

People Can be dementia friendly



The People Can Make a Difference campaign is actively promoting all the good things that people are already doing in their communities as well as encouraging more people to volunteer and get involved in community life.

Dementia can be life changing for people who experience it, their families and friends. You and your local community can play a vital role in enabling people with dementia to live better.

Getting started

You can obtain general information about dementia from the Alzheimers Society website: www.alzheimers.org.uk

You could start with 2 or 3 people from your street or you may be aware that more people in your area want to play a role in developing a 'Dementia Friendly Community'. Organise a meeting for all interested people. You need to identify your key objectives for your neighbourhood. To help you decide these you can contact the Bradford Alzheimer's Society, it has a breadth of experience and resources in supporting dementia friendly communities. Details of their offices in Bradford are at the end of this leaflet.

Your aims could be to improve the environment in your neighbourhood to allow people with dementia to undertake activities important to them. These include, being able to travel, go shopping, visit places of worship and managing other day-to-day tasks.

Building membership

It really helps to find like-minded people who wish to be involved. This will make it much easier to get things started and have a greater impact.

Consider:

- Sending out flyers or put up posters inviting people to an initial get together.
- Talking to people at local places of worship, neighbours or community centres.
- Contacting the Alzheimer's Society who can send invitations on your behalf to carers and people with Dementia in your area.
- Using social media such as Twitter and Facebook to network with groups and organisations.



Developing a Partnership

Housing, community, faith, business, and public sector organisations are all keen to be involved in supporting these initiatives. Therefore it is important that you contact these organisations if they are in your neighbourhood. They all have roles to play in making neighbourhoods become more friendly and fulfilling places to live for people with dementia and their families.

Examples include:

- Shop assistants becoming aware for issues for people with dementia, a person with dementia may take longer to pay at the till or may even forget to bring their wallet. In these situations it is important the shop assistant knows what to do.
- Post Office/Banks also can be very supportive if they know how to support people with dementia.
- How streets are laid out can help. Shop advertising boards or goods outside a shop can make it hard for a person with dementia to walk around.
- Challenging the myths and stigma associated with dementia.

Types of groups

Having an **informal group** means you don't have to elect committee

members or hold Annual General Meetings. This may limit your access to funding however you could link to a 'constituted organisation' such as school or another local group.



Opting for a **constituted group** makes your group more formal and could help with decision making and accountability. To do this you would need to elect a committee and sign up to a constitution. This is often required for funding applications. Advice on how to set up a constituted group is available via CVS, email: cvs@bradfordcvs.org.uk or call 01274 722772.

Gaining charitable status is a longer term option meaning the group will be eligible to apply for a wide range of grants. It can make fundraising much easier. This option will take more of your time and commitment. CVS (above) can help.

Contact details for Bradford Alzheimer's Society

Address: Unit 16, Parkview Court, St Pauls Road, Shipley, BD18 3DZ
Phone number: 01274 586008
SMS/text messages: 07803 115 653
Email: bradford@alzheimers.org.uk
www.alzheimers.org.uk

Find out more at www.peoplecanbradforddistrict.org.uk
Like us on Facebook and ask your Facebook friends to like us too

 **Peoplecanbradford**  **Follow us on Twitter #PeopleCanBD**
Please join in by keeping us up to date about what you are involved in to support your community by posting your pictures and posters.

The wording in this publication can be made available in other formats such as large print and Braille.
Please call 01274 431212

City of Bradford MDC

www.bradford.gov.uk