



February 2014

Newsletter No. 71

Brain Waves



A monthly newsletter from Innovations in Dementia CIC

The aim of these newsletters is to keep people with dementia and their allies informed about the work of Innovations in Dementia Community Interest Company.

DEEP involvement grants

Fifteen involvement projects that have received funding from DEEP. They are all about increasing the involvement of people with dementia either in shaping organisations or influencing services and policies more widely.

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The Dementia Engagement and Empowerment Project

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LGBT people living with dementia

Back in November 2013, the Dementia Engagement and Empowerment Project (DEEP) held a meeting to generate ideas and knowledge to ensure that there are Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Trans (LGBT) voices within DEEP.

The meeting was hosted by Sue Westwood and speakers included trainer and consultant Sally Knocker and Liz Price from Hull University.

Some thoughts from the day include:

-  It's easy to assume that there are no gay people in our groups, but that's probably not the case.
-  How can we create an environment where people can be who they are without the need to 'come out'.
-  We should recognise that many older LGBT people have faced substantial discrimination in their lives.
-  Many younger LGBT people may know nothing about dementia.

Actions from the day:

DEEP could collect stories to highlight the experiences of LGBT people living with dementia.

DEEP could work with LGBT people to develop a DEEP Guide about connecting with LGBT people with dementia.

New project - Over the Rainbow

Since the meeting in November, a new project has started which will try to involve more LGBT people in DEEP.

The idea is to form an advocacy group for people living with dementia who identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans or otherwise non-heterosexual or non-gender normative.

The development of the group will be supported by the University of Worcester Association for Dementia Studies, Birmingham LGBT Centre for Health and Wellbeing and PACE Health (London's leading charity promoting the mental health and emotional well-being of the LGBT community).

If you would like to get involved, or would like more information about Over the Rainbow please contact Liz Peel - Email: e.peel@worc.ac.uk



DEEP involvement grants

Over the Rainbow is just one of fifteen involvement projects that have received funding from DEEP.

All the projects are about increasing the involvement of people with dementia

- in shaping organisations or
- influencing services and policies more widely.

Some of the project projects are:

Stockport weekend day centre and EDUCATE - setting up a new involvement group of people with more advanced dementia

Scottish Dementia Working group - using tablet computers to connect members of SDWG across Scotland (and beyond)

Springboard, Oldham - using creativity to build an involvement group of people with dementia within a carers group

Shindig, Sheffield - ongoing funding of involvement group

Beth Johnson Foundation, Stoke on Trent - making a film with people with dementia to raise awareness

Healthy Living Club, London - helping people with more advanced dementia to influence decision making within the club

Young Onset Dementia service, Worcestershire - setting up a new involvement group of younger people with dementia and carers

Camden Borough, London - setting up a new involvement group

Forget Me Not, Swindon - writing and recording a political song

Forget Me Nots, Kent and Medway - funding to provide ongoing support

Torbay Dementia Leadership group, Torbay - leaflets and posters to raise awareness of the group locally

For more information visit the DEEP website – www.dementivoices.org.uk



**Innovations
in Dementia**

Innovations in Dementia is run by three directors – Rachael, Steve and Nada. We are a Community Interest Company. This means that any profit we make is put back into the organisation.

We do not offer services for people with dementia.

Instead we work with other organisations to make sure that people with dementia can continue to take part in their communities and have active lives.

Please share your ideas, experiences and positive stories with us.

Contact us

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