



**Care Leavers' Community**

**ONLINE**

**CARE LEAVERS**

**CAFE**

**REPORT APRIL 2023**



# INTRODUCTION

The first online café session of 2023 took place on April 30th 2023, on the topic “Life Stories: Living Journeys of Care Leavers”. The session commenced on a warm note with the introduction of all the attendees onboard. The session was moderated by Tanja Abou (University of Hildesheim, Germany). Vidhika Gadia (Udayan Care, India) arranged the technical part.

## PROGRAM

Check-in and welcome by Tanja (Moderator)

Updates and introductions by each participant

Session by Tanja on “Life Stories: Living Journeys of Care Leavers”

Breakout Rooms (Organised by Tanja)

Closure

## CHECK-IN

The café started with a welcome by Vidhika. Tanja then introduced herself and the topic and why it is important for Care Leavers. This was followed by introductions and check-ins from all the participants. In total, 15 people from 5 different countries participated. The majority of the participants were care leavers. Additionally, there were two representatives of the Organising Committee of the GCLC.

## SESSION

After the introductions, Tanja shared her screen and started her presentation. By sharing examples of how remembrance works for people in care and care leavers, as well as sharing personal experiences, she created a space for participants to share their experiences as well.

During the presentation, people chimed in with their own experiences and stories, making it an interactive session within a small group.

After the presentation, participants were assigned to breakout rooms, in which they were asked to discuss their memories, lives growing up in care, as well as other related topics.

The session ended with a quick summary of the discussion and a thank you note delivered by Tanja.

## PARTICIPANTS AND REGISTRATION

A total of **50 people** registered for the café, after many efforts to disseminate the information on social media and messaging groups. A [poster was created](#) containing all relevant information such as timing, topic,

hosts, a QR Code leading to the registration link, and was posted on the GCLC social media handles ([Instagram posts and stories](#), [Twitter](#), and [Facebook](#)). An emailer containing the same information was sent out to 873 people from a database created over time from the international conventions. Additionally, messages were sent on various group chats asking people to register for the session, such as the Care Leavers International WhatsApp group. The session concluded with **15 total participants from 5 countries**.

1. **Sri Lanka- 2-** Nimali S Kumari (Nimmu), Nirosha
2. **India- 10-** Pooja Udayan, Shahid Malik, Manisha Goswami, Narndi, Anand Biniya, Srinivas Murthy, Surja Chauhan, Vidhika Gadia, Shankar Pradhan, Priyanka Rai
3. **Nepal- 1-** Meera Budhathoki
4. **Germany- 1-** Tanja Abou
5. **Namibia- 1-** Lourdes Cafivela

## NEXT CAFÉ

The host for the next session was initially going to be decided by sourcing ideas and volunteers from the larger Care Leavers International group, however, due to a lack of responses, the decision was delayed. Nimmu (Generation Never Give Up Network, Sri Lanka), volunteered to host the next session on the topic “Planning Regional Advocacy”.

**The next Care Leavers Cafe will take place on**

## SUNDAY

## 28 May, 2023

## 13:30 GMT