

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Dr. Gro Harlem Brundtland Honored
At World Mental Health Seminar Convening Now in Lillestrøm Norway**

Today, [Dr. Gro Harlem Brundtland](#), former Prime Minister of Norway and Director-General Emeritus of the World Health Organization, was the very first recipient of the prestigious **Rudyard n. Propst Award**, conferred by [Clubhouse International](#) in recognition of individuals who make extraordinary contributions to improving the lives of people with mental illness. Dr. Brundtland has been a longtime advocate for better mental health services worldwide, and a supporter of Clubhouse programs for many years.

[Clubhouse International](#), a global organization working to end social and economic isolation for people with mental illness, is currently co-hosting the **Clubhouse International World Seminar 2019** from September 28 through October 3, 2019, in Lillestrøm, Norway. The event is co-hosted with our two Norwegian partners, [Fontenehus Norge](#) and [Fontenehuset i Oslo](#).

The award is named after Rudyard n. Propst, the founder and first Executive Director of Clubhouse International, who first created Clubhouse programs as an international movement and evidence-based practice. The award itself was designed and created by sculptor [Kristina Kossi](#), winner of the top award for sculpture, “Barbara Newington Award Traditional Sculpture” juried by Stephanie L. Herdrich of the Metropolitan Museum of Art at the American Artists Professional League’s 2018 Exhibit.

Pictures of the award ceremony, showing: (1) Mrs. Brundtland with Clubhouse International Board Members Anette Høegh Goelet, Nicholas Ratut, Knut Stubben, and sculptor and creator of the award, Kristina Kossi (2) Mrs. Brundtland with Kristina Kossi.

About World Seminar 2019

Participants at World Seminar 2019 represent more than 20 countries, 25 U.S. states and 100 community mental health programs known as “Clubhouses.” The Seminar will provide an opportunity for education, dialog and sharing of best practices developed by Clubhouse International’s Clubhouse community – now totaling over 300 Clubhouses operating on six continents.

The Clubhouse model for psycho-social rehabilitation is an evidence-based practice with a 75-year history of offering successful and cost-effective solutions for people living with mental illness, helping them regain a respected place in society through work, education, wellness and community.

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