

Alzheimer Society

CALGARY

BEST FRIENDS™ APPROACH

**Associate Trainer Program
Workshop**

2006-2007



Dementia Care Training Centre

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Best Friends™ Approach Associate Trainer Program

23 Participants in 2006-2007

How do participants plan to use the Best Friends™ Approach?

- I'm excited to help others learn how to effectively communicate with those with dementia. To help staff and family as well as residents deal with the disease and it's changes.
- Apply to "mini" workshops with staff 1/2hr segments.
- I plan to do workshops and in-services to incorporate the Best Friends Approach to the caregivers on the dementia care floor first and then follow up with all the rest of the staff.
- Modeling to other staff-possibly training others.
- Will present @ staff meeting @ work and within the Yukon as a whole if there is a request to do so.
- Will do 1/2 - 1 hr workshops "KNACK" for all staff.
- In my daily work

Overall impression of the <i>Best Friends™ Approach</i> Associate Trainer Program:			
Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
0%	0%	12%	88%

Why? A few responses:

- Thoughtful, considerate, educational & thorough.
- Because it is person-centered.
- Terrific information in dealing with people with dementia.
- Fantastic approach to all aspects of life, not just in relation to Alzheimer's disease.
- Understandable, well presented. Exceptional material.
- So exciting and refreshing to have client centred philosophy.
- Good resources, effectively presented, clear language-good use of acronyms and learning activities. Nice package.

100% of the participants would recommend this training program to others

Best Friends™ Approach Workshop

137 Participants in 2006-2007

What key message will participants take away from this workshop? A few responses:

- Alzheimer Disease is different for every person - with strategies for families/caregivers can help manage.
- Life story & it's importance - how to use in communication, activities. The qualities to use when working with dementia patients are the same as you'd have for a best friend.
- What KNACK means.
- That I may be on the right path.
- How to treat and to care for people with Dementia with respect and caring for their feelings etc.
- What it might be like to have dementia.
- People are still people, treat them as such.
- To have compassion for people and be supportive.
- How to communicate with Alzheimer people.
- All interactions are "important"
- Communication-more eye contact and space.
- The star fish story it was very inspirational.
- Reframing-life stages.
- There is a difference between Alzheimers and dementia.
- How important that the life experiences of a person relates to how one with Alzheimers reacts to everything.
- How it affects the brain in all 4 parts was interesting.

Overall impression of the *Best Friends™ Approach Workshop*:

Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
0%	0%	39%	61%

Why? A few responses:

- I believe in the approach.
- It makes, care, communication, etc., person focused instead of task focused.
- I am going back to work re-energized, enthused & excited, with many new ideas.
- Made me feel more success in what I do as a person in life.
- Lots of good information and plenty of useful ideas; on how to communicate.
- Taught me how to deal better with different situations.
- But it could be longer and more in depth of topics discussed (recommendation)
- Because help to think positively, and positive thinking makes to live our lives easily.
- The instructors gave point information of different techniques to handle people.
- A lot of useful info and easy to understand.

100% of the participants would recommend this workshop to others.