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Dementia in Rural Communities....

446,500

Australians living with dementia

Projected for 2026 (Dementia Australia, 2024)

1.7M

People involved in their care

Family members, friends, and unpaid carers supporting those with dementia (Dementia Australia)

Dementia is now the leading cause of death for women in Australia, and the second leading cause of death overall.

Quality of life depends on community understanding and inclusion — not just medical care.

Sources: Dementia Australia (2024), Australian Institute of Health and Welfare

It shows up in:

1

LOCAL STORE

Our local shops

Changes in memory and communication can affect shopping, paying and feeling comfortable.

2

SCHOOL

Our schools

Dementia affects families, carers and children – impacting learning, wellbeing and school communities.

3

Our sporting clubs

It can affect participation, volunteering and the strong connections that keep our clubs and communities thriving.

4

Our neighbour relationships

Understanding, patience and inclusion strengthen the bonds that make our community home.

2

1

The West Moreton Care Collaborative

Our Governance Structure



What It Is

A **values-based, intersectoral collaborative** connecting health, social care, and community organisations. Built on a co-designed action plan to create sustainable, community-centred change.

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The Collaborative’s Dementia Friendly Mission

Connect the Dots

Overcome fragmented services by linking volunteers, health professionals, and community groups under one shared vision.

Support Volunteer Initiatives

Champion volunteer-led dementia-friendly programs across the West Moreton region.

Sustain the Change

Build community-activated, lasting change — not just one-off events, but enduring cultural shifts.





Nonny Nu – the power of inclusion



A children's story that reflects the reality of dementia in a way that feels

- **human,**
- **relatable, and**
- **safe**

— created *by* the community, *for* the community.

When children understand dementia, they don't see difference — they see people.

Local Author & Illustrator

Cover designed by a local school student

Born from children sharing their favourite older person

Three Pillars of Change



Connectedness

Safe, inclusive spaces where people living with dementia and carers build confidence, belonging, and informal support networks

Guided by Dementia Australia's Dementia Friendly Communities framework

- Supported by DDWMPHN
- Co-designed with community
- Sustainable in community



Access to Knowledge

Clear information, local services, and confident navigation — so everyone can **live well in their community**



Awareness & Reducing Stigma

Stigma changes through connection, shared experience, and lived voices — not information alone





Intergenerational Roles in a Dementia-Friendly Future

Together, we create a community where people with dementia are **understood, included, and valued.**

Dementia-friendly communities have been shown to improve quality of life, reduce isolation, and build lasting relationships that make rights real for people with dementia and their families (Life Changes Trust, 2021).

When children, adults, and older people are all part of the same conversation, we create a shared understanding that spans the entire life course.

Three key areas:

- Intergenerational Strength
- Co-design creates ownership
- Local leadership matters

