| **Program** | Erasmus+ |
| --- | --- |
| **Call** | KA220 YOU / Youth |
| **Budget** | €120,000 – €250,000 |
| **Deadline** | 1st October 2025 |
| **Project Promoter** | Euside |
| **Title** | **SmartCare Skills: Digital Literacy and AI for a Human-Centered Healthcare** |
| **Priorities** | * HORIZONTAL: Addressing digital transformation through development of digital readiness, resilience and capacity * YOUTH: Strengthening the employability of young people |
| **Topics** | * Digital transformation planning and implementation * New learning and teaching methods and approaches * Work-based learning |
| **Project Proposal** | |
| **Objectives** | General Objective   * To strengthen the digital readiness and employability of young people preparing to enter the healthcare sector, by equipping them with transversal digital and AI-related skills through inclusive and innovative learning opportunities.   Specific Objectives   * Equip students and early-career professionals with market-relevant digital competences (e.g., electronic health records, telemedicine, data management, ethics of digital health) that improve employability in a rapidly transforming sector. * Provide accessible and modular learning materials (e-learning, PDFs, videos) on generic digital skills and basic AI applications, preparing participants to adapt to future digital challenges in healthcare. |
| **Target Group** | University students and young professionals in healthcare: medicine, psychology, nursing, physiotherapy, social care workers, long-term care staff. |
| **Needs Analysis** | According to WHO/European Observatory (2023), the European health workforce shows substantial deficits in digital skills, especially in the use of digital tools, telemedicine, data management, and basic AI applications.  A review of over 100 European studies (WHO/Europe, 2023) demonstrates that students and young healthcare professionals still have limited digital competencies, often at a basic level, insufficient to effectively integrate innovative technologies into everyday practice.  This skills gap affects not only future doctors and nurses, but also psychologists, physiotherapists, social care workers, and long-term care staff, entering sectors still poorly digitalized.  According to a 2025 systematic review published by BMC Health Services Research, critical AI competency areas healthcare professionals lack include AI fundamentals, data analysis, ethical/legal considerations, communication, and evaluation of AI tools. The review emphasizes that most professionals acquire AI skills independently and calls for formalized, structured educational programs tailored to healthcare settings to address these gaps. It also stresses the importance of regulatory oversight in ensuring ethical AI use.  A comprehensive review of healthcare workers' perspectives reveals fears around over-reliance on AI diminishing clinical skills and the pressing requirement for developing new skills like information management. It stresses the need for integrating AI fundamentals into medical curricula and providing continuous professional education to current practitioners to bridge AI knowledge gaps. |
| **Work Packages** | **WP1: Project Management & Quality Assurance**  **WP2: Needs Analysis & Curriculum Mapping**  **WP3: Content Development (modular e-learning materials, PDFs, videos; including AI tools)**  **WP4: Pilot Testing (online pilots with students and young healthcare professionals across partner countries)**  **WP5: Dissemination, Open Access Platform & Sustainability** |
| **Impact** | * X students and young professionals with enhanced competence and confidence in using digital tools and AI in healthcare. * Expansion of the professional toolbox and application of digital solutions in the daily work of participants and health sector professionals, through the access to the innovative practices promoted by the project |