



Alzheimer Nederland

A different approach to a dementia day service

Learning from the Dutch experience



Some facts

- Estimated number of people with dementia is 270.000; 70.000 do not have a diagnosis.
- About 10.000 people in the age group of 40 to 60 year suffer from dementia.
- Most people live at home (80%). Total number living in nursing or residential homes is 54.000.
- Of those people who are diagnosed and living at home only half of them use formal care.
- Formal care: home care, day services and respite care (sitting services, short breaks).



Services by Alzheimer Nederland

- Alzheimer Helpline: 3000 calls in a year.
- Alzheimer Cafés: monthly gathering in 128 cities.
- Supported holiday programme: 80 couples.
- Buddy project for younger people: 20 people.
- Nearly 50 regional chapters who deliver a variety of services; contact groups, support groups, sitting services, befriending et cetera.
- In the near future: internet therapy for carers



Examples of a different approach

- Day service on a 'care farm'
 - Day service on a 'care ship'
 - Project 'Painting and dementia'.
-
- Shift from traditional 'one size fits all' to individualized and from passive to active.



Alzheimer Nederland

Day service on a 'care farm'





Alzheimer Nederland

Day service on a 'care farm'





Day service on a 'care farm'

- These services are set up by lay people (from farmers to nurses who leave their job)
- Despite the private funding these services have to meet the rules and regulations.
- Some formal relationship with a formal care service (mainly nursing homes) is established.
- People who visit these day services and their families are very satisfied.
- A growing interest in setting up these kind of services, not only in rural areas.



Alzheimer Nederland

Day service on a 'care ship'





Alzheimer Nederland

Day service on a 'care ship'





Day service on a 'care ship'

- Only available in those regions which have a long tradition in this area.
- High investment: boat, skilled staff and costs for transportation.
- Safety measures are needed with special requirements during boat trips (once a week).
- People who visit these day services and their families are very satisfied.
- Appealing concept which might be an inspiration for other 'work span' related services.



Project Painting and dementia





Alzheimer Nederland

Project Painting and dementia





Project Painting and dementia

- We ran two pilot projects in which we tested a manual and collected photos and video material
- Press attention around the exposition and auction. Production of a calendar.
- Produced a tool kit for nursing homes and day services.
- Training day for occupational therapists and professional artists.
- Sponsoring by an internet shop and we send a letter of recommendation to local sponsors.







