

EFID Awards 2012 and 2014

'Living well with Dementia in the Community'



The European Foundations' Initiative on Dementia (EFID) European Awards: "Living well with Dementia in the Community"

In March 2011, a group of foundations comprising The Atlantic Philanthropies, the Fondation Médéric Alzheimer, the King Baudouin Foundation and the Robert Bosch Stiftung joined forces, through NEF, to launch the 'Living well with Dementia in the Community - European Foundations' Initiative on Dementia-Awards' in order to improve perceptions of dementia and to stimulate solidarity at the local level. The overarching aim of the Initiative is to contribute to a better quality of life for people with dementia and their carers.

By rewarding the best local initiatives that promote social inclusion, through a Europe-wide awards scheme, EFID aims to encourage context-relevant projects in the field of awareness building about dementia.

In two different calls for projects held in 2012 and in 2014, 20 projects were selected by an independent jury to receive an award of up to € 10,000 each.

The foundations are conscious that the full responsibility of dementia care cannot be abdicated to informal carers and the professional care sector. So as to contribute to a better quality of life for people living with dementia, civil society at local level should also participate, not only by informing and educating, or by conveying a different, more balanced view of dementia, but also by supporting people at local level to take responsibility for the way people with dementia are integrated in and supported by society.















THE 2012 EFID AWARD WINNERS

1. Bistrot Mémoire, Organization: Bistrot Mémoire, France

Project description

The first Bistrot Mémoire was set up in Rennes in January 2004. Since then, the concept has been implemented in a further 41 communities in France. The idea was jointly developed by a group of institutions and volunteers. Later, a board of governors was appointed which included people with dementia as well as carers. The Bistrot Mémoire is located in a popular bistrot in the city and welcomes people with dementia and their carers once a week. In Rennes, some 25 people attend each week, including both professionals and volunteers. The Bistrot Mémoire is a place where people share feelings and experience and develop social ties. It is not an information centre, even though information is given. The mission is to provide a pleasant location for people with dementia, develop tolerance, change the public's views about dementia, support carers, prevent crises in the family network and change professional practice.

2. The Enger Alzheimer's Counselling Centre, Organization: Generationen Treff Enger, Germany

Project description

Learning with and from each other in order to deal with each other is what some of the senior experts intended for this project. This guiding principle set out to strengthen the various networks in the town of Enger and to offer young and elderly people the possibility of taking part in social development. This project enables people with dementia to actively participate in life and to come into contact with people without dementia. Such a project was only possible in the town of Enger with the support of the local community, its shopkeepers and the local authority.

3. Alzal House, Organization: Associazione per la Ricerca Neurogenetica o.n.l.u.s., Italy

Project description

Alzal House is a community day-care home for people with Alzheimer's disease and their families, situated in Lamezia Terme, Calabria, in the very south of Italy. It opened in 2002 as the first adult care home in Lamezia Terme and today offers a wide range of activities such as handicrafts, self-management activities, organized day trips and short vacations, as well as group meetings and support for families. The daily running of Alzal House is purposely shared with families, young civil service volunteers and students to encourage the dissemination of good social practices and assistance within the community. Encouraging the participation of people from all age groups fosters effective intergenerational communication – between young people, adults and the elderly – and narrows the generation gap, whilst ensuring stronger integration of the patient in the community.

4. Together for a dementia-friendly Bruges!, Organization: Expertisecentrum Dementie Foton, Bruges, Belgium

Project description

A long-term awareness-building project in which all relevant partners, such as healthcare services, socio-cultural associations, local businesses (e.g. restaurants, shopkeepers), educational organizations, public and private services (e.g. police), are invited to make an active contribution, both individually and through partnerships, to creating a dementia-friendly community. The project aims to infiltrate the city and all its structures in order to create a climate where dementia is borne by the entire community. Examples of initiatives undertaken include the creation of a website, the wide distribution of a free 'dementia guide', organization of basic workshops on dementia and a protocol for finding missing persons.

5. Better together than alone! Organization: Leben mit Demenz – Alzheimergesellschaft Kreis Minden – Lübbecke e.V, Germany

Project description

In the past decade, various means of support have been established for people with dementia and their families in the region (e.g. specialized dementia service centres, respite care, day care, carer support groups). However, until this project was set up, no programmes existed explicitly for people in the early stages of dementia. The project consists of bi-weekly support groups, a sports programme and a monthly activity programme. In order to facilitate participation by those with dementia, a network of volunteers has been created. All the volunteers have either a professional background in dementia care or have been trained specifically for the task.

6. *Campaign Dementia*, Organization: Aktion Demenz Voralberg – Gesellschaft für Gesundheit und Pflege – gGmbH, Austria

Project description:

Campaign Dementia aims to create conditions in Vorarlberg that enable people with dementia to participate in public and social life. We support communities that wish to create a friendlier environment for people with dementia and their families. 23 model communities (out of 96, and almost 60% of the inhabitants of Vorarlberg) have joined us since 2008. Countrywide, we also want to sensitize the general public and increase awareness of dementia by informing (e.g. through press relations and conferences, brochures, events, movies, art exhibitions, lessons in schools and kindergarten) and educating (e.g. neighbourhood assistants, policemen, salespeople, bus drivers, bank employees).

