

Dementia and Cancer Together Project

A Collaborative Approach to Holistic Patient Care

Partnership between:

- Harrogate and District Foundation Trust
- Dementia Forward
- Leeds Beckett University

Funded & supported by West Yorkshire and Harrogate Cancer Alliance



Evidence & Why

This initiative puts evidence-based recommendations into practical, patient-centred solutions, including research by Professor Laura Ashley and her team at Leeds Beckett University.

- ▶ Dementia complicates cancer care: diagnosis, treatment, autonomy
- ▶ Harrogate; significantly higher rate of those estimated to have dementia diagnosed when compared with England 75% vs 67.4% (*NY JSNA 2021*)
- ▶ Only 29% of patients felt emotionally supported post-treatment (*NCPES results 2023*)
- ▶ Improving experience of care for patients with both dementia and cancer
- ▶ Holistic, person-centred care through collaboration
- ▶ Reduced inequalities in cancer/dementia care

Key Caregiver Voices



“Nobody involved with dementia mentioned the cancer, and vice versa.”



“Better integration of secondary care services would make the biggest difference.”



“It’s almost like a double grief... someone with knowledge of both conditions would help.”

What we set out to achieve

Empower

- Empower patients and carers to access psychosocial and practical support

Improve

- Improve staff knowledge and confidence

Deliver

- Deliver seamless, integrated, personalised care

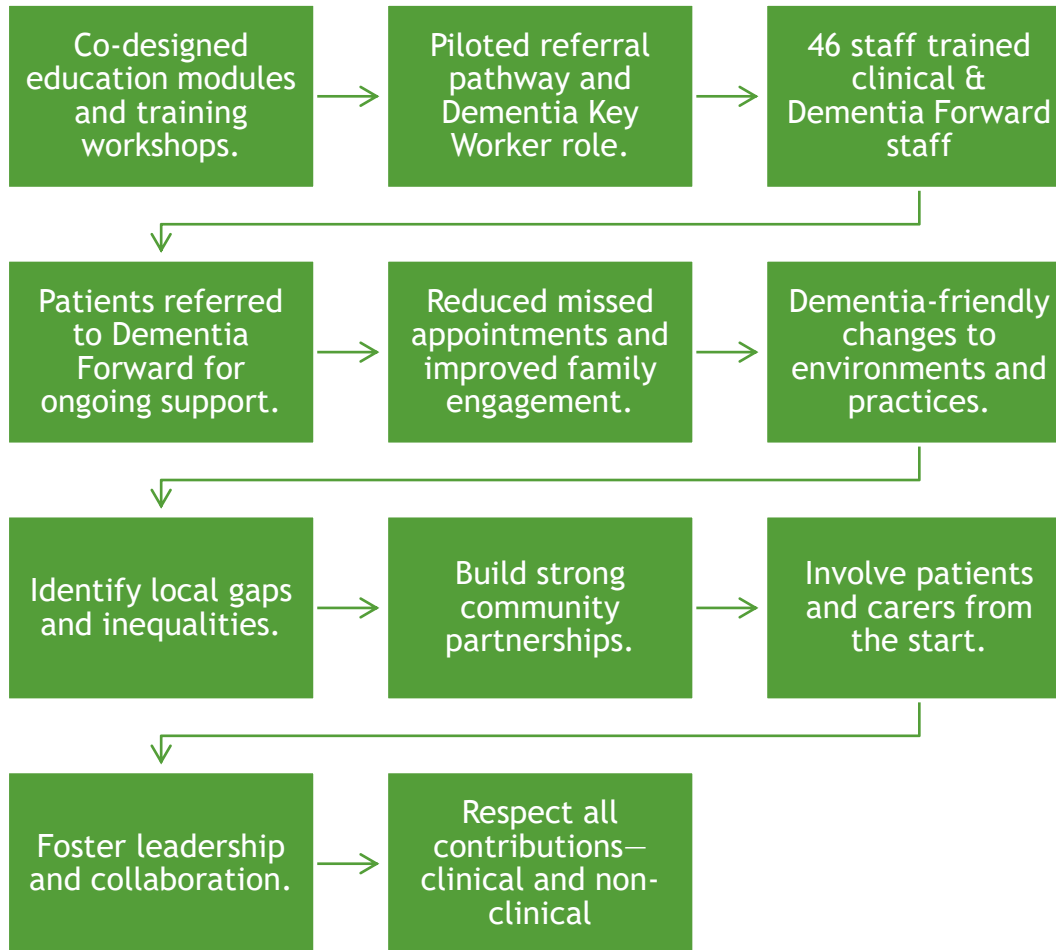
Build

- Build a connected, skilled, and confident workforce

Case Study



End Results



Sustainability

-  Continued collaboration with Dementia Forward
-  Referral pathway embedded in Harrogate Community model
-  Annual training and updates
-  Strengthened links across primary, secondary, and community care
-  Model adaptable for other regions

Thank You

▶ Any Questions?