

Executive Summary: Coming Together to Support 2SLGBTQI People Living with Dementia and their Unpaid Primary Carers

What You Need to Know

The Coming Together to Support 2SLGBTQI People Living with Dementia and their Unpaid Primary Carers program was developed to address the unique challenges faced by 2SLGBTQI individuals with dementia and their care partners. This national initiative, led by Egale Canada in collaboration with the National Institute on Ageing (NIA) and Toronto Metropolitan University, created educational resources and tools to foster inclusivity, improve care, and support unpaid caregivers. This research-informed, community-driven project identified critical gaps in understanding and tailored its resources to enhance allyship and capacity among healthcare and social service providers. The initiative also provided care partners and 2SLGBTQI individuals living with dementia with practical knowledge and tools to navigate their unique care journeys. The program includes eLearning modules, guides, and a comprehensive awareness campaign to promote understanding of the experiences and needs of 2SLGBTQI individuals living with dementia and their care partners.

Program Goals

- Promoting awareness of the unique challenges faced by 2SLGBTQI individuals living with dementia and the resources available to support them.
- Developing tailored educational materials and tools to address existing knowledge gaps.
- Building a shared understanding of the lived experiences, perspectives, and needs of 2SLGBTQI individuals and their care partners.
- Identifying and critically examining gaps in knowledge, understanding, and inquiry to foster more inclusive practices.

Achievements and Impact

From 2019 to 2023, the program made significant progress in addressing gaps in dementia care for 2SLGBTQI communities. The program's success included the

creation of numerous reports, eLearning modules, and tailored resources informed by the lived experiences of 2SLGBTQI individuals and their care partners.

Key Outcomes

- 100% of family/friend care partners reported improved well-being.
- 97.3% of participants reported increased knowledge and/or skills.
- 93.3% of participants experienced improved protective factors.

Lessons Learned

- Engaging directly with 2SLGBTQI communities ensures culturally sensitive and effective program development.
- A user-centric approach is essential for creating relevant and impactful resources.

Why It Matters

The Coming Together to Support 2SLGBTQI People Living with Dementia and their Unpaid Primary Carers program highlights the importance of creating inclusive and supportive environments for 2SLGBTQI individuals living with dementia and their care partners. By identifying systemic barriers and enhancing the knowledge of care providers, the program aims to foster dignity, respect, and belonging in dementia care.

Visit the website to learn more:

- [Coming Together to Support 2SLGBTQI People Living with Dementia and their Unpaid Primary Carers](#)
- Browse other community-based dementia initiatives in the [Dementia Interventions Playbook](#).