One exciting aspect of previous Assemblies has been the opportunity for communities to display and sell the beautiful products made in their workshops or at home. IFA 2023 is no exception!

For a week or two in the period leading up to IFA 2023, we encourage each community to show their eye-catching products on the L’Arche members Facebook group. Don’t miss the boat!

Please take advantage of this great opportunity to show us what you make. All the better if you can share photos of people engaged in the production process. Please be on the lookout for the May mid-month letter for more info. Note: unfortunately, we can’t handle online sales! But this way of advertising could well result in orders for goods being placed directly with your community! A golden opportunity!

Connecting together:

Coming soon! Look out for the IFA Resource page on federationassembly-2023.larche.org – we hope you enjoy checking out the many signs of L’Arche’s creativity across the Federation.

Another recent addition is our use of www.slack.com bit.ly/join-slack-Arche. This is your space to share pictures, videos or drawings of IFA related activities that have happened either in your community or in your Delegates small groups: we would love to see your experiences so far!
**PRE-ASSEMBLY DELEGATES PROGRAM:**

**Small group monthly meetings**

I hope by now you have all been able to meet and get to know members of your small group: Small groups distribution.docx (sharepoint.com).

The good news is that by now, almost all the small groups have held their first meeting. A quarter are already looking ahead to their third meeting. Participating in the meetings as a pair is really important: we encourage you to be as inclusive as possible. We don’t want any single delegate or community to be left behind in preparations for the IFA 2023.

In setting up these groups, the basic idea is for yourselves as Delegates to support each other, by openly sharing how the IFA preparation is happening in your community. We are all learning together in this! Share what’s worked OK, but also don’t be afraid to share the challenges you have encountered. You are more than likely to discover that others have met the same problems, as well as some Delegates who found a way through. In L’Arche, we are all teachers, and we are all learners!

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A BIG THANKS TO:

- **the contact persons** for offering leadership in their small groups,
- member delegates for their cooperation
- the delegates pairs for their cooperation
- communities with paid zoom accounts who have supported the small groups to hold the meetings uninterrupted on their zoom accounts.
- Delegates from small groups with no members with a paid zoom account have also been generous enough to host the meetings on their individual zoom accounts and to them as well we say Thank you!

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Here are some ideas for your small group monthly meeting agenda.

- **Welcome new members** (5-10 mins)
- **Check in - how are you?** (5-10 mins)
- **Share about your community Assembly related activity in the month/since your last meeting** (20-25 mins)
  - **QUESTION:** What strategies worked for you?
  - **QUESTION:** What challenges did you experience?
- **Together, find 5 words and one image that describe how the meeting went** (could the contact person please email this to Maurice: assembly2023@larche.org) Thanks (5-10 mins)
- **Plan the date your next meeting** (5 mins)
- **Anything else?** (5 mins)

Remember to upload some photos of your small group or community activities onto the L’Arche members Facebook Group and Slack.
Delegates/ IFA team meeting on Zoom 27th April

Please remember to join our second delegates/IFA team meeting next week at your most convenient time and language from the three options below:

07:00 UTC English:  
14:00 UTC Spanish/English/French:  
21:00 UTC Spanish/English/French:

Here is the Zoom Link:  
bit.ly/delegates_april27
Meeting ID: 846 9933 2413  
Password: Larche

DRAFT MANDATE AND CHARTER - IN 18 LANGUAGES!

Both these key IFA documents will soon be available in the Resource Gallery in no less than 18 languages!

Delegates will be voting on the draft Mandate and Charter during IFA week in June 20-24: as Delegates, part of your role is to help your community to discuss these documents before IFA week.

(Note: we will tell you how the voting works later on).

You will have seen that each newsletter contains two short articles (100-words max) from two communities. In April it was the turn of L’Arche Fribourg (Switzerland) and L’Arche Els Avets (Spain).

In May, it could be your community! Your article needs to come to us via assembly2023@larche.org by 26th April. Tell the world about your community or delegates!

**Here are some ideas:** your community activities, as you prepare for the IFA 2023; your expectations; your experience as a delegate, your concerns, inspirations, reflections etc.

Please write your article inclusively as a pair. Pictures of you both with your yellow T-shirts/clothing are more than welcome!

**MAY: Looking ahead to things your Delegate pair can do:**

- Continue to lead discussions in your communities on the draft Charter and draft Mandate with the help of your working/consultation groups in an accessible and inclusive way
- Receive and share Assembly reports with your community members with the help of your community consultation group(s)
- Organize your small group meetings to share your experiences (see above).
- Upload the Assembly related activities of your communities on the L’Arche members Facebook group or www.slack.com
  - bit.ly/larche_members
  - bit.ly/join-slack-Arche

**REMEMBER**

In all the activities before, during and after the IFA 2023, please take this special opportunity for us as members of the Federation to reconnect, discover and share the gifts in each of our communities, rekindle our links of solidarity and renew our Federation together.