



DEMENTIA CHAMPIONS

Bolton Dementia Partnership

WHY?

- Several factors support the need for dementia champions.
- External resources to support dementia workforce development are currently stretched.
- In past surveys and from the current Bolton survey of dementia training in care homes, the message is that the most significant barrier to accessing such training is the difficulty and cost in releasing staff to attend training.

Champions - not a new idea



- Dementia champions can play a key role in raising the awareness, knowledge and understanding of dementia. They will also become important contributors in planning and developing the care provided to people with dementia and their carers, particularly in non-specialist settings.
- They will be encouraged to network with other dementia champions in both social care and NHS health settings.

Bolton Dementia Champions



- Starting **small** - aiming to succeed
- A **pilot** is planned with 15 invited professionals from a mix of care settings and within the health and social care economy. Support meetings will be planned on a quarterly basis.
- Facilitated by Ann Collins and John Matthias
- Direct approaches - including today – for Pilot

Profile of the role

Who can be a dementia champion?



A dementia champion is a member of staff working in the organisation. For example, this could be:

- a care manager
- a registered nurse
- any experienced member of staff , with their manager's support, and who may have a Health and Social Care qualification (NVQ/QCF Level 2 or 3).

Experience, enthusiasm and a keen interest in the welfare of people living with dementia are essential.

What impact will the role have?



Expect it to :

- make a difference to day-to-day dementia care in the care setting and in the community
- promote awareness of good practice to support people with dementia
- allow staff to feel supported in looking for practical solutions
- provide opportunities for staff providing care to discuss best practice in caring for people with dementia

What's the incentive for the dementia champion role?



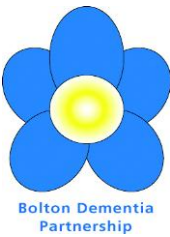
- Access to training, support and ongoing continuing professional development (CPD)
- Some protected time for Support Meetings
- Enhanced status as a recognised dementia champion (*badges?*)
- Receive updated/ ongoing local and national information on practice and research

What will dementia champions do



- Promote best practice skills, providing a link between theory and practice.
- Provide supplementary development to staff (where appropriate) within their job role.
- Act as a named point of contact for staff working with people with dementia and their carers
- Provide professional information and signposting to staff working with people with dementia and their carers.
- Work and liaise with other dementia champions for support and sharing of ideas.

The role of the Dementia Champion in Bolton Care Homes and Home Care



Now what?

- Future meetings – Terms of reference, topics, venues, frequency of meetings etc.
- Nominations /invitations
- 9th April 1.30pm Firwood – nominees & Managers
- 18th June 1.30pm Firwood
- Plan for post-pilot expansion.