

Briefing for Organisations about

People with dementia help Covid-19 volunteers by creating simple and free guide and video resources

People with dementia have decided to make a difference to benefit other people in the community by sharing their lived experiences, highlighting the unique challenges they face in the new world of self-isolation and social-distancing. Short videos and a simple guide they made enable Covid 19 volunteers across the UK to understand and meet the needs of people living with dementia.

The videos and guide aim to raise awareness of:

- the needs and preferences of people living with dementia in the community.
- how small actions and a friendly attitude can make big impacts to help people live well with dementia during self-isolation and social distancing.
- stigma and stereotypes about people with dementia, how they live and their needs.

Innovations in Dementia are asking community groups and organisations to share these resources through their networks. It's hoped that volunteers who watch the videos will feel increased confidence about interacting with people with dementia, even without having to go on a longer training or awareness-raising session.

The set of four films covers:

- Setting things up
- Transport
- Delivering things
- Keeping in touch.

View the videos and guide for free at:

<http://www.innovationsindementia.org.uk/the-coronavirus-situation/>

Organisations can endorse these resources and be featured on the Innovations in Dementia web page.

People can find out more about living with dementia in the lockdown at our Dementia Diaries site:

<https://dementiadiaries.org/> People with dementia can add their own diaries to the site.

Notes for Editors

- Innovations in Dementia is a not-for-profit Community Interest Company. The co-directors combine many years' experience of working alongside people with dementia.
- The Covid-19 response videos for volunteers and keyworkers are at <http://www.innovationsindementia.org.uk/the-coronavirus-situation/> in the section 'Tips to share with a volunteer...'. There are links for the guide and each video.
- Dementia Diaries is a UK-wide project that brings together people's diverse experiences of living with dementia as a series of audio diaries. It serves as a public record and a personal archive that documents the views, reflections and day-to-day lives of people living with dementia, with the aim of prompting dialogue and changing attitudes. <https://dementiadiaries.org/>. Anyone living with dementia can record a diary. It has a themed section of Coronavirus diaries <https://dementiadiaries.org/tag/coronavirus>
- Dementia Diaries blog about life in the lockdown <http://www.innovationsindementia.org.uk/2020/04/a-month-of-lockdown/>
- People with dementia involved in creating these resources are available for interviews, live or recorded. For more information and to arrange an interview please contact Philly Hare, Co-Director, Innovations in Dementia philly@myid.org.uk or 07932 995620 or Lindsey Ambrose, Volunteer, Innovations in Dementia demiambrose@virginmedia.com or 0730 615 2339.