Day 1 Program - Thursday October 30 2014

0915  Welcome & Introduction
0930  Diagnosis dynamics

A pivotal & potentially devastating first step on the dementia journey is the initial diagnosis. Drawing on the presenter’s vast clinical experience this session will discuss the contemporary diagnostic landscape & the framework to best manage the days & weeks post diagnosis for the person, their family & the health care team involved.

Associate Professor Mark Yates, Consultant Geriatrician at Ballarat Health Services, Clinical Consultant of CADMS (Cognitive, Assessment and Dementia Management Service), Project Head of Cognitive Impairment Identifier Program, Director of Clinical Studies - Deakin University and Clinical Tutor at University of Melbourne.

1015  Enhanced Psychological Wellbeing for people living with dementia & their families

How are we recognising psychological symptoms in people living with dementia and supporting them and their families? Is there a clear process of identifying this need and are staff equipped with skills to recognise the symptoms? Do we factor psychological wellbeing into our service planning and delivery? This session will open up the topic and unpack the rewards and challenges inherent in this area.

Julie Bajic, Principal Psychologist - Founder Wise Care. B Psych (Hons), Grad Dip Psyc, MBA, MAPS, PhD Candidate.

1045  Morning tea, networking & trade expo

1115  Dementia Care in the Community Project: Access for Culturally & Linguistically Diverse Communities

People from CALD backgrounds face numerous barriers accessing healthcare services, including difficulties with language and a lack of knowledge of service systems. The lack of culturally and linguistically appropriate services and culturally appropriate assessment is a major impediment to the accurate diagnosis and treatment for dementia. Diagnosis of Dementia in CALD communities often occurs in the later stages of the disease as first contact with health professionals most often happens at a crisis point. This project establishes a new, inclusive model of community nursing care to facilitate healthcare access and improve the quality of life for culturally and linguistically diverse individuals living with dementia, their family and carers. The project addresses issues such as delayed diagnosis, misdiagnosis and inappropriate management of dementia, gaps in availability of dementia healthcare information, support services and difficulties navigating the system, inequities in access to dementia healthcare for culturally and linguistically diverse communities.

Jordan King, Specialist Dementia Nurse, RDNS Institute.

1200  Medications - revealing reviews from the HMR pharmacist

This session will highlight the findings & recommendations of our presenter’s extensive experience in conducting HMRs (Home Medicine Reviews). Areas covered will include clinical, management, quality & safety - providing important insights to improve your policies, processes & practices in relation to medication management & people living with dementia.

Alan Freedman, Accredited Consultant Pharmacist specializing in RMMR/HMR; B. Pharm, MPS, AACPA.

1245  Lunch, networking & trade expo

1345  Community Care, Palliative Care & Dementia - possibilities & pitfalls

This scenario poses a range of possibilities & pitfalls for the client, the family/friends & service providers/staff. This presentation will outline a framework for managing these challenges - with a foundation in evidence based practice & partnership principles. The presenter’s extensive clinical experience will provide anecdotes to further illuminate the discussion. A session to assist delegates/services improve & further develop their existing policies & practices.

Peter Jenkin, RN, NP, MN(NursPrac), MPH(C PallCare); Nurse Practitioner (Palliative Care), Resthaven Incorporated, SA.

1430  Hospital Admissions Risk Program (HARP) - let me tell you a story …

Reducing the risk of hospital admission should be a high priority for all community care service providers & staff. This presentation will seek to illuminate the challenges of & responses to achieving this. So what do we know? What are the emerging trends/issues especially in relation to people with dementia? How do we better integrate services & information? Where to from here?

Alex Ehlerl, Nurse, HARP Complex Care Service, Austin Health, Vic.

1500  Afternoon tea, networking & trade expo

1530  Stories from the Field

These unique & diverse ‘stories from the field’ are designed to engage, enlighten & motivate!

1615  Close Day One
Day 2 Program - Friday October 31 2014

0915  Welcome & Introduction

“Aging is not lost youth but a new stage of opportunity and strength” Betty Friedan (1921-2006)

Using her work at the Active Living Centre for Jewish Care in Victoria, the presenter will explore the need for & benefits of taking a very proactive approach to the health & wellbeing of older adults. This approach seeks to minimise risk, inform, prepare & support older adults & their families/friends. There is a clear emphasis on getting “ahead of the game”, not chasing it. Case studies will be utilised to illuminate the discussion & provide practice based insights.

Ellie Christensen, Occupational Therapist, Healthy Ageing Program, Jewish Care, Vic.

1015  Creating a “dementia-literate” society - the ANZ Bank’s Dementia Awareness Education Project

The education of the broader community regarding dementia is vital in enhancing the quality of life for people with dementia & their families. This presentation will examine the work being undertaken by the ANZ Bank nationally to educate their staff in all branches to have a better awareness & understanding of dementia - the aim being to enhance staff’s ability to recognise & support clients with dementia. Listen & learn about the challenges & rewards of this landmark project.

Judy Smith, Global Head of Health, Safety and Wellbeing, Australia and New Zealand Banking Group Ltd.

Morning tea, networking & trade expo

1115  Dementia Pathways Tool

The development of an online Dementia Pathways Tool was the result of a project supported by the Victorian Department of Health & Grampians Medicare Local. This session will reflect on the project/tool - its genesis, the pathway to the tool’s development, its structure & its practical application. The tool is both proactive & responsive in its “thinking” & seeks to provide a contemporary roadmap for quality, holistic, client-centered dementia care.

Carolyn Gargiulo, HACC Diversity Advisor, Victorian Department of Health.

1200  Social citizenship for people living with dementia through the arts

This presentation will explore the notion that through the arts people living with dementia can have their citizenship affirmed & strengthened. By participating in the arts, we all have the opportunity to look, learn, appreciate, engage, perform, respond and so much more. Is this opportunity still afforded to people with dementia & what are the potential risks & benefits?

Lenore de la Perrelle, Bachelor of Arts (Social Work), Masters (Pol Admin), MAASW; Senior Manager, Dementia & Learning Unit, ACH Group, SA.

1245  Lunch, networking & trade expo

1345  Dementia & Community Care - the challenge of managing staff safety

This session will put in to perspective the findings uncovered in the 2013 Home Care, Community Care & Outreach Staff Safety Survey. Within the context of increasing volumes of care being provided for clients in their homes - a growing segment of the Australian workforce is potentially exposed to challenging, aggressive or even violent behaviour from clients &/or families/friends. This session will discuss contextualised solutions for community service providers to effectively manage safety challenges, the need to empower staff who work alone to make better decisions about their safety, and the effectiveness of training that organisations provide to their staff.

Travis Holland, Managing Director, Holland Thomas & Associates.

Practice Nurses & Dementia Care

Practice nurses have a unique position & perspective in the service provision landscape. This presentation will explore the insights & ideas of a practice nurse based in regional Victoria. It will particularly focus on effective collaboration & connections between clients, families & other service providers.

Kellie Tobias, RN, Practice Nurse, Brooke Street Medical Centre, Woodend, Vic; Clinical Manager, New Aged Care.

1515  Concluding remarks/summation

1530  Close of conference