
2022 Isolation to Inclusion Challenge

Event Report

April 2022

Author: Supporting Inclusion through Intergenerational Partnerships Team



Event Overview

The Isolation to Inclusion Challenge event was held over two days on February 5 and 12, 2022. This event was designed to consult with the community to identify barriers and co-create solutions on how to improve community inclusion of people living with dementia and their care partners. Identified solutions will be provided with support through funding, administration, and access to networks and resources to help develop a more inclusive community across the Region of Waterloo. The community-led solutions are intended to begin testing in the spring or fall of 2022.

Event attendance was open to secondary and post-secondary students, people living with dementia, care partners, community members, youth, and older adult service providers.

The following key areas of interest were identified to explore as potential solutions to create a more inclusive community for people living with dementia:

- **Community Hub**
- **Advocacy Campaign on Awareness and Impact of Social Isolation on People Living with Dementia and their Care Partners**
- **Promotion and Development of Educational and Training Opportunities**

Event Design and Outcome

Using a Design Thinking process, event attendees were divided into four teams where they collaborated, guided by a facilitator, to elicit key issues affecting people living with dementia and their care partners.

Each design team was presented with the same problem definition, which was “**How might we increase inclusion for people living with dementia and their care partners in our community?**”

Summarized below are some of the themes that were generated by each design team:

Design Team Yellow	Design Team Pink
<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Increased communication● Connections with past and present● Feelings of belonging and being valued● Co-design of programs and education opportunities	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Dementia-friendly businesses and services● Education and resource development● Co-design opportunities● Care partner support
Design Team Teal	Design Team Purple
<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Generating dementia awareness in the community utilizing different communication methods● Cultural diversity● Group-based activities and programs	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Care partner support● Increased inclusion for people living with dementia without adequate support● Group-based physical activities and programming

What’s next?

A **community hub**. The [SIIP website](#) will be the location of a resource depository that can be utilized by community-dwelling older adults living with dementia, care partners, community members, and the general public. The goal of the community hub is to help promote the inclusion of people living with dementia by encouraging involvement in the community and providing an accessible location to share and promote resources.

Creation of an advocacy **campaign on awareness and the impact of social isolation on people living with dementia and their care partners**. Various communication modalities will be used to broaden awareness of the impact of social isolation on people living with dementia and care partners. Resources and toolkits will be available in a singular location, the community hub on the SIIP website, for ease of access. Newly developed resources will be co-designed with an advisory group and people living with dementia, in order to effectively meet their needs.

Promotion and development of courses for **education and training**. We will help contribute to creating dementia-friendly communities through easily accessible training opportunities that can be utilized by the general public as well as care partners. Educational resources and training courses/certificates that are currently available will be promoted via the community hub on the SIIP website.

Stay tuned to [our website](#) to check out news and see resource updates as they happen!


Authorship



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