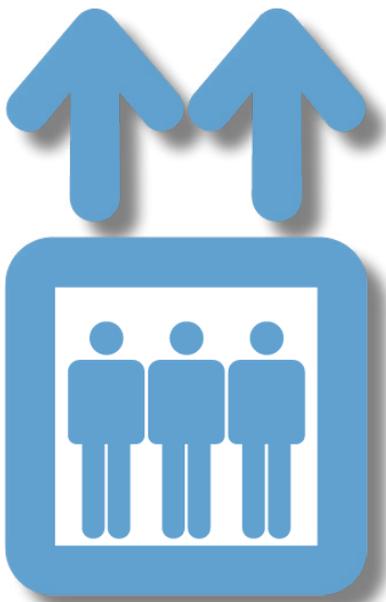


Dementia Elevator Newsletter

Welcome to the first Dementia Elevator newsletter. We are delighted to provide you with Elevator training updates and other project related news.



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Training Updates

DEMENTIA TRAINING FOR GPs



The online dementia training programme for GP's is now available to members of the ICGP (Irish College of General Practitioners) via the ICGP website.

<http://dementiaelevators.ie/training-programmes/bespoke-gp-training/>

Training includes diagnosis, disclosure, treatment (both social and medical), carer support, ethical and legal issues, therapeutic communication for dementia and formulation of person-centred care. This training is being delivered as part of the ICGP Continuous Professional Development (CDP) training for GPs.

DEMENTIA AWARENESS TRAINING AND FACILITATOR'S PACK FOR FRONT-LINE RETAIL STAFF

Elevator's free, online dementia awareness training for front-line retail staff is available on our website:

<http://dementiaelevators.ie/training-programmes/dementia-awareness-training/level-2-essential-skills-for-public-facing-workers/>

The programme covers recognising possible dementia in the retail environment, identifying and addressing the challenges faced by a person with dementia in the retail setting and exploring how the retail physical environment can be made dementia friendly.

The training is interactive and engaging, with videos of retail based scenarios, interviews with professionals and a person with dementia, quizzes and a participant forum. It is suitable for staff working in all types of retail outlets.

The programme is divided into four short modules and the total time required is just under one hour, yet it can be completed in more than one sitting. A downloadable facilitator's resource pack is available to those wishing to deliver the training in a group setting. A certificate of completion is available to those who complete the four modules. Initial feedback has been positive, with widespread use of the programme throughout Ireland, as well as registered participants from the UK and USA.



A short promotional video for the programme can be viewed here:

<http://youtu.be/Dk1NCgk0mWg>

If you would like some flyers to advertise the programme to retailers near you please contact ann-marie.coen@dcu.ie.

Elevator was delighted to deliver the dementia awareness training programme to customer care staff from Blanchardstown Centre. Opposite are some of the staff receiving their certificates of completion with Elevator's development officer, Ann-Marie Coen (2nd from right).

The team are currently developing the Financial and Emergency Services dementia awareness programmes which will be available at the end of 2015. The programmes for Transport, Legal and Leisure services awareness will be available in 2016.



ELEVATOR GENERAL AWARENESS VIDEO

Dementia Elevator's general awareness video is available on our website:

<http://dementiaelevator.ie/training-programmes/dementia-awareness-training/level-1-general-dementia-awareness/>



The video encourages 'support not sympathy' for people with dementia and provides the viewer with an opportunity to reflect on their own views and attitudes to dementia and to those living with the condition. A facilitator's resource pack is available online underneath the video. If you have delivered or received this training we would love to hear your feedback. Please contact ann-marie.coen@dcu.ie.

General Awareness Video Evaluation

An evaluation of the impact of the dementia awareness video, using three focus groups of different ages (under 30, under 70 and over 70) was carried out in April 2015. It focused on responses to a scenario relating to a man with dementia who wishes to continue an independent activity, although he recently became disorientated and had to call for help. Views and understanding of dementia before and after watching the video were analyzed.

Elevator's general awareness video emphasises how, with the right supports, a person with dementia can continue to live well following a diagnosis.

Results

The results found that the most notable positive change in attitudes towards dementia having watched the video was among the under 70 group. The under 30 and over 70 groups generally recognized the desire to maintain independence both before and after watching the video. Furthermore, the evaluation found that using the online video:

- helped start conversations about dementia;
- was a self-reflection tool;
- helped separate the condition from the person and
- increased awareness among participants about living with dementia.

