



Elevator Award for Innovation in Dementia 2015

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, therefore we are pleased to invite applications for the **Second Elevator Award for Innovation in Dementia!**

This award will be presented 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.

We received a large number of very high standard applications for our first Dementia Innovation Award in 2014. Have a look at the back of this document to see the innovative shortlisted projects, runners-up and winner!

The closing date for applications is **Friday the 2nd of October 2015**. The winner will be awarded their prize at a ceremony in Dublin City University in December 2015.

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 the island of 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. Shortlisted projects will also be highlighted 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?

Dementia Champions Change Project Special Award

This year we are also extending a special invitation to Dublin City University, Dementia Champions students who have completed a dementia care change project. The change project must be currently in operation or about to get underway. These applications will automatically qualify for the Dementia Champions award category as well as being considered for the main Elevator Innovation Award. The winner of the Dementia Champions change project award will be announced at the ceremony.

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 administer at 01 700 5018, who will assist you in entering the competition. The closing date for applications is **Friday 2nd of October 2015**. Incomplete or late applications will not be eligible.

ELEVATOR INNOVATION IN DEMENTIA AWARD 2014.

A great day of networking and ideas sharing was had at the Elevator Innovation in Dementia Award Ceremony 2014 which took place at The Helix, Dublin City University. This event also provided a great opportunity to highlight some worthwhile and innovative projects taking place around the country to help improve quality of life for those affected by dementia. Have a look at the shortlist, runners-up and winners!

WINNERS!



WINNERS - KILDARE LIAISON AND SOCIAL SUPPORT (KLASS) – THE PAST TIMES CHOIR Sharon Murphy & Anne Harris, KLASS, Co Kildare

This initiative provides a recreation and support facility, by facilitating up a choir for people with dementia and their carers in the Kildare area. The weekly choir will give carers a reason to meet up and receive support from their peers, but also from a team of interested, volunteering professionals. It is planned that the choir will provide a space of mutual enjoyment, creativity and fun for both the carer and their loved one, while rotating peripheral activities offered by volunteering professionals will allow the carers to slip in and out of the choir to avail of such supports, knowing that their loved one is in a comfortable and stimulating environment.

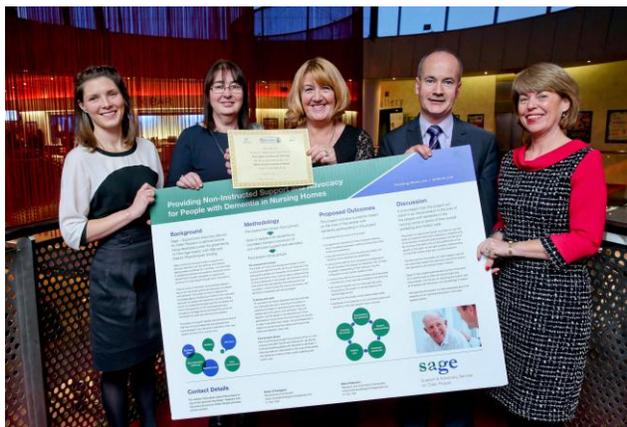
RUNNERS UP



The Memory Strategy Group, Scott Casey & Dr Tara Owens, HSE, Navan, Co Meath

The Memory Strategy Group is a cognitive and practical skills-based group geared towards people with early stage dementia, mild cognitive impairment or those without a diagnosed memory difficulty who experience significant anxiety in relation to their memory. The group also contains a session for their family members or carers. There is a lack of non-pharmaceutical intervention for those who are still in the early stages of dementia. This project aims to use a strengths-based approach to focus on maintaining a meaningful life for those in the early stages of dementia. This involves promoting the persons' independence, well-being and self-efficacy whilst minimising risk through teaching internal and external memory strategies, and using assistive devices and home modifications.

