

Dear Members of ESGO ENGAGe,

I am writing to express my motivation to continue serving on the ENGAGe Executive Committee. Over the past year, it has been a privilege to contribute to ENGAGe's mission, particularly through helping develop the framework for the ENGAGe Patient Advocacy Award. This work – and seeing the extraordinary submissions highlighting best practice – has reinforced my belief in the transformative power of collaboration between patient advocates, clinicians, and researchers across Europe.

As Head of Programmes at The Eve Appeal, the UK's national charity for gynaecological cancers, I oversee all research, communications, health information, awareness, and support activities. Our organisation is deeply committed to championing prevention, early diagnosis, amplifying lived experience, and connecting communities through evidence-based advocacy. ENGAGe provides a unique platform to connect with others who have similar aims and facilitate change on a European scale.

Looking ahead, I believe ENGAGe has enormous potential to strengthen the voice and impact of patient advocacy groups. I would welcome the opportunity to help drive several initiatives, including:

- **Establishing a mentorship scheme** to support emerging advocacy leaders and build organisational capacity across the network.
- **Hosting regional connector meetings** to better link local organisations, share challenges, and identify opportunities for collaboration.
- **Developing best practice webinars** focused on communications, co-creation and lived experience engagement, and outreach.
- **Exploring a competitive advocacy grant programme**, similar to the IGCS model, to support innovative grassroots projects.

There is still so much to build together. I am committed to strengthening ENGAGe's reach, impact, and community, and I would be honoured to continue contributing to this work.

Vas James

Head of Programmes, The Eve Appeal

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