DEMENTIA ELEVATOR LEVEL 8 MODULES

Dementia Champions Module

The next intake of the DCU accredited Dementia Champions module starts in October 2015. A dementia champion is someone with excellent knowledge and skills in the care of people with dementia. A champion is self-motivated and motivates others, acts as a role model in the delivery of person centred care, is an advocate for people with dementia and provides a source of information and support for co-workers. The module is currently being delivered in four sites: Waterford, Cork, Louth and Dublin.

To find out more about the Dementia Champions module and how to apply for the next intake, visit:

<http://dcn.dementiaelevator.ie/>



What is a Dementia Champion?

The Elevator team is very excited to introduce two new DCU accredited Level 8, blended learning modules.

Therapeutic Responses to People with Dementia

The first intake of the Therapeutic Responses to People with Dementia module commences in DCU in September 2015. Students participating in this programme will learn to recognise and activate strengths in people with dementia and their family members in the face of challenges posed by dementia. They will learn to apply psychosocial interventions that promote the well-being of people with dementia and their carers. These

include validating people with dementia, building resilience, multi-sensory approaches and dyadic support of family members and people with dementia. It is preferable that applicants will have completed the Dementia Champions module and if possible, it is advised that students apply in pairs. For more information on this programme visit the Elevator website:

<http://dementiaelevator.ie/blog/2015/08/06/new-dcu-module-therapeutic-responses-to-people-with-dementia/>

or contact ann-marie.coen@dcu.ie.

Dementia and Everyday Ethics

This module will commence in DCU in February 2016. It will equip students with the skills to recognise ethical issues in everyday dementia care and to guide colleagues in a helpful manner through decision making processes. It will also equip students with a practical and theoretical grounding in ethical decision making. There will be a wide range of topics covered, including physical care and practical ethical situations. Social context and ethical issues concerning stigma and social isolation will also be central themes. The module will be predominantly scenario led, covering issues such as, hydration and nutrition, continence, hygiene, responsive behaviours, pain, continence, sleep patterns and antipsychotic medication. More information will be posted on the Elevator website as it is available, or alternatively contact ann-marie.coen@dcu.ie.

Good luck to all the new students!



Some members of the Elevator team from DCU

PSYCHO-SOCIAL SKILLS TRAINING: LEVEL 1 - DEMENTIA COPING SKILLS FOR FAMILIES AND CARERS

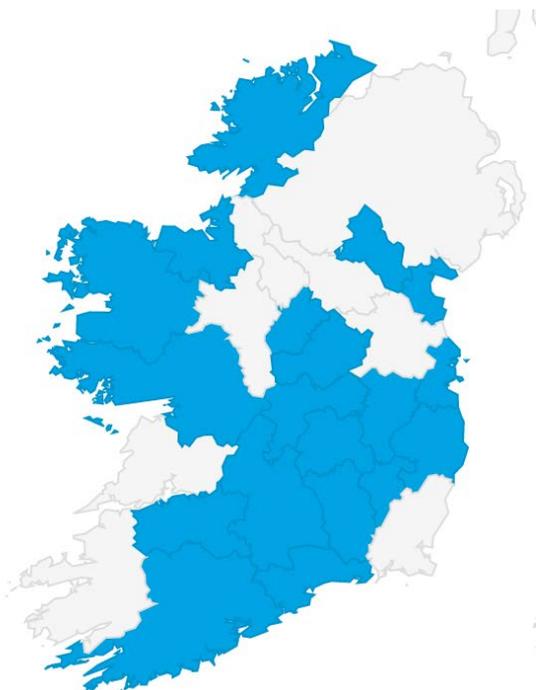
This free, online training will be available on the Elevator website in November 2015.

The aim of this programme is to enable family, carers and health care assistants to recognise the emotions, goals and coping strategies of the person with dementia. Participants will develop an understanding of how to use emotional and cognitive approaches to support people with dementia, while practicing self-care.

HSE DEMENTIA AWARENESS PROGRAMME

The successful HSE 3 day dementia awareness programme for Health and Social Care professionals continues to be delivered around Ireland. For more information, you can contact your nearest facilitator by using the interactive map on the Elevator website:

<http://dementiaelevator.ie/training-programmes/dementia-awareness-training/level-3-dementia-awareness-training-for-health-and-social-care-workers/>



An interactive map on the Elevator website allows users to identify and contact their nearest course facilitator

NEW HSE FOUR HOUR ACUTE CARE DEMENTIA PROGRAMME

It is well documented that acute hospital environments can have a negative impact on people with dementia. Recent Irish reports found that education and training in awareness of dementia and appropriate skills development was absent in most acute hospitals. This new four hour programme is specifically adapted for acute care staff in order to raise awareness of the needs of the person with dementia. It is part of the National Dementia Project ONMSD and is supported by the Dementia Elevator Project. It was very successfully piloted in Limerick University Hospitals in September 2014.

