Improving inclusion through collaboration: Addressing the needs of people with disability

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OUTLINE

Issues for people with disability and dementia – why is education important?

Partnering with the Physical Disability Council of NSW

Key factors in successful collaboration

Towards inclusion
PEOPLE WITH DISABILITY AND DEMENTIA – WHY EDUCATION?

Increased incidence of dementia for some people with disability

Limited dementia knowledge in disability sector

Lack of understanding of lifelong disability in aged care
PARTNERSHIP WITH THE PHYSICAL DISABILITY COUNCIL OF NSW

Pilot project initiated by Community Care Northern Beaches

Workshops in northern and western Sydney across community and health sectors

Established need for workshops in other areas
PARTNERSHIP WITH THE PHYSICAL DISABILITY COUNCIL OF NSW

Workshops developed and delivered jointly

Dementia specific knowledge covering causes, signs and symptoms, service pathways

Diversity of disability, stigma and judgment, inclusion and access

Highly interactive as participants explore assumptions and attitudes
KEY FACTORS IN SUCCESSFUL COLLABORATION

Relationship development
- develop understanding of organisational aims and vision
- dedicated project leader / educator

Shared leadership
- equal ownership and responsibility for the project
- roles agreed and clearly allocated within the Partnership Agreement
Acknowledgement of respective expertise essential that each partner respects the specific area of knowledge of the other areas where the two cross over are open to input from both
TOWARDS INCLUSION

Participants gain valuable networks across sectors

Our understanding increased
  appropriate language
  access requirements

Dementia education is more inclusive
ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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Department of Family and Community Services, Ageing, Disability and Home Care
REFERENCES

Dowse, L., McDermott, S., and Watson, S. 2009 *Ageing with a Lifelong Disability*

Futures Alliance 2010 *Blue Print on Ageing with a Disability*

NSW Dementia Services Framework 2010-2015


Questions?

www.fightdementia.org.au

National Dementia Helpline
1800 100 500