

SUMMARY: SECOND MEETING OF THE UN NCD TASK FORCE AWARD WINNERS NETWORK, 26 NOVEMBER 2025

HIGH-LEVEL WEEK OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

The Network received a report on the fourth high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the prevention and control of noncommunicable diseases and the promotion of mental health and well-being, as well as the process regarding the adoption of the Political Declaration by the General Assembly.

The Network also received a brief update on the high-level week, including the Friends of the Task Force meeting and the 2025 Awards event, which this year recognized excellence in the prevention and management of obesity.

PRESENTATIONS

Presentations on ongoing work undertaken by two previous award winners were delivered.

1. Stupino Urban District, Moscow Region, Russia (2019 Award Winner) - A municipal model of public health promotion. The presentation highlighted an intersectoral approach involving the public, including the training of public health instructors. A total of 3,647 instructors have been trained over the past 10 years. As a result, a healthier environment has been created, including improved infrastructure (e.g. parks and cycle paths) and community-based programmes. The importance of sustaining action beyond electoral cycles was noted. Further details can be obtained from Sergey Muzhalskikh (Head of District), Aleksei Gorbachev (Director of “Arion”), and Tatiana Elmanova (Chief Medical Officer of the medical centre). Contact details are available through the Task Force Secretariat.

2. Obesity Matters, Canada (2025 Award Winner) – A patient-led model. The presentation described a 12-month virtual wellness workshop programme that is free to users and led by individuals with lived experience. The programme achieved a retention rate of 82%, with participants reporting a 36% reduction in self-blame and an 88% increase in confidence. Accessibility (virtual and free), a safe community, the involvement of medical experts when required, and a focus on personal dignity were identified as key success factors. The programme budget was also outlined: approximately USD 125,000 for around 2,000 registrants, alongside 6–7 million digital impressions. Further details can be obtained from Sandra Elia (Co-Chair) and Priti Chawla (Executive Director) via info@obesity-matters.com.

NEXT MEETING

Q1 or Q2 2025. In the meantime, the latest version of the Excel database will be shared with Network members so that any updates to membership details can be incorporated.