

People with dementia – part of the community

Sabine Jansen, Ute Hauser, Saskia Weiß, Helga Schneider-Schelte

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Deutsche Alzheimer Gesellschaft e.V.
Selbsthilfe Demenz



Background

- People getting older
- Number of people with dementia is increasing
- More people live in single house holds
- Families do not live in same regions any more
- Support systems have no answer to people with dementia who live alone



Project of German Alzheimer Association: „Living alone with dementia – education in municipalities“

- Interviews with people who live alone
 - ⇔ analysis of their situations and needs
- Development of educational materials for different target groups (police officers, fire fighters, bank officers, sales persons, neighbourhood)
 - ⇔ Rasing awareness
- Publication of an handbook
 - ⇔ Supporting municapilities



Interviews: Needs and wishes of people with dementia

- Autonomy in familiar environment
- Maintaining and using resources
- Being helpful for other people
- Participation in community
- Control of own business
- Safety
- Better awareness and acceptance in public life



Living alone is possible, if ...

- there are suitable caring facilities (going to the people, not waiting for them) and personell continuity
- there is coordination of services
- Safety risks are minimized
- technical aid is usable

- it is possilbe to participate in social life (examples: church services, Alzheimer Cafés)



Living alone is no longer possible, if

- the person is going on in the disease or feel unsafe and alone
 - there are not enough supporting facilities in the municipalities or coordination is missing
- Decision for or against living alone can only be found in an individual case



Challenge for municipalities

- Dementia affects us all
 - Supporting voluntary structures
 - Building up necessary caring facilities
 - Raising awareness
 - More knowledge about dementia
 - Offering special education
- Important role of municipalities



Education in municipalities

- target groups -



Education materials includes:

- Basic information about dementia (symptoms, diagnosis, therapeutical options)
- Special knowledge for different target groups:
Communication and coping (case studies)
- Helpful adresses



More Information

Allein leben mit Demenz

Herausforderung für Kommunen

Allein lebende Demenzkranke kommen zu Wort

Schulung in der Kommune

Erfahrungen aus der Praxis



Deutsche Alzheimer Gesellschaft e.V.

Tel.: +49 30 2593795-0

E-Mail: info@deutsche-alzheimer.de

(DVD, Schutzgebühr: 10,- €) or

Contact:

Sabine.jansen@deutsche-alzheimer.de

