

PiDC

Partnerships
in Dementia Care

Enhancing Dementia Care for Everyone



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Authentic Partnerships

What is the Authentic Partnership Approach?

- This approach actively incorporates and values diverse perspectives and includes all key stakeholders in decision-making, including persons with dementia, their family, partners in care, and professionals.
- The Authentic Partnership approach includes three guiding principles and five enablers.
- It harnesses the collective capacity within all partners, promoting empowerment, equality and social change.

3 Guiding Principles of Authentic Partnerships

Genuine Regard for Self and Others	Synergistic Relationships	Focus on the Process
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Value and know each other • Honour individual uniqueness/ abilities • Believe that everyone can learn and grow 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Value interdependence • Include diverse stakeholders • Hear/include all voices • Build on the group's diversity • Promote shared learning 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stay flexible & responsive to change • Learn from mistakes • Embrace creativity • Remain open to new possibilities

5 Enablers of Authentic Partnerships

Connect and Commit	Create a Safe Space	Value Diverse Perspectives	Establish and Maintain Open Communication	Conduct Regular Reflection and Dialogue
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bring together a diverse group of partners • Collectively determine goals and expectations • Identify strengths and resources • Develop mutually agreed upon guidelines for supporting the partnership 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create a space that is emotionally and physically comfortable • Build trust so members can openly express their views • Discuss how to foster strong relationships • Be attuned to indicators of discomfort or frustration • Provide a familiar environment, free of distractions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appreciate the contribution of all partners • Value different types of engagement • Act on partners' insights • View differences as opportunities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide a range of ways for communicating • Provide time for people to process information • Use accessible language • Keep all partners 'in the loop' • Clarify meanings 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide opportunities for self and group reflections and dialogue • Regularly ask: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⇒ How is the approach contributing towards building authentic partnerships and incorporating all voices? ⇒ What is working well? ⇒ What could we be doing differently?

"[This approach] values me as a person and the contributions that I can make to dementia care, to my own care. This approach stops the exclusion of persons with dementia by actively including us and our family members in our own care and in the process of developing our care plans" - Partner with dementia

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