September Dementia Awareness Month 2018

Small actions. Big difference.

2018 Illawarra Public Dementia Forum
Transforming Dementia Practice Through Engagement

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What is the Centre for Dementia Learning?
Building on over 30 years of experience, Dementia Australia established the National Centre for Dementia Learning in 2017 to transform dementia practice through:

1. Providing access to a comprehensive suite of learning programs

2. Programs informed by evidence, practice and the experience of people living with dementia

3. Providing learning experiences which touch, move and inspire participants to transform their practice
Suite of programs

Non-accredited workshops

- Understanding Dementia
- Applying a Problem Solving Approach to Behavior
- Meaningful Engagement
- Supporting Successful Communication
- Enabling EDIE

Online Learning Courses

Consultancy Services

Learning hub
Dementia Essentials is suitable for people working in aged care, healthcare and community services. Strategies are explored to assist with good communication, planning, developing appropriate activities and understanding changed behaviour in people living with dementia.

Dementia Essentials is a Dementia Training Australia course, funded by the Australian Government and delivered by Dementia Australia (RTO Code 2512)
Can you learn when you are not engaged?
Engagement
“Is to establish a meaningful contact or connection with”

www.oxforddictionaries.com
The importance of engaging a person living with dementia is equal to the importance of engaging the aged care workforce in their day-to-day work. Their engagement is essential in the journey to transform dementia practice.
“When learners find the experience meaningful and have a high level of interest in the tasks, they learn more effectively, tend to retain the information and are able to translate it into practice.”

Using technology to engage
Evaluation of VDE™

• Participants learnt the same about dementia and person centred care

• Participants experienced heightened empathy for people living with dementia and a better understanding of dementia friendly design

(Doube and McGuire, 2015)
Evaluation of EDIE™

• EDIE significantly improved knowledge, attitudes towards dementia, empathy, and understanding of care needs.

• EDIE improved such knowledge, attitudes and empathy to a similar extent to those associated with the VDE and a standard training session, but produced a greater improvement for understanding of dementia care environments.
Are we transforming dementia practice?
- **70% - Experience Learning**: Learning and developing through on the job, day to day tasks, challenges and practices.
- **20% - Social/Exposure**: Learning and developing through interacting with others in coaching, collaboration, mentoring and feedback situations.
- **10% - Formal Education**: Learning and developing through structured courses and education.

*Jennings et al, 2016*
Consultancy

Our role is to work in partnership with providers to improve the everyday life of people living with dementia, their families and staff.
Common reasons we are approached to provide consultancy

• Non-compliance with the standards
• Behaviour and other clinical indicators
• Staff turnover, absenteeism and family complaints
• Support to develop a model of care
• Business incentives
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Keys to transforming dementia practice

• Engage with the person living with dementia and their families and carers
• Strong leadership which engages staff and others and promotes a learning culture and one focused on relationships and not tasks
• Quality learning experiences which touch, move and inspire participants
• Ongoing mentoring and coaching of staff
• Setting a gold standard for dementia support and care that is consumer outcome focused rather than process focused
Engaged by food!
References


Sunil, B et al. (2018) Evaluating the use of a Virtual Reality “Educational Dementia Immersive Experience (EDIE) with carers of people living with dementia, Swinburne University of Technology.

Thank you
dementia.org.au
National Dementia Helpline
1800 100 500
For language assistance
call 131 450