Questionnaire:  
Local Government

Local government can become dementia friendly by training staff who interact with the public such as adult protection, city council members, city inspectors, city planners, emergency responders, human services staff, police/sheriff, public health staff, and public transportation workers on how to recognize the signs of dementia, how to communicate effectively with people who have dementia and their families and by creating dementia friendly physical environments.

City/county ordinances, policies, and emergency preparedness plans are also important considerations for a community striving to become dementia friendly.

The information gathered in this questionnaire is part of the full Community Needs Assessment. Each question is cross-referenced to a corresponding question in the full assessment. This interview can be completed by anyone on the action team, particularly someone with contacts in city and county government.

Interviewing Local Government

1. Develop a list of all of the local government (city/county) offices and departments involved with ordinances, policies, and emergency preparedness plans in your community. Include adult protection, city council members, city inspectors, city planners, emergency responders, human services staff, police/sheriff, public health staff and public transportation workers. Use resources such as city and county websites and the government section of local phone. A directory of city officials can be found at: http://www.lmc.org/page/1/city-directory.jsp
2. Prioritize and determine which offices and departments to contact.
3. Identify the appropriate contact(s) in these offices and departments.
4. Keep track of your data sources, including who you interview and their responses to the questions.
5. Create a code for each questionnaire, using the sector abbreviation and a number. For example, local government questionnaires would be G1 for the first interviewee, G2 for the second, etc.
6. Use the Pre-Interview Email Template or Call Script to introduce yourself, the project and to schedule an interview.
7. Gather and familiarize yourself with the materials you will share at the interview: questionnaire, dementia-friendly community infographic, and Know the 10 Signs.
8. Conduct the interviews. Questions 1 – 11 and 14-16 should be asked of all interviewees. Question 12 is for interviews with city council members and city planners. Question 13 is for interviews with city council members, city planners and transportation staff.
9. After your interview, submit the completed questionnaire to the action team member coordinating the synthesis.
10. Send a thank you to the interviewee.

**Interviewer/Your Name Date of Interview**

**Community Member/Interviewee Interviewee Code: G**

**Name**

**Title**

**Address**

**Phone**

**Email**

Awareness

Question 1

Have you had personal experience with someone with dementia? \_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_ No

(Q1a in full assessment)

Question 2

Have you had professional experience with someone with dementia? \_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_ No

(Q1b in full assessment)

*Interviewer Tip: Share the dementia-friendly community infographic and describe the dementia- friendly efforts occurring in your community.*

Question 3

What do you see as our community’s main strengths for addressing the needs of people living with dementia and their families? (Q2 in full assessment)

Question 4

What do you see as our community’s main gaps for addressing the needs of people living with dementia and their families? (Q3 in full assessment)

Question 5

What resources and organizations would you suggest to individuals who may show signs of dementia? (Q4 in full assessment)

Question 6

This question asks about awareness of the resources and organizations that can help support people with dementia and their families. (Q5 in full assessment)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Level of Current Activity** | **Priority for Action** |
| Indicate your level of agreement with this statement: Our community currently has adequate awareness of the resources and organizations available to support people with dementia and their families. | Indicate your level of agreement with this statement: Raising community awareness of the resources and organizations that can help support people with dementia and their families should be a priority for action in our community. |
| 1. Strongly disagree  2. Disagree  3. Neither agree or disagree  4. Agree  5. Strongly agree  0. Do not know | 1. Strongly disagree  2. Disagree  3. Neither agree or disagree  4. Agree  5. Strongly agree  0. Do not know |

*Interviewer Tip: Distribute education on Alzheimer’s disease and dementia; e.g., Know the 10 Signs. Share listing of the resources and organizations that can help support people with dementia and their families in your community.*

Question 7

This question asks about your level of knowledge of the warning signs of dementia.

10 warning signs: 1) Memory loss that disrupts daily life. 2) Challenges in planning or solving problems. 3) Difficulty completing familiar tasks at home, at work or at leisure. 4) Confusion with time or place. 5) Trouble understanding visual images and spatial relationships. 6) New problems with words in speaking or writing. 7) Misplacing things and losing the ability to retrace steps. 8) Decreased or poor judgment. 9) Withdrawal from work or social activities. 10) Changes in mood and personality. (Q6 in full assessment)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Level of Dementia Knowledge** | **Priority for Action** |
| Indicate your level of knowledge of the 10 warning signs of dementia. | Indicate your level of agreement with this statement: Increasing our community members’ knowledge about the warning signs of dementia should be a priority for action in our community. |
| 1. Very low  2. Low  3. Moderate  4. High  5. Very high  0. Do not know | 1. Strongly disagree  2. Disagree  3. Neither agree or disagree  4. Agree  5. Strongly agree  0. Do not know |

Question 8

This question asks about your skills for interacting with people who have dementia. (Skills for interacting with people with dementia include knowing when to repeat information or suggesting a family member should participate in conversations.) (Q7 in full assessment)

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| --- | --- |
| **Level of Interaction Skills** | **Priority for Action** |
| Indicate your level of agreement with this statement: I have good skills for interacting with people with dementia. | Indicate your level of agreement with this statement: Increasing our community members’ skills for interacting with people with dementia should be a priority for action in our community. |
| 1. Strongly disagree  2. Disagree  3. Neither agree or disagree  4. Agree  5. Strongly agree  0. Do not know | 1. Strongly disagree  2. Disagree  3. Neither agree or disagree  4. Agree  5. Strongly agree  0. Do not know |

