

Rock County Purple Tube Project for Dementia Care

***Project Statement:***

Provide families coping with Alzheimer’s disease and related dementia a guide for use in emergency situations which may involve First Responders, EMS, and/or Law Enforcement which is placed in a purple tube and potentially kept in the refrigerator.

***Project Overview:***

The Rock County Purple Tube project for Dementia Care will work with families to complete documents and develop a plan in the event of a medical or behavioral emergency which is readily available for First Responders, EMS and/or Law Enforcement. The plan will include a client safety plan, a list of medications, brief medical overview and potential interventions if person with dementia is showing signs of anxiety or acting out behaviors.

***Project Goals:***

1. Provide information and education regarding dementia care for people with Alzheimer’s disease and related dementia, their families/care partners and local first responders, EMS and law enforcement.
2. Provide quick access to information needed in the event of a medical or “behavioral” emergency for first responders, EMS, law enforcement and other caregivers.
3. Engage law enforcement

***Recommended Project Committee Members/Stakeholders***

Rock County Human Services including Crisis/ADRC/APS/DCS/Behavioral Health

Rock County Council on Aging

Emergency Medical Services

Law Enforcement-State/Sherriff/Municipalities (both large and small)

First Responders

Hospital Emergency Room Representations

Wisconsin Department of Human, Southern Region

Managed Care Organizations

Independent Living Senior Housing

Wisconsin Crime Network/Silver Alert Program (Consider on consulting basis if unable to attend)

Others?

***Project Limitation:***

Project is being developed for community residents that are not living in Adult Family Homes/Residential Care Complexes, Assisted Living Facilities, Memory Care Facilities and/or skilled nursing facilities. Each of these agencies would be encouraged to develop a similar process within their organization if they have not already done so.

***Purple Tube Inclusions:***

This is a fluid list that needs to be determined through the project committee

1. Client safety plan for those with dementia
2. Current list of medications (FAMILY/CARE partners would need to keep this list updated.
3. Brief medical history
4. Release of information <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/hipaa/index.htm>
5. Emergency and Non-emergency contacts
6. ETC.

***Potential Project Roll Out (Non-detailed overview)***

1. Community Education on the Rock County Purple Tube Project
2. Physician and other health care providers to provide information to families
3. EMS/First Responders/Law Enforcement
   1. EMS training is offered throughout the county on a regular basis
   2. Law Enforcement—work with local agencies to meet with officers at “report” time to update them on the plan
   3. Continued training for this cohort through the dementia training program, sub-committee of the CCRG
4. Provide education to member of the CCRG and continued information flow with the CCRG Dementia Grant Meeting

***Start Up Costs of the Rock County Purple Tube Project for Dementia Care:*** (Manpower not included)

1. Purple tubes: $ .67 each 1000 minimum order = $670
2. Brochures on project 1500 approximate $500
3. Labels for tubes 2x4 25.99 per 1000
4. Purple round inventory labels (for door jamb) 1 ½ in 26.99 per 500
5. Post Cards Approx. 6X5 17.49/$100 (See also #6.)
6. Printer ink $900 for color (it may be cheaper to have these printed)

***Potential Funding Sources***

Local Grant Resource

DCS funds if funding continues

Bader Foundation

Next Steps:

LESSONS LEARNED

1—911 Communication Center needs to be involved early on in the project

2—Marketing and Deployment Plan is important. “Buy in” from law enforcement and EMT/EMS is crucial.

3—Ongoing training for incoming new hires

4—Filling out the paperwork is time consuming. Each consumer was individually assisted in filling out the paperwork so that there was useful information on it.

5-- We actually had some agencies want to use the tubes as a marketing tube for their agency (“come here and fill out the paperwork and take a tour”)

6—You need to constantly remind people about the tube availability. We had a three month lull in handing out tubes….and have restarted the campaign and have been very busy getting them out again.