subscribe yourself and start sharing and exploring.

[careleaverscommunity.org](https://careleaverscommunity.org)





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# CHIT-CHAT

In four sparkling break-out rooms the participants (care leavers only) got the possibility to chat in small groups about their feelings, experiences and wishes for the future. Additionally, there was a breakout room for professionals without a personal background in care. These breakout sessions were very positively valued by the care leavers. Next time, they even wish to have more time for this part of the café.

# THE CAFE FORMAT

After that, Martine and Fabienne explained the idea of the Care Leavers' Café again and started a discussion about it. They also asked for ideas for the next sessions (mentimeter). The results show that the care leavers are interested in going on with this format and that there are already some ideas about topics for the next sessions.

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# YOUTUBE CHANNEL

**“Gurmeet (26), a filmmaker and a care leaver, spoke to the group about the importance of video making and encouraged them to share their stories struggles and even achievements. By doing so, the care leavers sitting in one part of the world, know that there are so many others going through the same struggles and journeys across the world and can together motivate one another.**

**Care leavers really liked her idea and were enthusiastic about making a YouTube channel of their own, which will only allow access to their community to protect their privacy.**

**However, after some valuable suggestions, the CLAN members decided, the channel will only be active, after Gurmeet takes a risk management session with care leavers, so that whoever is sharing their stories is aware of their responsibilities and rights while creating the videos.**

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# NEXT CL CAFE

Just before the end, there was the question who likes to be part of the organizing team for the next café session – the Kenyan Care Leavers Network decided to think about it. Afterwards they confirmed.

The next Care Leavers Cafe will take place on

**SUNDAY**

**28 February**

**13:30 GMT**

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