

# Library and Knowledge Services case study

# *Berkshire Healthcare Library :* Supporting family and carers of people with dementia who identify as LGBT or BAME

Date *21 May 2021*

## Reason for enquiry

## *Literature/guidance on supporting family carers/partners/spouses of people with dementia who identify as LGBT+ and those people who identify as BAME.*

## What the knowledge and library specialist did

*Karen White was unable to find any useful information on the Internet and requested that the library carry out an evidence search on her behalf. The Library team carried out a search using HDAS, our Discovery system and Google Scholar analysed the results and submitted a selected list of 31 abstracts to Karen.*

# Impact of input from the library and knowledge service

## Immediate Impact

*“Undertaking the literature search myself would have taken a lot of time and it may not have been something I had the time to undertake at present. The focused search enabled me to pick out pertinent points in the summary whilst giving me access to the full evidence if required”*

*The search helped in many ways.*

*1) Community is becoming more diverse and it is a reminder to review our local demographics on a regular basis to ensure we are meeting the needs of our community*

*2) The search results helped to understand the needs of Carers from the BAME and LGBT+ communities*

*3) Validating that our services are responding to the needs of the community. For example how we provide information in different languages and promote Carer support groups for minority groups.*

*4) Focus on further developments. For example reaching out to our minority community/religious groups voluntary organisations to help raise awareness of dementia and also offer further support where required*

*5) Staff training – although we have staff training on minority communities, the literature research identified areas where training could be more specifically focused on.*

*6) Encourage further Carer participation in respect of training and service improvements. Encouraging Carers from these groups to feedback on their experiences.*

*7) Reflecting on practice – provided an opportunity to reflect as a Practitioner and as a Service, on own knowledge, skills and values.*

## Probable future Impact

*“The search has enabled a more thorough understanding of the issues faced for carers from the BAME and LGBT+ communities. This will help to improve our practice whilst supporting national and local standards, polices and guidelines.”*

## Submission by:

*Karen White, Dementia Service Development Coordinator.*

## For further information on how you can get similar support contact your local NHS library and knowledge service.