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PiDC

Partnerships
in Dementia Care

Enhancing Dementia Care for Everyone



PiDC Alliance Connection

PROVIDING UPDATES • COMMUNICATING FINDINGS •
SHARING RESOURCES • CONNECTING PARTNERS

Introducing the Huron County Culture Change Coalition

A Unique Approach to Culture Change

The Partnerships in Dementia Care Alliance (PiDC) is a collaborative research network and project focused on improving the dementia care experience for persons with dementia, family members, and staff in both long-term care and community settings.

The Huron County Culture Change Coalition (CCC) is one of four research sites undertaking a culture change guided by the authentic partnership model, appreciative inquiry (AI), and the ADRD Planning Framework.

The Huron County CCC is a diverse group comprised of several community care organizations and their clients. The sole community-based CCC in the project, this group includes representatives from the South West Community Care Access Centre (CCAC), Saint Elizabeth Health Care, the Alzheimer Society of Huron County, One Care Home and Community Support Services, the University of Windsor, and the Murray Alzheimer Research and Education Program at the University of Waterloo.

Discovering the Best of What is

Consistent with an Appreciative Inquiry approach, the CCC is currently planning activities to discover what is positive about their current home and community care services. With this in mind, they will begin to imagine even better possibilities for the future. The group will then work to develop an action plan which will turn those *possibilities* into *realities*. Authentic partnerships with all key stakeholders will be fundamental to achieving these new realities.

If you live or work in the Huron County region, we welcome you to join our Culture Change Coalition which meets for two hours once a month. For more information, contact Zara Rafferty at zeraffer@uwaterloo.ca or (519) 888-4567 x. 35280.



PiDC Alliance in the News

- Jim and Linda Finkbeiner, partners at our Huron County Culture Change Coalition, shared tips for alleviating anxiety during the holidays in the *Globe and Mail*
- Zara Rafferty, the PiDC Alliance Knowledge Broker, shared her experience at the 2012 Walk for Memories on the MAREP blog
- Yee Hong Geriatric Care, one of our Culture Change Coalition sites, was profiled in the *Globe and Mail* last month
- The Huron County Culture Change Coalition was featured in the *Exeter Times Advocate* during Alzheimer's Awareness Month

For information about the PiDC Alliance please contact Zara Rafferty, MAREP Knowledge Translation Specialist, at:
zeraffer@uwaterloo.ca

EXPLORING APPRECIATIVE INQUIRY

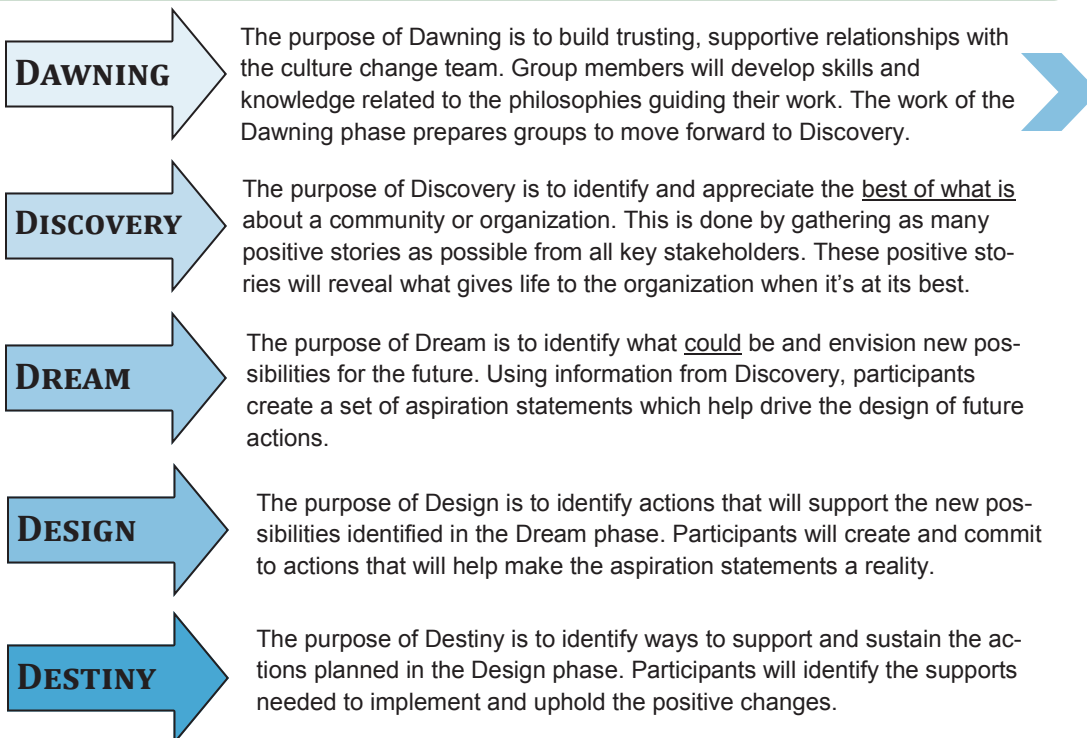
The Authentic Partnership approach, the ADRD Planning Framework, and Appreciative Inquiry (AI) are the key theoretical frameworks guiding culture change within the Partnerships in Dementia Care (PiDC) Alliance research sites. Over the next three issues of this newsletter we will provide an overview of these approaches and the role they are playing in our project.

WHAT IS APPRECIATIVE INQUIRY?

- AI is based on the assumption that every organization has something that works right. The AI process seeks to discover what it is that gives life to an organization when it is most successful and connected to its members and community.
- AI is different from other problem solving approaches because it focuses on strengths, rather than on 'what's wrong.'
- AI begins by identifying what is positive about an organization and then uses these strengths to envision possibilities for the future.



WHAT IS THE APPRECIATIVE INQUIRY PROCESS?



NEW DISCOVERIES

The Dawning phase is a new addition to the Appreciative Inquiry process which was developed by the PiDC team based on their work with the Culture Change Coalitions (CCC). The Huron County CCC (see profile on page 1) was particularly influential in the development of this new phase.



What's Happening this Winter?

- The PiDC Alliance website is now live and continues to evolve. Visit us at: www.pidc.uwaterloo.ca
- Continued monthly Culture Change Coalition meetings with Bloomington Cove Specialty Care, The Huron County Culture Change Coalition, and Yee Hong Centre for Geriatric Care
- Establishment of our final Culture Change Coalition at The Village of Wentworth Heights
- Continuing to pilot of our CARE Profiles tool that measures the care experience of residents, family members, and staff in long-term care settings across Ontario
- Seeking out community care settings in which to pilot the community CARE Profiles tool