



September 2015

Newsletter No. 90

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.

Learning from DEEP

The Joseph Rowntree Foundation has published a report called 'Developing a national user movement of people with dementia'. The report was written by Rachael and is a summary of the learning from DEEP so far.

Find out more on page 2.



The Dementia Engagement
and Empowerment Project

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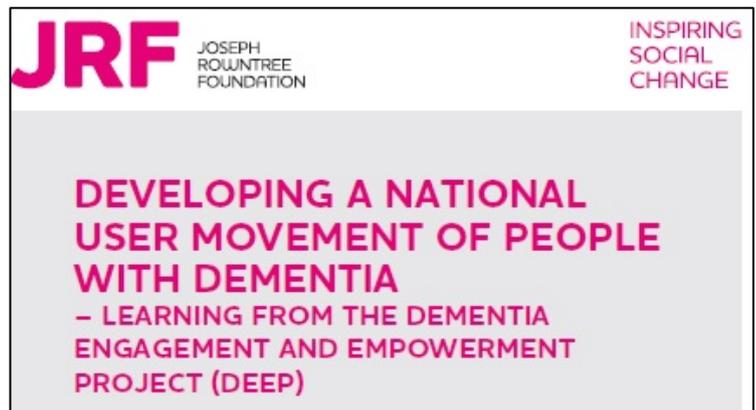


The Dementia Engagement
and Empowerment Project

Although the voices of people with dementia are increasingly heard, the user movement is still in its infancy. By connecting local groups and individual activists through a national network (DEEP) that engages and empowers people with dementia, people are beginning to work together to set priorities about dementia and to shape political agendas.

The report and its summary include:

- Details about DEEP and its impact
- Case studies of DEEP groups
- The issues that have arisen
- Outcomes for people with dementia
- A suggested model for a DEEP group.



Ways forward suggested are:

- Involvement is not just about consulting people with dementia, but about providing and responding to opportunities for them to shape their own agendas.
- Local groups are where most people with dementia get support to find their voices.
- Health, social and political bodies should involve people with dementia in setting priorities.
- Appropriate funding of local groups is essential to broker the relationship between people with dementia and decision-makers.

- Local organisations, commissioners and decision-makers are key allies for groups.
- People with dementia often feel they have a ‘window of opportunity’ to be involved, and therefore need to see results from the energies they put into being involved.
- There is a need for mechanisms that support people with dementia to carry on contributing as their needs change, and to ensure that a range of people with dementia, including those with more advanced dementia, can have their voices heard.

You can download the full report from the JRF website

Go to: www.jrf.org.uk/report/developing-national-user-movement-people-dementia

Film about the SURF group from Liverpool

The Service Users Reference Forum (SURF) group from Liverpool have made a film with Joseph Rowntree Foundation. It includes people with dementia, family carers and professionals working together. The film is called “Window of Opportunity”.



In this film Tommy Dunne and Gina Shaw describe the achievements of the group and their ambitions to transform Liverpool into a city that enables people living with dementia to live full and active lives independently for as long as possible.

You can watch the film at <http://dementiawithoutwalls.org.uk/video/window-of-opportunity/>

Evidence that peer support is worth every penny

The Health Innovation Network (HIN), the Academic Health Science Network for South London, has published a report proving the positive social value of peer support groups for people with dementia, their carers and volunteers can be far greater than the investment.

The report 'Peer Support for People with Dementia – A Social Return on Investment (SROI) Study' has been welcomed by dementia support groups as concrete evidence, for the first time, of the true benefits of dementia peer support groups.

Download the full report from the HIN website.

Go to: <http://www.hin-southlondon.org/news/dementia-sroi-report>

Download the HIN's Peer Support for People with Dementia Resource Pack

Go to: <http://www.hin-southlondon.org/clinical-areas/dementia/projects/Dementia%20Peer%20Support%20Resource%20Pack>



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

Email: ideas@innovationsindementia.org.uk. Telephone: 01392 420076

Innovations in Dementia CIC, PO Box 616, Exeter, EX1 9JB

Website: www.myid.org.uk

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