**Celebrating Success**

Sheffield Dementia Action Alliance Membership organisations make commitments based on their individual organisation and the type of service they provide. This means there is a lot of interesting work going on behind the scenes. We want to celebrate all the hard work happening across Sheffield and share examples of the changes organisations are making as they become more dementia friendly… We hope these examples inspire you and show you just some of the ways organisations, individuals and businesses across Sheffield are making a difference.

**Yorkshire Ambulance Service**

Yorkshire Ambulance service is on a journey to becoming dementia friendly. They are focusing on three key areas:

1. Training and education for staff and volunteers around dementia
2. Engaging with people living with dementia and their carers about their services
3. Adapting vehicles and environments where able to ensure the best patient experience is being received.

They currently have 2,250 dementia friends within YAS now and they have enhanced dementia training for staff, which focuses on communication, behaviours, carers and much more!

YAS joined the Alliance in 2021. YAS attends Regular Members Workshop and gas been committed to meeting and learning with other membership organisations.

*“I part of Sheffield’s dementia action alliance, and do attend where appropriate any relevant meetings to ensure YAS has a presence. This has proven really beneficial so far in terms of sharing data and key information about people who call 999 and the types of reasons (Falls being the top of the list, 2/3 of people living with dementia who call 999 have fallen)…”* Laura, Dementia Project Coordinator, Yorkshire Ambulance Service NHS Trust

**Heeley Development Trust**

Heeley Development Trust is using dementia inclusive signage in all the spaces they use for workshops/groups and take these signs to use in different spaces! In addition to this they have put on a range of different activities, which are dementia specific, such as their activity cafes & collaborative workshops with the Handlebars Theatre Company & Flower Farm ‘Roots & Bloom’.

The use of dementia friendly signage that can be taken to different venues and buildings is a fantastic idea! Many groups and organisations will use different spaces and buildings and it will not always be possible to make changes within the building. However, by putting up signage before a group or workshop it will make navigating the building easier, not just for people with dementia but for everyone!

**South Hallam Mission Area**

South Hallam Mission Area is the collaboration of St John’s, St Mary’s and St Mark’s Church. They have a Dementia Core Group who regularly meets and they are committed to their Churches being inclusive for all. They have taken some fantastic steps to being dementia friendly. This has included a dementia friendly building audit with SDAA, increasing awareness and understanding within the congregation and delivering acts of worship in their care homes

One of their pledges is to increase awareness of dementia among their congregation. In October 2021 they held two “awareness sessions” for congregation members. The sessions included a ‘Dementia Friends’ delivered by a Dementia Champion as well as an exploration of communication with people with dementia, which included a Church related role play. In total 57 people attended the sessions, which is fantastic!

South Hallam Mission Area will aims to continue to increase awareness and understanding, they will continue working with care homes to deliver acts of worship to residents living with dementia, and have some exciting ideas going forward.

If you want to share some of the ways you are making a positive difference, please contact us on sdaa@ageuksheffield.org.uk or if you feel inspired to become a member of SDAA you can complete the application form here (<https://www.ageuk.org.uk/sheffield/our-services/sdaa/membership/become-a-member/sdaa-application-form/>)