THE DEMENTIA-FRIENDLY SYMBOL: A PILOT TO CREATE DEMENTIA-FRIENDLY ORGANISATIONS ACROSS AUSTRALIA

PRESENTATION BY:
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DEMENTIA HAS A PROFOUND IMPACT ON THE SOCIAL WELFARE OF THE PERSON WITH DEMENTIA

“No one wants to spend time with me now that I have a diagnosis. It is like they think I no longer count and I am not a person anymore.”

“I have lost almost all of my friends and the few I have I see once a year or even once every 2 years. I have friend who I see about every 4 months.”
THE ESSENTIAL COMPONENTS OF A DEMENTIA FRIENDLY COMMUNITY

PHYSICAL AND SOCIAL ENVIRONMENT

- Improved care and services
- Challenge stigma
- Increased awareness
- Improve social engagement

PEOPLE living with dementia

PARTNERSHIPS

ORGANISATIONS

Todays presentation
DEMENTIA-FRIENDLY ORGANISATIONS

“A simple activity, like visiting a regular café and ordering a coffee and being treated with respect, helps maintain dignity and contributes significantly to improving one’s quality of life.”
DEMENTIA FRIENDLY ORGANISATIONS

The fundamental principles for an organisation to be considered dementia-friendly are:

• The involvement of **People** living with dementia
• **Commitment** from across the organisation;
• **Raising awareness** of dementia and strategies for **good communication** with people who have dementia for staff
• The **physical environment** is considered
• **Business documentation** is reviewed,
• A planned **review and continuous improvement** cycle for dementia-friendly status
THE STAGES TO BECOMING DEMENTIA FRIENDLY

1. Making the commitment
2. Making it real
3. Making it last
THE DEMENTIA FRIENDLY SYMBOL

WORKING TOWARDS DEMENTIA FRIENDLY 2015
Alzheimer’s Australia are working with the Community College, the Library, a Pharmacy and the independent retirement village to become dementia friendly in Kiama.

Initial feedback:

- Clear understanding of the process
- Completing the action plan hasn’t been too onerous
- Being supported to connect with people living with dementia locally to assist has been critical
- Extensive commitment and support of the concept from staff and across the community
DEMENTIA FRIENDLY RESOURCES

www.dementiafriendly.org.au
QUESTIONS?

Thank you

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