

Dementia Services Collaborative

News from the Older People Programme

Issue 6 September 2007



Dementia Collaborative Update from Yve



The collaborative has recently moved into the second phase of its existence and as a result there have been some changes that we need to tell you all about. Phase II is clearly focusing on evaluation and sustainability so there are a number of additional activities taking place alongside the continuing excellent projects being undertaken in the local areas under the guidance of the area coordinators. CSIP South East has financed the Collaborative for another financial year (2007/08), with the challenge being to find sustainable funding streams and arrangements after March 2008.

Evaluation and Sustainability:

Under the leadership of Professor Bill Lemmer, an evaluation team is starting to gather data via the PDSA reports generated by local teams. A pro forma is being developed to aid standardisation and improve data quality across the whole region. The evaluation team will feed back to the 'Oversight' steering group, chaired by Counsellor Mike Angel, and will develop a business plan and proposal based on the findings to support the continuation of the Dementia Collaborative in the region beyond 2008. A formal time-line for Phase II is being developed by the CSIP OP Regional lead in partnership Prof Lemmer and will be available soon.

Role of the Coordinators:

The area coordinators have continued and will continue to recruit and support the project teams locally. They will assist with data collection and organising national leaders events, providing an opportunity for teams to get together, share learning and support each other in collaborative working approaches. In addition, the coordinators will be linking with sponsors and senior directors whose organisations have taken part and benefited from the work of the collaborative. This will be with a view to re-energising support and obtaining additional sign-up as part of the Phase II sustainability objective.

Overall it looks to be a productive and exciting time ahead, with many challenges. This will be a time that helps those involved in the collaborative to focus on showing what has worked and how working within a collaborative has benefited a variety of dementia services for both users and carers across the South East.

Collaborative Diary Dates

The Team Leader Development Day will be held on 15th November in London. To confirm your place please contact Chris Jack on 01483 246450.

Oversight Group Meetings (locations in brackets)

27th September (Surrey/Sussex)

8th October (Hampshire & Isle of Wight)

5th December (Kent)

17th January (Guildford)

<http://www.southeast.csip.org.uk/olderpeople>

Co-ordinators News



News from Sarah Surrey, Sussex and the Thames Valley Projects

There has been great momentum in the Thames Valley and Surrey and Sussex regions over the last few months, with some teams completing aspects of project work and new teams taking shaping and emerging. Well done for your continued commitment to all who are working hard and welcome to our new teams.

Lisa Bradbury's team in North Surrey and Susan Whiting's team in Hove have both completed some project work and will be continuing to monitor & evaluate these outcomes. Susan's team had already commenced a new project looking at meal times and Lisa's team are due to meet in August to consider future work.

There has been some exciting developments for Geoff Brenan and Lynne Renals-O'Kane in Reading who have secured a bid from FONS to assist in the evaluation process of their project looking at Lifestory Work on their local ward.

The team in Oxford is now underway and have confirmed that their project will focus on raising awareness for users, carers and staff, initially by piloting a Poster to be located in a variety of settings.

We are at a vital stage of project work as we now move into phase two of the collaborative process. For me this is a time to focus on what has been achieved to date and where we are aiming in relation to future project work. In order for our academic team to evaluate your work and secure future funding you need to be clear about your projects achievements and your future objectives. This is the only way to ensure that improvements for service users, carers and staff can continue to be realized. Also, it is a time for renewed vigour in relation to sharing the work and visions that you have. The excellent service models that you are creating need to be spread across the region so that the widest impact for people with dementia is achieved.



News from Andrew The Hampshire and Isle of Wight Projects

The team leaders have now established and held their first meeting of the local Hampshire and Isle of Wight Collaboratives learning group. Unsurprisingly PDSA's were a popular topic!

The next event is being hosted at the Western Community Hospital, Oakwood on the 5th September. High on the agenda will be the importance of embedding our data gathering systems as we commence Phase 2 of the collaborative, moving (it seems all too swiftly) to March 2008. The provision of good quality data and the demonstration of the many achievements of the collaborative, through an appropriate evaluation, will place us favourably in our bid to progress to a continuance of collaborative working; to achieve sustainability for existing teams whilst welcoming on board new applicants to the collaborative.

Shakleton Collaborative -Isle of Wight: On the Isle of Wight Ralph and his team (in addition to enjoying the good weather over Cowes week) have been busily working on collating data from previous transfer of care pilots, identifying key learning themes for enhancing the process of ensuring a sustainable care home placement for persons with challenging behaviour. These will then assist the final draft of the protocol that is in process.

Other work has centred on the coordination of "paperwork" involved in the process. Maggie the care home representative and Paula from the in patient unit have reviewed risk assessments. They have devised a new format that reflects the need to ensure risk is identified and strategies put in place that are relevant to the person with dementias experience in the inpatient unit and the environment and culture of the care home placement.

Oakwood Collaborative-Southampton City: It seems to be the holiday season, however Phil when he isn't hiking round Strasbourg has been visiting local surgeries keeping them informed on progress within their project regarding QOF recording and a dementia register that facilitates access to services. He reports a positive response and will be liaising with practice managers to involve GPs in further testing of the initiative.

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A loud sigh of relief has been heard from the Information pack group who have now finished their final version and will be putting a PDSA in operation to pilot the pack.