7. Service for People with Young Onset Dementia and their Families, Organization: YoungDementia UK, UK

Project description:

YoungDementia UK offers integrated services to meet the complex needs of people with young onset dementia and their families from diagnosis to post-bereavement. A trained support worker partners the person with dementia, developing a trusting relationship, sharing chosen activities within their local community and ensuring the present if fully lived. Flexible support is tailored to the family's circumstances, including information, practical and emotional guidance. To combat the isolation, a lively monthly Café encourages a welcoming community for all. Good practice is shared with other young onset dementia services through the website (www.youngdementiauk.org), and by modelling our approach to other organizations.

8. Twinning programme of Alzheimer's Disease International, Organization: Foundation Compassion Alzheimer Bulgaria, Bulgaria

Project description

The twinning programme of Alzheimer's Disease International is a programme that provides support for core activities of ADI members. Thanks to 3-year twinning grants, Foundation Compassion Alzheimer Bulgaria achieved the following: 1) implementation of a strategic plan to develop the organization, 2) capacity building and training of the team and volunteers, 3) opening of a representation office in Sofia, 4) the design and provision of innovative social services for families of people with Alzheimer's in Sofia and Varna (centres for support and psychological and legal consultations), 5) self-help groups, 6) an Alzheimer's café, 7) annual information and lobbying campaigns.

9. Missing Persons, Organization: HEKLA Local police force, Belgium

Project description

This project is a bottom-up initiative that started in 2006 with the aim of dealing better with people with dementia who get lost in the community. The local police service covering 5 local authority areas (HEKLA) took responsibility for the project and brought together all the relevant community-based parties, including nursing homes and hospitals. They signed a joint protocol that aims to provide an efficient procedure for dealing with disappearances of people living with dementia and youngsters. As time is crucial in finding and returning these vulnerable people safely, the partners agreed to actively support professional communication with the local police service. This involves providing fast access to a well-documented file on the missing person, including personal details and information about the 'last point seen'. Since the implementation of these optimized communication procedures, missing people are now located in less than 2 hours on average. The project has already been adopted by eight other local police services in Belgium.

10. Oficinas Terapêuticas, Organization: Associação ProfundaMente, Portugal

Project description

Oficinas Terapêuticas is a project that began in 2004, in a private institution in Lisbon. The main project focuses on the idea that from the moment a diagnosis of dementia is made, the person in question usually loses his statute of being a person. This effect is also true for the person him- or herself, who develops a perception of low self-efficacy. Re-perceiving self-efficacy is the aim of this project by providing more autonomy and developing old and new capacities, even when there is a cognitive compromise. The work of the project is carried out with the therapeutic intervention of a number of artists and artisans and with the collaboration of community institutions such as museums.

THE 2014 EFID AWARD WINNERS

The 2014 EFID Award winners

1. 'A Reminiscence Promenade in Aalbeke', Organisation: OCMW Kortrijk, Belgium

Project description:

The main purpose is to integrate elderly with dementia in the daily life and the local community. Through a Reminiscence Promenade the project is about creating reminiscence work, intergenerational work, improvement of accessibility and mobility and integration into village life (de stigmatization). The project consists of walks with references of events that happened in the past.

2. 'Learning Lab Dementia', Organisation: City of Arnsberg, Germany

Project description:

The city's staff unit "Future of Ageing" is coordinating and moderating the process of evolving Arnsberg towards a city of long and good life. The "Learn-Lab Dementia" is about establishing networks of "professionals" (medicine, nursing, etc) and civil society partners (kindergartens, schools, cultural and economical institutions, etc.) sharing the aim to improve the quality of life of people with dementia and their relatives.

3. 'Coming Together', Organisation: EDUCATE (Early Dementia Users Cooperative Aiming To Educate), UK

Project description:

EDUCATE stands for Early Dementia Users Cooperative Aiming To Educate .The project is run by people with dementia who use their own experience to raise awareness about dementia. They give talks to businesses, community and faith groups, health and educational establishments about living with dementia. They help deliver training to staff supporting people with dementia and act as consultants in matters of dementia policy. The Coming Together project hopes to help people with

dementia develop their own groups in surrounding boroughs.

4. 'Us with You – Ambassadors for Alzheimer's', Organisation: Rifugio Re Carlo Alberto, Italy

Project description:

The project's initiatives acknowledge, support, maintain, extend, demonstrate and 'celebrate the possible' in the lives of people with AD and offer them the opportunity to be advocates or 'Ambassadors for Alzheimer's', creating new ambassadors in the local community. The project includes the development of: 1. a home care service; 2. home-based training and support for caregivers; 3. a drop-in at a local coffee shop; 4. community and socio-pedagogical activities for people with and without AD within and outside the Refuge; 5. information and awareness events and training in the local community.

