



Huron County Partners for Dementia Support



WHO ARE THE HURON COUNTY PARTNERS FOR DEMENTIA SUPPORT?

The Huron County Partners for Dementia Support consists of:

- Staff from care agencies across Huron County including the Alzheimer Society Huron County, Saint Elizabeth, South West CCAC, One Care, and Willow HomeCare
- Family members of persons with dementia
- Researchers from the University of Windsor and the University of Waterloo
- The Partnerships in Dementia Care Alliance.

We work together to improve dementia care for those who live in and work in Huron County. We do this by learning what is already working well in Huron County and plan for the future by expanding on these strengths.

WHAT IS THE PARTNERSHIPS IN DEMENTIA CARE (PIDC) ALLIANCE?

The PiDC Alliance is a collaborative research network and initiative focused on enhancing the care experiences for persons with dementia, family partners in care, and staff in long-term care/retirement homes and community care settings. The overall goal of the PiDC Alliance is to change the culture of care. We believe that care is improved when everyone involved in care feel heard and understood and when people from every aspect of care are included in the decision making process.

WHAT HAVE WE DONE SO FAR?

- Collected stories from persons with dementia, family members, and staff at various agencies in and around Huron County about what works best in Huron County
- Analyzed these stories to find our strengths (e.g., what was happening when people are happy with care and what this tells us about what we can do better in the future)
- Started to construct an 'ideal' future for dementia care based on these strengths.

What does the ideal future of dementia care in Huron County look like?

The stories collected so far have been used to construct an ideal care future for persons with dementia, their family partners in care and staff at care agencies. We write these as 'Aspiration Statements'. Think of these as goals or a vision statements for our desired future.

ASPIRATION STATEMENT #1

Relationships are at the heart of dementia care in Huron County.

In Huron County the dementia care experience happens in collaboration rather than in isolation. Everyone, including people living with dementia, engage in strong reciprocal relationships in which people feel valued, loved, respected and heard. Individuals and organizations work cooperatively. Everyone involved in the dementia care process knows that they have support and the time to have fun, enjoy time spent together and find joy and humour in the everyday. Valued relationships are sustained and supported as persons with dementia transition between and within care experiences. People living with dementia are equal members of our community whose humanity and personhood are valued.

ASPIRATION STATEMENT #2

In Huron County, people involved in dementia care are actively and meaningfully engaged in their care experiences and in the life of their communities.

In Huron County persons with dementia have choices both within their home and community. All programs for persons with dementia and their family partners are fully funded and accessible. As a person progresses through the dementia journey their individuality is respected and their changing interests and abilities are valued. Family care partners are active and welcome advocates and are supported through access to sufficient relief including respite and social opportunities. Family members and persons with dementia feel comfortable and heard in their interactions with their medical staff and they know that care providers collaborate to provide integrated care that respects their confidentiality. All community members interact comfortably with persons with dementia and actively work to break down the barriers of stigma around dementia. Persons with dementia are valued members of the community wherever they make their home.

ASPIRATION STATEMENT #3

In Huron County people involved in dementia care are confident, knowledgeable and dedicated.

In Huron County everyone can access readily available and current information about dementia. This knowledge provides building blocks for a compassionate, positive care experience. Our knowledge and dedication contribute to an overall feeling of satisfaction because we enjoy the care experience and feel fulfilled when we are part of it.

For more information please call 1-800-561-5012