

DEMENTIA CARERS COUNT FACTSHEET FOR AMBASSADORS

For further information and if you are happy to share, “like” or retweet, this is us on social media:

Website address: dementiacarers.org.uk
Facebook/Twitter: @DemCarersCount
Instagram: @dementiacarerscount
You can also find us on LinkedIn

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or the marketing team marketing@dementiacarers.org.uk

UK dementia & dementia carer statistics

-  There are 700,000 family carers of people with dementia and this will rise in line with the number of people with dementia – currently 850,000 and expected to rise to 1.6m in 2040.
-  Two thirds of people with dementia live at home and most are supported by unpaid carers [carers.org.uk 2018] and the care provided by family and friends to people with dementia is worth £13.9bn each year.
-  The economic impact of dementia is greater than cancer and heart disease combined.

Being a carer is demanding and challenging, carers often ignore their own needs and support across the country is patchy.

DCC supports family, friends and partners across the UK who are looking after someone with dementia.

Dementia Carers Count’s history

We have worked to reach unmet health needs for over 150 years

-  Our charity is 158 years old and we are here to stay - we have existed for so long because we are forward-thinking and willing to adapt to the current needs of society.
-  Our parent charity, The Royal Surgical Aid Society, was founded in 1862 to enable those unable to afford health services to continue to work. The charity provided crutches, glasses and other practical items, until the development of the NHS in 1948.
-  RSAS acquired its first care homes for elderly residents in 1951 and was renamed as Age Care in 2001.
-  In 2012, RSAS’s 150th anniversary, we took the decision to support the strong need for family and friends caring for people with dementia.
-  Our focus, since 2015, is on family carers of people with dementia.
-  Dementia Carers Count was officially launched in 2018.

Dementia Carers Count's work

-  DCC is the expert in supporting family and friends caring for someone with dementia.
-  We run three-day, residential courses and one-day courses for family and friends caring for someone with dementia.
-  We invest in a research programme, led by Tracey Williamson (Dementia Carers Count's Professor of Family Care in Dementia) in partnership with the University of Worcester's Association for Dementia Studies. We identify carers' experiences, needs and outcomes to continually inform and develop what we offer.
-  Our Virtual Carers Centre has been set up to provide online practical support, information, and resources via our website and social media channels.
-  Our 1-1 calls and coaching provide personalised support and guidance that is not met by online information.

Dementia Carers Count Courses and some recent statistics

-  Our three-day courses tick every single recommendation in the 'supporting carers' section of the NICE Dementia Guidelines 2018.
-  We provide one-day courses on specific topics that reflect carers' needs and refresher courses for those who have previously experienced our services.
-  Our services are led by highly skilled, qualified health and care practitioners with a wealth of relevant backgrounds such as health, social care and coaching.
-  Family and friends caring for people with dementia have told us that our services are life-changing and make a lasting difference to them.
-  We have developed our services in partnership with carers and they are based on evidence from thorough research into carers' needs.
-  69% of carers who attend our courses are of working age. We aim to help them remain in or return to work.
-  58% of attendees on our three-day courses are adult children and 32% are spouse/partners of a person with dementia.
-  73% of attendees describe themselves as white British (compared to 80% of the general UK population).
-  60% of attendees come from regions outside of the areas from which our courses are delivered, demonstrating that carers are willing to travel to receive quality services.
-  Over 400 carers across the UK have experienced our services to date.
-  Husbands, wives, partners, daughters, sons, daughters-in-law, and grandchildren from 18-82 years have attended.

Our Dementia Carers Centre

-  There will be a national centre, accessible from all over the UK.
-  The location for our residential – and other – courses and services.
-  It will be a safe space, a sanctuary, a haven, a place where carers can drop their shoulders and relax, and where everyone will understand and empathise with what they are going through.
-  It will be a centre of excellence for education and skills development for family carers of people with dementia.
-  We will demonstrate what good dementia-friendly design should look like outside of a traditional care setting.
-  Following the flagship centre, we will develop further regional centres over the next ten years.