Ontario Dementia Network Survey October, 2009.

40 surveys distributed October 6th and 19 replies received by October 30, 2009

Return rate of: 47.5%

Appendix: ODN Survey provides complete breakdown of issues reported per question.

1. Does your network have any priorities for 2010? If so ,please indicate these (list maximum of 3)

Responses 19



Analysis:

Many networks have set priorities and plans for 2010. They are as varied as there are networks. Education and network development are equal in their sited frequencies. If we were to add in the technology issues these too are almost equal in their abilities to assist with the dissemination of information/ education and network development. Many of the networks are working at broadening their membership to be more inclusive of community partners and client population and on their strategic plans. Possibly ODN in partnership with AKE could have an immediate impact on the technology issues. 2. Has your network received funding for any projects? If so from whom and for which projects?



Responses 19.

Analysis:

Although most networks have received some funding no one has ongoing funding. Writing of proposals for funding can be very complex and time consuming. Some networks feel they lack the expertise and human resources to be able to meet the potential funders request for information so they lose out on the opportunities to fund very good projects.

3. Identify any challenges that are having a negative impact on the activities of your network.



Responses 19

Analysis:

Lack of human resources and financial resources really go hand in hand in hampering the efforts of most networks. Change over in staff within organizations and lack of organizational support for activities of the network also contribute to the human resource issue. In some areas working with the LHINs continues to be problematic, changing geographic areas, changing LHIN priorities and lack of dementia network credability are challenging. It would seem that the recent development of the Ontario Dementia Network will have an impact on improved credibility with the LHINs. The gathering of past funding request documents could have a central housing on AKE website for the access of all networks. There is potential for ODN support in development of network funding applications.



4. What is/ are your network's major accomplishments to date (list a maximum of four). Do you feel any of these are transportable across the province?

Responses 19

Analysis:

Many networks have developed materials that with some alteration in content, to reflect the different areas, are transportable throughout the province. The same facts hold true for most other of the network accomplishments in education, driving initiatives etc. Further information gathering about the items listed would need to be done to inventory or develop a resource library of the various documents for networks to refer to when they wish to implement in their area. This would allow for consistency in content and in application of the product, would be of great assistance in the easing of human resource and time constraints that most networks face.

5. Are you currently working on any initiatives that would benefit from collaboration with ODN? (list a maximum of 3)

Responses 18



Analysis:

In the areas of advocacy there are a couple of networks that share the common interest of respite so could possibly pool their working resources. In the area of Project Development a few of the projects have already been developed within other networks and are reported as transportable thereby saving a vast amount of work. For those networks looking at restructuring there again are networks that have already undergone this exercise and feel they have transportable information to assist other networks. It could also be explored with those interested networks the utilization of the CDN physician newsletter.

6. Is there any other initiative you would like to work on with other networks provided another network took the lead? If so please indicate (list a maximum of 2)



Responses 17

Analysis:

There are a variety of projects that networks have an interest in working on in a collaborative way. The membership would need to decide on the priorities. There are many other areas currently that the networks require assistance with possibly if they received help with some more urgent matters attention could be given to future collaboration on projects.

7. Is your network currently involved in any research projects? (List a maximum of 2)



Responses 17

Analysis:

Only two networks are currently involved in research projects at this time.

- Working with MAREP through the LEAD program for persons with early stage/ early onset on the importance of recreation and wellness- unsure area.
- University of Ottawa and CDN have recently submitted an application for a Community University Research Alliance Grant, Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (awaiting feedback)
- CDN continues its work on the development of a research registry for dementia care in the Champlain region.

8. Are there any joint research projects that you would like to initiate and/ or become involved with other dementia networks? (List a maximum of 2)



Response: 16

Analysis: Human resource issue sited as a reason for networks not being able to participate in research project, lack of awareness of what research projects are being done in other networks and lack of expertise in research areas or contact with experts to conduct research.

9. What type of support from the ODN would be helpful for your network? Better understanding of the structure and the goals of the ODN



Responses 17

Analysis:

Most networks are requiring support in their activities and in planning for the future. Even those items listed as Provincial Support are activities that will provide ongoing support and information to the networks. Networks require tangible products and guidelines to assist them in implementation. With the lack of human and financial resources to provide dedicated staff time to the work of the networks it is very difficult for them to undertake many of the identified projects. Many of the areas of network support and provincial support could possibly be accomplished in partnership with AKE to provide some immediate benefits for the networks.