5. 'Konfetti im Kopf', Organisation: KONFETTI IM KOPF e.V., Germany

Project description:

The project develops events and activities to bring together people with and without dementia in their local community. In using music, visual arts, theatre and humor they create meeting spaces, where people connect and gain new perspectives through social contact and information. The project puts emphasis on building a network of local institutions dealing with dementia care. There is a plan to establish a Music & Arts Studio, where music and art therapists encourage people with and without dementia of all ages and background to experience the fun of creating and a gain of self-esteem.

6. 'Dementia is Everyone's Business – North Lanarkshire Partnership', Organisation: Alzheimer Scotland, United Kingdom

Project description:

Shops, businesses and organisations are committed to learn about dementia and to do simple, practical things that make an enormous difference to people with dementia, so as to help them remain a part of their community. The project proactively engages with shops and businesses and opens not just doors, but hearts and minds, and raises awareness of dementia, its impact on people, families and carers and the importance of citizenship and community connections.

7. 'DemenTalent', Organisation: Zorggroep Apeldoorn e.o., Netherlands

Project description:

DemenTalent is looking for the talents of the young elderly people with dementia. The project strives to use those talents and give those talents a place within the communities, by giving the young elderly people with dementia a volunteer job in the community. A Radio Kootwijk was started in cooperation with Forestry Commission (Staatsbosbeheer).

8. 'How can I help you?' Creating a dementia friendly community through support and empowerment in Mallow, Organisation: Crystal Project, Ireland

Project description:

The aim of this project is to create a dementia friendly community in Mallow by providing support for staff of local businesses, schools, and healthcare professionals etc., to be aware of the needs of those affected by dementia. Through awareness campaigns, dementia champions support-programmes, and open access to the Memory Resource Room, the public will be better placed to understand the needs of those affected by dementia.

9. 'Act and React 4 dementia!', Organisation: Ske Simplegmatos Kouri Ksilourikou, Cyprus

Project description:

There is an urgent need for improving the awareness and understanding of dementia across society in order to enhance the quality of life for people with dementia and their caregivers. The Cyprus organization has been struggling for several years to offer people with dementia an independent and active life. The project idea is to run an awareness-raising campaign in order to promote a dementia friendly society, to change public attitudes and practices in society.

10. 'Continue taking part in community life though Dementia', Organisation: Nachbarschaftliche Unterstützung und Zeitvorsorge (NUZ) e.V., Germany

Project description:

The community is stimulated through public awareness, political activism. Regular meetings and joint actions are organized to enable a space for networking of the boroughs with the professional service providers. The aim of the project is to enable people with dementia to remain in their homes for as long as possible. People with dementia and their family carers are supported through neighborhood assistance, organized and implemented by the Association of NUZ. Moreover, training and support are provided to citizens who are willing to engage themselves in the neighborhood assistance on a voluntary basis and against time credit, especially for people with dementia.

SPECIAL NOMINATIONS

Two proposals received a special nomination and their project representatives will be invited at the EFID Awards Ceremony in March and will be acknowledged for their interesting work in front of the audience of the EFID ceremony: Application number 14 - BOPA 'Promoting awareness of and support for dementia for people from Black and Minority Ethnic populations' – UK, for the target group black and ethnic minorities, and number 39 - Institute for Palliative Care and Organisational Ethics 'Dementia-friendly community pharmacy' – AT, for its innovative character. The idea of a special nomination at the EFID Awards Ceremony is that the organisations are invited to the ceremony, and give their projects visibility on a European level highlighting the value of their work.

 'Promoting awareness of and support for dementia for people from Black and Minority Ethnic populations', Organisation: Bradford & District Older People's Alliance (BOPA), United Kingdom

Project description:

Individuals with dementia from Black and Minority Ethnic (BME) populations are currently underrepresented within services. This is due to lack of awareness among the BME population regarding the nature of dementia, and support and services available. BME communities are not homogeneous and so specialist knowledge is needed to work with 'communities within communities'. The funding would enable us (a) to extend an ongoing project by delivering five further dementia awareness roadshows tailored to specific BME groups and (b) to produce a culturally appropriate DVD to raise awareness.

 'Dementia-friendly community pharmacy. Community based health promotion for people living with dementia and their caregivers', Organisation: Institute for Palliative Care and Organisational Ethics, Austria

Project description:

The project "Dementia-friendly community pharmacy" aims at increasing quality of life for people with dementia and their caregivers by empowering community pharmacies to become more dementia-friendly through using their resources as local shops and by increasing knowledge and skills in person-centered care, and by reducing stigma through developing awareness-raising initiatives in local communities. Following principles of participatory research, involving caregivers and people with dementia is one major goal as is working in cooperation with Alzheimer Austria, a self help group, the Austrian Chamber of Pharmacists, and with other partners from palliative care and health promotion in Vienna and Lower Austria.