



Friday 12 July 2019

Australian dementia innovation on showcase in Los Angeles

Innovative Dementia Australia technology solutions helping to improve the lives of people living with dementia will be showcased at the Alzheimer's Association International Conference in Los Angeles next week.

Dementia Australia CEO Maree McCabe said the Alzheimer's Association International Conference (AAIC) is the world's largest forum for the dementia research community and will provide Dementia Australia with the opportunity to demonstrate two of its technology-driven initiatives.

"AAIC is the largest and most influential international meeting dedicated to dementia science," Ms McCabe said.

"I am thrilled Dementia Australia's efforts to improve the lives of people living with dementia will be on display at such a prestigious international conference."

Dementia Australia will be showcasing two technology-focused projects at the 2019 AAIC conference, the first of which is its ["A Better Visit" app](#).

The A Better Visit app for iPads features a range of two-player games designed to enhance communication and facilitate positive social interactions between people with dementia and their visitors.

With the app launching in November 2018, feedback has already been overwhelming positive, including some users referring to the app as "innovative and thoughtful" and providing the chance for "a few laughs".

The second project which will be shared with conference delegates is a project that created [customised technology solutions](#) to help people living with dementia reach personal goals and to better enjoy their lives.

As part of the project, participants were asked what difficulties they were experiencing with their dementia, with loneliness, boredom and problems remembering to perform everyday tasks common responses. Technology was then customised and used to address these concerns, including introducing iPads, Smart lights, Google Home and GPS solutions.

"One of Dementia Australia's core aims is to improve the lives of people living with dementia, their carers and their families," said Ms McCabe.

"It is exciting to know our ideas for how to do this will be shared with leaders in dementia from across the world.

"I hope AAIC will be an opportunity for other international leaders in dementia research and services to not only learn from some of our ideas, but that the conference will also provide Dementia Australia with the chance to learn from others."

The 2019 Alzheimer's Association International Conference (AAIC) will be held in Los Angeles, California between 12 – 18 July 2019.

Dementia Australia is the national peak body and charity for people, of all ages, living with all forms of dementia, their families and carers. It provides advocacy, support services, education and information. An estimated 447,000 people have dementia in Australia. This number is projected to reach almost 1.1 million by 2058. Dementia Australia is the new voice of Alzheimer's Australia. Dementia Australia's services are supported by the Australian Government.

National Dementia Helpline 1800 100 500

Interpreter service available

(The National Dementia Helpline is an Australian Government Initiative)

Dementia is a National Health Priority Area

www.dementia.org.au

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Media contacts: Andrea Hogan – Media and Communications Advisor – 0490 128 304 – Andrea.Hogan@dementia.org.au / Dr Fiona Wade – Manager Media and Communications – Corporate Communications – 0407 019 430 - DrFiona.Wade@dementia.org.au

When talking or writing about dementia please refer to [Dementia-Friendly Language Guidelines](#).