RUNNERS UP



Providing Non-instructed support and advocacy for people with dementia in Nursing Homes: Eileen O Callaghan & Maria Patterson, SAGE Support and Advocacy for Older People, Dublin

SAGE will introduce the model of non-instructed advocacy for people with dementia. This project will address the issue of supporting people with dementia to ensure that their will and preference are expressed and acknowledged in any decisions made about their care, support and life in the nursing home. The non-instructed advocate will seek to uphold the person's rights; ensure fair and equal treatment and access to services; and make certain that decisions are taken with due consideration for their unique preferences and perspectives. 10 volunteers will be trained to provide non-instructed advocacy. They will regularly visit the people in the dementia unit of the participating nursing home

over the course of 6 months to ascertain their needs, will and preference and ensure that these are reflected in their care.

RUNNERS UP



Research, Recommendations and Design Guidance for Home Design for Ireland, looking at new build and retro fit homes from a universal design approach: Neil Murphy, Dr Ger Craddock, Prof Suzanne Cahill, Prof Mark Dyer, Tom Gray & Dr Maria Pierce, Centre of Excellence in Universal Design, Dublin

Up until now, research and design guidance on dementia has only addressed care homes. This project aims to provide design professionals and relevant stakeholders with the necessary universal design guidance, to design new homes or to retro fit existing housing stock in order to maintain for as long as possible, the possibility of people living with dementia to be able to live in their own homes and communities. The project will target relevant public and private sector bodies as well as key dementia and family stakeholder organisations. The final outcome of the project is a literature review, recommendations report and a design guidance document looking at the design of homes for people with dementia and their carers from a Universal Design approach.

This project is now completed and is available here http://universaldesign.ie/Web-Content-/UD_Guidelines-Dementia_Friendly_Dwellings-2015-full-doc.pdf .

SHORTLISTED PROJECTS 2014



THE MEMORY TECHNOLOGY LIBRARY: Simone McGoldrick & Cait Mackey, HSE/Genio- 5 Steps to living well with dementia, Clonmel, Co Tipperary

The Memory Technology Library (MTL) was developed to address a lack of awareness about assistive technologies (AT) that can help people with dementia and their carers with everyday living. The MTL aims to support people with dementia, carer's and healthcare professionals make informed decisions around the use of AT to support them at home. The MTL is a resource centre that offers an occupational therapy (OT) assessment, support and advice to promote independence and safety around activities of daily living and occupations. Visitors can see a simulated bedroom with environmental tips, an activities room to inspire ideas on how to maintain occupational well-being, a property exit technologies area, a reference room with a range of books for carers and health professionals and a large demo room with a variety of AT products.



ALZHEIMER CAFÉ NATIONAL NETWORK START UP: Sinead Grennan, Sonas APC & Catherine Keogh, Bloomfield Health Services, Dublin

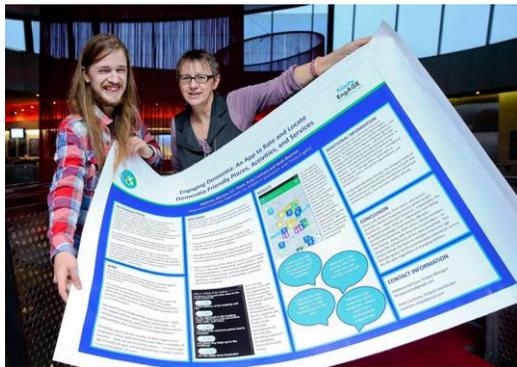
The Alzheimer Café offers support, a social outlet, information, education and informal access to health and social care professionals. Run by volunteers, health and social care professionals, people with dementia and caregivers, it is unique in its equality of access for people with dementia and their caregivers. There are an estimated 13 Alzheimer Cafes in Ireland. The aim of this project is to

standardize the delivery of the Alzheimer Café model in Ireland, supporting all current Alzheimer Café groups to meet international, evidence-based quality criteria.



