



SOUTHERN SERVICES
REFORM GROUP

SSRG Workgroup Meeting
Workgroup: Dementia
Date: 3 May 2016

Present: Sally Warnes, Terry Hales, Rob Crouch, Gill Schulze, Nicole Bitter, Kate Kenning, Stacey Pilmore, Clare Kelly

Apologies: Krystyna Kahmann

Agenda Items	Discussion	Actions
Welcome and apologies	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Welcome and apologies	
Previous minutes & business arising	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Previous minutes acceptedSarah Jarvis will attend the next meeting, 7 June, to talk about her research project on dementia and driving.	
Partnership project with CPN and SSRG: Dementia and Driving, review the concepts created	<p>The film will be broken down into three sections; warning signs, having the conversation and solutions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Stacey handed out the character concepts for the group to review. The group agreed that the nose of the figure was too large and suggested reducing the size.	Sally to follow this up with Kat

<p>by In White Space, highlight most important elements of carer conversations, brainstorm solutions.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The group read through version 2 of the dialogue and have amended some of the wording – see below <p>In the early stages of dementia, and memory loss, many people are able to continue driving. (everyone wanted safely removed!)</p> <p>However, as the disease progresses driving will eventually become dangerous. (not sure about continue to drive at the end of both sentences....so have removed it and put a full stop after dangerous)</p> <p>If you are worried about someone’s driving, being ready to act when the time comes is essential.</p> <p>There are typical warning signs to look out for:</p> <p>Confusion and hesitation at traffic lights and intersections</p> <p>Struggling with driving procedures that were once easy and natural</p> <p>Scrapes or dents on the car, or surrounding objects</p> <p>Bad judgment calls and near misses</p> <p>Getting lost in familiar places</p> <p>If you have noticed any of these incidents occurring frequently, this could indicate a real risk to the safety of others and the individual. (last bit deleted)</p> <p>Having a conversation with the person about your concerns may feel overwhelming. It is important to consider the most effective ways to address this difficult conversation.</p>	<p>from In White Space</p>
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There are various approaches that may help. Go to the next film clip for more info

- Discussion about the key information that needs to be included in the carer conversation film clip:

Choosing the right time and the right environment to bring the topic up	<i>Find out persons understanding of their ability to drive</i>
Be straight forward and respectful	<i>Pre conversation thinking</i>
Avoid 'you' messages and blaming	
Use 'I' messages	
Ask questions like: 'Have your driving habits altered?' or 'How do you feel about your driving?'	<i>How they feel about driving now</i>
It could mean re-connecting with friends and family	<i>Keep your car for others to use</i>
Leaving driving on a positive note – with a good driving record	
Making your own decision is empowering	
Acknowledge the loss and grief – something else you are losing	<i>Strategies to deal with the loss and grief</i>
Focus on responsibility – the safety of yourself and the community	<i>Leaving driving on a positive note</i>
Consider the persons background – how important is driving to them? How much do they value driving? How closely is it attached to their identity?	<i>Improve information re: training and conversation</i>

Project Officer report

- Footprints through the Clutter - A one day training package developing skills to understand and support people experiencing Hoarding and Squalor in South Australia will be held on Thursday 19 May at Woodcroft Neighbourhood Centre.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SA Collaborative Projects Symposium, Community Aged Care - Supporting the System, Supporting Each Other will be held on 1 July at South Adelaide football club. • Australian Gerontology Association Conference will be held on Friday 1 May at Ridley Centre, Adelaide Showgrounds. • Better Practice Project is delivering a wellness program on 10 May, numbers are limited. 	
Information Sharing	<p>Kate (ECH) - Happy Valley centre based respite is full and they are still looking for a venue for the Victor Harbour program as the current space is too small.</p> <p>Terry (Onkaparinga Respite) – Low level dementia, spots available in social groups.</p> <p>Gill (Resthaven) – Vacancies at Ridgway House for overnight respite.</p>	

Next meeting date: 7 June 2016

Time: 2.00 - 4.00 pm, Venue: Committee Room, City of Mitcham