Question 9

Our community may have diverse and underserved populations that would benefit from having resources tailored for people with dementia and their families (meaning programs or services that meet the needs of diverse populations). (Question 8 in full assessment)

*Interviewer Tip: Share relevant community demographic information.*

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| --- | --- |
| **Level of Current Activity** | **Priority for Action** |
| Indicate your level of agreement with this statement: Our community currently has adequate dementia-related resources tailored to our diverse and underserved populations. | Indicate your level of agreement with this statement: Increasing dementia-related resources tailored to our diverse and underserved populations should be a priority for action in our community. |
| 1. Strongly disagree  2. Disagree  3. Neither agree or disagree  4. Agree  5. Strongly agree  0. Do not know | 1. Strongly disagree  2. Disagree  3. Neither agree or disagree  4. Agree  5. Strongly agree  0. Do not know |

Question 10

Does your office/department provide its employees with education and training about recognizing dementia and effective dementia-friendly communication skills? (Q9 in full assessment)

\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_ Unsure

If yes, list the trainings and briefly describe (title, content).

|  |
| --- |
| **Education and trainings offered (title, content)** |
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|  |

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| --- | --- |
| **Level of Current Activity** | **Priority for Action** |
| Indicate your level of agreement with this statement: Our department/office currently provides its employees with adequate education and training on recognizing dementia and effective dementia-friendly communication skills. | Indicate your level of agreement with this statement: Increased employee education and training on dementia and effective dementia-friendly communication skills should be a priority for action in our community. |
| 1. Strongly disagree  2. Disagree  3. Neither agree or disagree  4. Agree  5. Strongly agree  0. Do not know | 1. Strongly disagree  2. Disagree  3. Neither agree or disagree  4. Agree  5. Strongly agree  0. Do not know |

Question 11

Has your department/office assessed whether its physical environment (e.g. service centers and government buildings) and public spaces (e.g. parks, outdoor recreation areas, side walks and streets) are dementia friendly? (Q10 in full assessment)

\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_ Unsure

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Level of Current Activity** | **Priority for Action** |
| Indicate your level of agreement with this statement: Our community currently ensures that physical environments and public spaces are dementia friendly. | Indicate your level of agreement with this statement: Making the community’s physical environments and public spaces dementia-friendly should be a priority for action in our community. |
| 1. Strongly disagree  2. Disagree  3. Neither agree or disagree  4. Agree  5. Strongly agree  0. Do not know | 1. Strongly disagree  2. Disagree  3. Neither agree or disagree  4. Agree  5. Strongly agree  0. Do not know |

Government: Disaster Planning

This question is for interviews with city council members and city planners.

Question 12

Does our community’s disaster plan include contingencies for serving people with dementia? (Q19 in full assessment)

\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_ No

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| --- | --- |
| **Level of Current Activity** | **Priority for Action** |
| Indicate your level of agreement with this statement: Our community has adequate disaster planning contingencies for serving people with dementia. | Indicate your level of agreement with this statement: Improving our community’s disaster planning contingencies for people with dementia should be a priority for action in our community. |
| 1. Strongly disagree  2. Disagree  3. Neither agree or disagree  4. Agree  5. Strongly agree  0. Do not know | 1. Strongly disagree  2. Disagree  3. Neither agree or disagree  4. Agree  5. Strongly agree  0. Do not know |

Transportation

This question is for interviews with city council members, city planners and transportation staff.

Question 13

Which of the following transportation options currently are available in our community for people with dementia? (Q20 in full assessment)

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **Transportation services** | **Currently available** | **Which organization(s) provide  these programs?** |
| Individual options - volunteer based  (e.g., community agency or church drivers, RSVP/retired and senior volunteer program, veterans) | \_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_ No |  |
| Individual options – public or commercial (e.g., bus, clinic shuttle, light rail, taxi cab, van) | \_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_ No |  |
| Group options (e.g., pick up services by senior or community center, adult day service) | \_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_ No |  |
| Other (please specify) | \_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_ No |  |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Level of Current Activity** | **Priority for Action** |
| Indicate your level of agreement with this statement: Our community currently provides adequate transportation options for people with dementia. | Indicate your level of agreement with this statement: Increasing transportation options for people with dementia should be a priority for action in our community. |
| 1. Strongly disagree  2. Disagree  3. Neither agree or disagree  4. Agree  5. Strongly agree  0. Do not know | 1. Strongly disagree  2. Disagree  3. Neither agree or disagree  4. Agree  5. Strongly agree  0. Do not know |

Question 14

Would you be interested in helping us create a dementia-friendly community? (Q26 in full assessment, track in Master Contact List)

\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_ Unsure

Suggestions:

* Serve on the action team
* Public endorsement/testimonial
* Donate resources, e.g., meeting space, advertising, personnel, funds, etc.
* Other:

Question 15

What organizations/groups in our community should take part in creating a dementia-friendly community? (Q27 in full assessment, track in Master Contact List)

Question 16

Should I get in touch with you again to let you know how the project is progressing and how you can best help to ensure our community is becoming dementia friendly? (Q28 in full assessment, track in Master Contact List)

\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_ No

Thank you for your time and support.