

# A Guide to the Shared Lives Dementia Project



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**Shared Lives**  
South East Wales

**Working in Partnership:**

Caerphilly, Newport, Merthyr Tydfil,  
Monmouthshire, Blaenau Gwent & Torfaen

# What is the Shared Lives Dementia Project?

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**The Shared Lives Dementia Project offers people living with dementia the opportunity to access flexible and personalised daytime support and overnight respite stays in a friendly, homely environment, either in their local community or a neighbouring area across South East Wales.**

Once a referral has been received a Shared Lives Worker will be allocated who will visit the person to gather information for their Personal Plan. This Personal Plan will provide our carers with a better understanding of who the person is, the activities they would like to undertake, their care and support needs, and how they would prefer this support to be provided.

We will then use this information to match the person with the most appropriate Shared Lives carer and arrange introductions to help them get to know each other and ensure they have the right skills to provide the support. The person will then be linked with their chosen carer which provides reassurance and continuity of care with the same person.

# The Shared Lives Dementia Project

## Aims to:

- Provide early intervention to people living with dementia by supporting them throughout their dementia journey to maintain links in their local area by accessing community activities of their choosing.
- Prevent loneliness and social isolation by supporting people to maintain skills, interests and social links in order to live as well as possible for as long as possible with dementia.
- Enable people to remain in their own homes for longer by supporting family carers to continue caring for their relatives and prevent carer breakdown.
- Prevent hospital admissions, escalating care and support needs, and support hospital discharge.
- Offer respite in the Shared Lives carer's home as an alternative to residential care.
- Support people with end of life plans.

## Who is it for?

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Our Project is for people living with dementia who would benefit from receiving flexible, friendly and personalised support in their local community or a neighbouring area across South East Wales.

Our Project also helps to support families and primary carers by providing them with a break from their caring role, with peace of mind that their relative is being well cared for by an approved Shared Lives carer of their choice.

# Who are the Shared Lives Carers?

Our Shared Lives carers are recruited from the local community and go through a thorough assessment and approval process. They receive regular training and supervision from the Shared Lives team. They are paid for the arrangements they provide and offer support either in their own home or they use their home as a base and provide support in the local community.

Shared Lives carers come from all walks of life, have a genuine interest in helping others, and a common goal of providing positive support to individuals in their community.

The Dementia Project is delivered by the South East Wales Shared Lives Scheme, with Caerphilly County Borough Council as the lead authority. The Project is funded by Welsh Government via the Gwent Regional Partnership Board.

**To find out more about the project you can:**

Phone: **01443 864784** or email: **adultp@caerphilly.gov.uk**

Go to our webpage:

**[www.caerphilly.gov.uk/sharedlives](http://www.caerphilly.gov.uk/sharedlives)**

## Working in Partnership:



Bwrdd Partneriaeth  
Rhanbarthol Gwent  
Gwent Regional  
Partnership Board



Ariennir gan  
Lywodraeth Cymru  
Funded by  
Welsh Government

