



Westview Dementia Support Community Collaborative, Edmonton Zone

Westview Health Centre

Project Lead: Ellen Elliott, Site Director

The purpose of the Westview Dementia Support Community initiative is to increase inclusivity and reduce stigma for community members affected by dementia. Building upon community partnerships within the health, social and business sectors, the collaborative will work closely with clients and families affected by dementia to increase understanding of current barriers that limit opportunities to participate fully in their communities. Using Experience Based Co-Design methodology, the collaborative will develop individualized community engagement plans for people living with dementia participating in the initiative. Strategies for ongoing community partnerships and education will be established through this quality improvement process. Community partners participating in the collaborative include AHS Westview Health Centre, Home Care and Adult Day Programs, Westview Geriatric Assessment Team, Westview Primary Care Network, Alzheimer's Society of Alberta and Northwest Territories, Neighbourlink Parkland, Stony Plain and Spruce Grove Family and Community Support Services, and the Tri-Community Adult Learning Association.

Initial Findings

Initial findings learned from doing interviews with people living with dementia, their care partners and community resources:

- People living with dementia are eager to provide insight and suggestions to support a dementia friendly community. A quiet, calm setting with a small number of people enables better interaction and contributions for the person living with dementia.
- The importance of being able to stay physically active and safe was identified by people living with dementia and care partners. Care partners would like to be able to maintain their separate physical activities also.
- The concept of a slow lane at stores was suggested by a person living with dementia.
- She would be able to manage more independently if she knew she did not need to rush, could take several attempts at payment and be able to easily ask questions of the cashier.
- Every spokesperson for the 18 community resources that have been contacted to date have all known someone living with dementia.