HAND IN HAND: Bridie Stephens & Paul Selbin, Sacred Heart Hospital, Co Roscommon

This project aims to support carers of current residents with dementia in the Sacred Heart Hospital; to empower them to make the most of their visits and to enhance the lives of residents with dementia. Due to the cognitive impairment of the resident, the family members can have difficulty in connecting. They can come away frustrated, disappointed or upset with a feeling of loss. The initiative sets out to help the resident reconnect, to build on their interpersonal relationship and help maintain the current cognitive function of the resident. A training programme is provided to carers which covers: understanding dementia, communication and responding to behaviour. Additionally carers are supported by the establishment of a support group for family members, led and directed by themselves.



ENGAGING DEMENTIA– An app to rate and locate dementia friendly places, activities and services: Mathew Mc Cann, K.C Grant & Dr Andy Cochrane, Maynooth University, Co Kildare

The project team are developing an app that will provide freely available, accessible information about dementia friendly environments, services and businesses, identified and rated by end-users themselves. It is hoped that this will encourage people with dementia, with the support of their carers, family and friends, to remain connected to, and active in their community, and promote their inclusion in everyday activities. This initiative also aims to support other projects, including those working to create dementia friendly communities by mapping dementia services and 'friendly' places.



**DREAM (Dementia Research Education Advocacy in Motion)
Heather Gately, Galway**

Dare to D.R.E.A.M. targets people living in Ireland with the early stages of a dementia. This project offers peer to peer support aimed at improving self-esteem through psycho-social interventions. This allows for a person at the beginning of the dementia journey to remain engaged in their local community while participating in an initiative that makes them feel more hopeful about their future and enables them to function at his/her highest level of ability for as long as they are able. This initiative aims to set-up and facilitate a network of peer to peer support chapters run by people living with the early stages of dementia. The team also intend to use web and social media to reduce stigma and raise awareness about living well with dementia across Ireland, by enhancing their website and launching a members only intranet resource.



TEA FOR TWO: Rachel Simmons, St Clare’s Nursing Home, & Paddy O’ Reilly, Trinity Comp secondary school, Dublin 11

“Tea for Two” is an initiative whereby a transition year student will assist a person with dementia who lives alone in the community to prepare a meal in their own home and sit with them to share the meal. The initiative targets people with dementia over sixty years who live alone in the Dublin North City area. It addresses the issue of loneliness and nutritional deficiencies due to poor diet and lack of interest or competency in preparing food. In collaboration with the local comprehensive secondary school (Trinity

and the staff in St Clare's Day care centre, the project team will identify those people most at risk. Working with the transition year teacher, students who have expressed an interest in cooking and/or working in the caring field will be identified. All volunteer students will receive training in HACCP (food safety) and dementia care.



THE EDEN ALTERNATIVE (a person centred philosophy of care):

Rosanna Staveley & Margeurite Kilduff, Raheny Community Nursing Unit, Dublin 5

The Eden Alternative aims to change potentially overly medicalized models of care, excessive use of psychotropic medications and physical environments which are similar to a hospital. This philosophy challenges any personal, institutional and cultural perspectives which might negatively affect a person with dementia, by threatening their sense of control, social inclusion or personal worth. This project aims to create an elder-centred community by creating an environment where life revolves around close and continuing contact with friends, children, plants and animals. It also sets out to empower all staff groups and residents/visitors to create opportunities to prevent loneliness, boredom and helplessness in the residents living in this nursing home.

NATIONAL ELECTRONIC REFERRAL SERVICE FOR PUBLIC, DIAGNOSTIC MEMORY CLINICS IN IRELAND: Dr Christopher Soraghan, Mercer's Institute for Research and Ageing, St James Hospital, Dublin (not in attendance)

Patients with memory complaints are generally referred from GPs to one of the 18 memory clinics in Ireland. Of these, 10 are publically funded to diagnose conditions, typically some form of dementia. At the Mercer's Institute for Research on Ageing (MIRA) we are looking to develop a national electronic referral form for GPs etc referring patients to any of the 10 public, diagnostic memory clinics in Ireland. It would address inefficiencies of paper based referrals providing a fast, digital method of memory clinic referrals. This project sets out to develop a digital software based online electronic referral portal for referrers to refer patient with memory complaints to public, diagnostic memory clinics in Ireland.