The programme aims to create awareness amongst hospital staff regarding the impact of dementia on individuals and their families and to highlight how hospitalisation affects people with dementia and their care. Most of all, the training aims to promote skills development for staff so they can provide evidence based person-centred dementia care.

To date the programme has been rolled out in sites across Dublin, Cork, Limerick, Kilkenny, Sligo and Ardee with in excess of 160 facilitators trained, who will deliver the programme onsite. Availability of facilitators onsite ensures the sustainability of the training and increases access for staff who wish to attend.



For further information please contact Mary Manning Director National Nursing Lead for Dementia. Tel: 057 9357870. E mail: marym.manning@hse.ie.

Other News

Dementia Elevator Innovation Award 2015

Following the success of last year's event, The Elevator team are pleased to invite applications for the second Innovation in Dementia Award! 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, arts, business, technology 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 the 2nd of October 2015.

Dementia Champions Change Project Special Award

We are also extending a special invitation to the broad network of 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. For more information visit:

<http://dementiaelevators.ie/blog/2015/07/03/elevator-innovation-in-dementia-award-2015/>

Update on Last Year's Winners 'The Past Times Community Choir'

Last year's worthy winners, the 'Past Times Community Choir' from Co. Kildare, have been going from strength to strength. The choir particularly welcomes those living with dementia and their carers, but has also been hugely successful in attracting a socially inclusive membership of volunteers and active retirees, aiding the integration of those living with dementia into their community and providing opportunities for generation specific reminiscence and fun. The choir has over 45 members who participated in a wonderfully well received debut performance during the Bealtaine Festival in May and the feedback from members and carers has been overwhelmingly positive. With the continued strong support of Kildare County Council Arts Service and the Alzheimer Society of Ireland, the choir look forward to a Culture Night performance, an upcoming dance workshop and of course a trip to DCU in December to perform for all at the 2nd Dementia Elevator Innovation Award ceremony. Well done to all members, staff and volunteers involved in making the choir such a success!



Dementia Elevator Innovation Award 2014 winners the Past Times Community Choir accepting the award at a ceremony in DCU

Past Dementia Champion Receives Health Research Board Funding

Congratulations to past dementia champion Suzanne Dooley, Senior Speech and Language Therapist, St Columcille's Hospital, Co. Dublin in securing HRB funding to develop a communication profiling tool for people with dementia.



'In the course of my work in St. Columcille's Hospital, with people with dementia (PWD) and their families, the gap in both current speech and language Therapy (SLT) service provision became very apparent. In 2014, I developed a communication profiling tool (P-CAD) to stimulate timely referral to SLT and therefore provide early supports and communication therapy to PWD.

Then in Feb 2015, Dr. Margaret Walshe in the Department of Clinical Speech and Language Studies TCD applied with me to the HRB to validate the Profile for Communication abilities in Dementia (P-CAD). We were successful in our application and will undertake this research over the next two years. This tool will give SLTs an instrument to profile communication difficulty in dementia and direct individualised advice, support and therapy from the outset. The P-CAD will be sensitive to changes in functional communication over time and provide an outcome measure to evaluate efficacy of SLT interventions.

The dementia champion course gave me a good grounding in current dementia policy and practice. I have signed up for the module in therapeutic responses to People with Dementia and look forward to some new learning opportunities.'

Dr Kate Irving TED Talk on the Four Myths of Dementia

Listen to Dr Kate Irving, Dementia Elevator project lead, talk about the four myths of dementia in a compelling TED Talk: <https://youtu.be/8a9AguRGmbE>.



Meet the Team



Dublin City University (DCU) and the Health Services Executive (HSE) have developed the Elevator programme with the support of Atlantic Philanthropies.



The following organisations are involved as collaborators in the project:



For more information about the Elevator project visit our website

<http://dementiaelevator.ie/>

or join us on

Facebook at *Dementia Elevator*

or Twitter @dementiaelevate

The Elevator Programme is supported by Atlantic Philanthropies and the Health Services Executive. Dublin City University and the Health Services Executive are partners in the Project.

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