



Voices from the Field | Fondazione Nazionale Assistenti Sociali — Italy

FNAS is the foundation of the Italian National Council of Social Workers. Our mission is to strengthen the profession and support the work of the category, with the aim of improving the quality and effectiveness of services for people in vulnerable situations across the country. We work in the areas of training, research, project development and knowledge dissemination.

We chose to join LeTs-Care because supporting older adults in need of care will be one of the core areas of social work in the near future. The project offers a valuable opportunity to explore and test innovative approaches, roles and knowledge in the field of long-term care — particularly around professional support, guidance and care pathways.

Our vantage point is rooted in the widespread presence of professional social services across Italy, combined with the responsibility to develop individualised care and support plans for each person in a vulnerable situation. This position allows us to closely observe needs, practices and challenges within the long-term care system — from the ground up.

We contribute to LeTs-Care's research in two main ways: through fieldwork and direct engagement with practice, identifying concrete cases; and through our structured collaboration with universities, which enables us to translate those experiences into operational models that can be shared across the wider professional community.

What we expect to take away is the strengthening and refinement of existing models for supporting and caring for elderly people — improving their overall quality and effectiveness.

"Collaboration with Italian and European universities represents a valuable challenge, pushing us to translate theories and operational approaches into practical tools that can be shared with the wider professional community."

— Renato Briante, Project Manager, Fondazione Nazionale Assistenti Sociali