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EMPOWER DEMENTIA NETWORK PLUS

Dear EMPOWER Colleagues,

What a long way we have come since the launch of our network in April this year! Thank you for your support and engagement. As we approach the end of the year, we wanted to share some highlights from 2024 and look forward to some exciting things to come in 2025.

New Staff

We are delighted to welcome Andy Bradshaw as our network manager and Laiba Ahmad and Stefanny Guerra as our research associates.

Growing Membership

Our network has grown since our launch. We have welcomed some excellent partners including Rowcroft Hospice and House of Memories. We look forward to completing and sharing our partner directory so you can find out more about each other and the amazing work you do.

Co-creation Work

Our work to co-create our 'manifesto' or 'bold vision' for the network began with a wonderful event in October which many of you attended. Following this event our incredible community partners have been running their own events to ensure we hear the voices of people with dementia and their carers from across the UK about what matters to them. We also have an online co-creation event planned with our lived experts group PLEDGE in December. We will continue these engagement events next year. Thank you to everyone who has events planned we can't wait to see what you create!

Having a clear vision for our network shaped by people with dementia and carers from across the UK is essential to driving our work. As the network grows, anyone who wishes to join the network will be asked to sign-up to our manifesto.

LOOKING FORWARD TO 2025

Website

Work has started on our EMPOWER website which we will launch early in the new year. The website will allow you to connect with everyone in the network and will be a place to showcase our work and share resources.

Policy Lab

Our policy lab will take place in March next year. This is where we will translate our manifesto or vision for inclusive dementia care into calls to action.

Community Partner Networking Event

We will be organising a networking event for our community partners in June next year. This will be a chance to share good practice and explore opportunities to work together.

Funding Opportunities

Next year we will be launching our funding opportunities. Funds will be available for small projects that promote excellent and inclusive dementia care. Funds will be given to community partners working in collaboration with researchers. So start thinking about your ideas! We will share more details of the funding and how to apply in 2025.

We would like to take the opportunity to wish you all the best for 2025 and thank you again for your support.

Catherine, Emma, Andy, Laiba, and Stefanny