Queen Alexandra Collaborative –Cosham: Joanne Odell who will be working alongside the team and assisting with some dementia awareness sessions has joined Mandy and her colleagues. In line with the collaborative methodology they continue to work on small continuous improvements in daily practise that enable person centred care in an acute hospital setting. Recently they have completed a PDSA that implements a system of highlighting the need for a person with dementia to receive adequate fluids that they may not be able to ask for or self-administer. A very eye catching notice board has also appeared in the ward that raises the profile of the collaborative and the work the team is engaged on.

Collingwood Collaborative (Gosport War memorial) – Gosport: Sandy and her team have encountered a situation that will resonate with many at the moment, a temporary shortage of staff. they are hoping to recruit in the near future however this has meant a slow down in the PDSA's they hoped to achieve. However stalwarts that they are they have still been moving forward and have continued to hold their individual work-stream meetings. Activities are looking at continuing to ensure focussed therapeutic activities are offered and as part of this they are on a funding and "pleading" drive to increase their stock of Gosport and area reminiscence materials. (Please get in touch if you can help). A meeting with the catering manager is on the menu! Developments with ensuring individualised clothing and choice have occurred thanks to networking within the collaborative, Elmwood were able to share a solution they had found.

Elmwood Collaborative (Parklands) – Basingstoke: I'm pleased to announce that Lys and Liz are this quarters winners of the PDSA challenge! I have been inundated with PDSA's. Fame if not fortune has arrived. I have been to give a presentation to the team on the Collaborative work and facilitate a short session on a PDSA of theirs for setting mealtime standards. What a pleasure it was to work with such well motivated staff that delivered the good's and by the end of the session they had written a first draft of 10 standards. A bid for funding initiatives to improve the healing environment has been written and submitted, some initial work has been begun with a local artist. Liz and Lys have now competed two high profile presentations to local senior management and clinicians groups. Appropriate praise and recognition for their work was given and interest has subsequently been expressed regarding a new team joining the South East Dementia Collaborative.

Collaborative Membership News

Unfortunately we have the very sad news to report regarding the death of Sue Hall and Neil McArthur. Both were active team members across the Collaborative.

Sue Hall worked with Age Concern in Oxford and was a passionate campaigner for users and carers for people with Dementia. Sue had made a significant contribution to the inception of the project team in Oxford and was committed to enhancing service provision on a micro and macro level.

Neil McArthur worked for the Alzheimer's Society in Hove and was crucially involved in the Brunswick Ward project group, having undertaken some valuable baseline observational work. Neil was also passionate about his work for people with dementia and kept the needs of service users as a focus. He was particularly interested in taking forward Lifestory work.


Both will be sadly missed by their teams and their wider networks. However their drive and determination will no doubt be reflected in the outcomes of the work of their collaborative projects. We are thankful for their contribution.

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Oversight Group

The Oversight Group meeting was held in Oxford on 30th August. Minutes of the most recent meeting are attached and other meeting details, such as minutes, agenda etc will be posted onto our website shortly. The next Oversight Group will meet on 30th August. 

It is a priority to ensure that the Governance structures and reporting systems in place to support the Dementia Collaborative are robust and fit for purpose. There have been numerous staff changes and organisational re-structures across the whole of England and Wales during the past year and the south east has experienced a number of more locally based changes. Due to these changes many original steering group and team members have moved into different roles and posts. As a result we are updating and rationalising the steering group core membership and the wider interest group for the collaborative with the aim of having representation from senior staff in all key organisations that are involved in project work.

We are grateful to Counsellor Mike Angel for agreeing to act as our chair, and are very happy to welcome our colleagues from the voluntary and third sectors as well as academic partners from three universities to the group. It has been agreed to increase the frequency of the group in order to meet the demands and challenges of phase II and to move the venue to the three main areas on a rotational basis to give easier access to those working across the region.

Information Sharing and Best Practice:

The essence of collaborative working is to share and disseminate knowledge and best practice. Local teams are at a stage where this is possible, and as a result the CSIP Older Persons team are looking to develop the SE CSIP OP web pages to support a local information cascade, and to formally link in with other national collaboratives and the knowledge community to share the learning. The web development will include a number of useful web links and a question and answer type approach. The IT team met last month to take this forward, these are some of the ideas that came out of the meeting and that you will find on our updated webpages www.southeast.csip.org.uk/olderpeople

- Individual Older Persons Workstream Updates
- Latest News
- Key Documents
- Links to other websites
- Events
- Questions page

Please let the coordinators know any suggestions or feedback you may have for the newly updated pages.

A South-East Older Persons event is planned for February 2008, and it is hoped that the work of the Dementia Collaborative can be showcased alongside other projects and initiatives from the wider older persons agenda.

Who Cares?

The Department of Health has just launched the new version of "*Who cares? Information and support for the carers of people with dementia*" To download a copy go to <http://tinyurl.com/2eprus>

High fliers—CSIP Positive Practice Awards 2007

The 2007 CSIP Positive Practice Awards have been launched in a new online version available www.positivepracticeawards07.csip.org.uk. They have been designed in this way to give everyone with an interest in Health and Social Care a chance to participate. The closing date for entries is 1st October but even if you don't submit an entry you can still take part as everyone is welcome to participate in the judging process.

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