



Elevator Award for Innovation in Dementia

The Dementia Elevator team wish to reward an initiative or project that contributes in a meaningful and significant way to the everyday lives of people living with dementia.

For this reason, we have created the **Elevator Award for Innovation in Dementia!**

The Elevator Award for Innovation in Dementia will be awarded to a project that plays a role in improving the quality of life of people with dementia, their caregivers, loved ones, and/or health professionals working in dementia care. Applicants across all settings including (but not limited to) home, community, and healthcare are invited to apply. The successful applicant will receive **€1,000 in prize money** to help develop a dementia related project or expand an existing project in a novel way.

The closing date for applications is **Friday 24th October 2014**. The winner will be awarded their prize at a ceremony in Dublin City University in early December 2014.

Selection criteria

We are looking for an innovative health care initiative, product, service or system that contributes in a meaningful and positive way to the lives of people with dementia and their caregivers, family, friends and/or professional caregivers. This could be;

- To upscale an existing project, service, initiative or system
- An application from another field applied to the dementia sector, or
- An idea that has had some small scale pilot testing in the dementia sector.

Applicants should be able to demonstrate the feasibility of the initiative in the dementia context. Applicants must be resident in Ireland.

Applications that meet the following criteria are likely to have the highest chance of success;

- The project/initiative will make a significant contribution in the dementia context in one or more of the following areas
 - Coping with everyday life
 - Improving quality of life
 - Quality of care
 - Access to care
 - Increased efficiency
- Cost-effectiveness
- Sustainability
- Timescales: project targets and dissemination achievable within a reasonable timescale (depending on the nature of the innovation)

The award sub-committee along with external evaluators will collate and assess all applications. Shortlisted applicants will then be notified. Selected projects will also be highlighted (with applicant's permission) on the Dementia Elevator website and short listed applicants will be invited to submit project content for a poster exhibition at the award ceremony.

Evaluation Criteria

Applications will be evaluated using the following criteria.

Impact 1-10

How will the project impact on the lives of people with dementia, caregivers, family, friends, professional carers?

Achievability 1-10

How achievable is the project aim? What is the timescale for the project targets?

Sustainability 1-10

How will sustainability of the project be ensured? Cost effectiveness will also be taken into account.

Level of Innovation 1-10

Has this project been developed before? What makes this project creative and novel?

Examples of existing initiatives

We encourage small, medium or large scale applications from a wide range of sectors. The following examples are intended to give a flavour of projects which could improve the quality of lives of people affected by dementia. Applications should not be limited to these types of projects; rather we hope it provides some encouragement to potential candidates.

Sharing Mealtimes Project (small scale)

This idea is based on a local research project exploring the benefits of sharing mealtimes on health among older adults who live alone. The project has trained a number of volunteers to become mealtime visitors of adults aged over 60 years in the greater Dublin area, who live alone and are at risk of social isolation. The participant will be visited once a week by the volunteer and the pair will prepare and share a meal together. The cost of the meal ingredients is covered by the project so participation does not come at a financial cost. Preliminary feedback suggests that the project is well accepted and enjoyable for both the visitors and the participants.

Application to the dementia context: The Elevator team felt that with some adaptations, this project could be applied to the dementia sector. For example, transition year students with an interest in cooking/home economics could receive dementia training and with the necessary supports could prepare and share a meal with a person with dementia.

Momento TV Project (large scale)

Based on scientific research and proven methods of reminiscence therapy, this initiative has developed a reminiscence intervention tool to support care providers in improving the lives of people living with dementia. The project sets out to enhance memories, communication and better engagement for older people in care. The software has been developed with the aim of improving the lives of people with dementia through;

- Building Relationships
- Increasing Social Interaction
- Sharing life experiences and
- Increasing opportunities to communicate

See www.momento.tv for more information about this project.

How to apply

If you would like to apply for the Elevator Innovation Award in Dementia, please fill in the application form and email it as an attachment to

ann-marie.coen@dcu.ie (preferred)

Or send to

Ann-Marie Coen
School of Nursing and Human Sciences
Dublin City University
Glasnevin
Dublin 9

If you are unable to use a computer please call Kirsty Rickard, Elevator's project administrator at 01 700 5018, who will assist you in entering the competition. The closing date for applications is **Friday 24th October 2014**. Incomplete or late applications will not be eligible.

