

What are the advantages of referring somebody into the project?

- Clients may be enabled to have greater control over their lives
- The project strives to offer a 'fast response' service
- The project is independent of any care service provision, meaning that there is little risk of compromise
- The introduction of an advocate adds another dimension to your client's support network
- Those who are unable to participate in decision making processes, have an independent representative within that process
- An advocate may validate referrer's actions.



For further information about the project, please contact the co-ordinator:

Dementia Advocacy Project
The Beth Johnson Foundation
Parkfield House
64 Princes Road
Hartshill
Stoke-on-Trent
ST4 7JL

Tel: 01782 844036

www.bjf.org.uk



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

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Dementia Advocacy Project

A project for older people in North Staffordshire



“Aiding peoples voices to be heard”

About Advocacy at the Beth Johnson Foundation

The Beth Johnson Foundation was one of the pioneers of advocacy in 1989 offering citizen advocacy.

Since 1998 the Beth Johnson Foundation has provided dementia advocacy, the project specialises in advocating for people with dementia.

Dementia advocacy... ...who needs it?

Dementia advocates support individuals who are:

- Over the age of 50
- Facing a time of uncertainty, conflict or change
- Being told or think that they may have dementia of some sort
- Unable to access relevant information
- An older person with no family or friends who are able to assist them appropriately
- In conflict with family or others
- In any abuse situation.

Do any of your clients need a dementia advocate who is someone who can:

- Give time to listen to what they are saying within a confidential relationship
- Offer them support and understanding
- Find information and explain it to them
- Speak alongside them to other people or organisations
- Help them maintain control over their lives.

The Dementia Advocacy Project provides a trained and supervised advocate who works in a person centred approach enabling the client to be heard.

Advocates are not:

- Counsellors
- Therapists
- Benefit Advice Workers
- Social Workers
- Befriender
- Interpreters

Examples of how we can help:

A social worker was concerned that one of their clients was being exploited financially by a member of their family. With the introduction of an advocate the client was enabled over a period of time to gain control over their finances.

A CPN was concerned that a person they were working with wishes were not being listened to because family members continually spoke for the person. The advocate was able to support the person to be listened to actively thus encouraging family to ensure the wishes of the person and not theirs were being upheld.