

# Beth Johnson Foundation Dementia Advocacy Project

Helping to make sure your voice is heard

The Beth Johnson Foundation Dementia Advocacy Project has been providing independent advocacy for local people living with dementia since 1998.



We offer free 1:1 advocacy support to older people (50+) living in the North Staffordshire and Stoke on Trent area who have been diagnosed as having dementia, or who are being assessed and awaiting confirmation of a diagnosis.

**BJF** Beth Johnson  
FOUNDATION

## What is Advocacy?

Advocacy means giving a person support to have their voice heard by others, taking their side and helping them to get their point across.

It is a partnership between two people; an advocate and a person who feels they are not being listened to.

Advocacy is about supporting you to take part in the processes that affect your life.

## You have a right to be heard

Your views and opinions matter! Advocacy is for people who can find it difficult to get their thoughts and opinions listened to.

## Who can we help?

Our advocates can support people who are:

- Over the age of 50
- Living with a diagnosis of dementia
- Being assessed and awaiting confirmation of a diagnosis of dementia
- Facing a time of uncertainty or change
- Living in the North Staffordshire and Stoke on Trent area

## What can we do?

Our trained and supervised Advocates can:

- Give time to listen to what you are saying within a confidential relationship
- Offer support and understanding
- Find information and explain it for you
- Speak alongside you to other people or organisations
- Challenge service providers and decision makers to make sure they know your wishes and needs
- Help you to maintain control over your lives

## Advocates will not:

- Make decisions on your behalf without checking what you want to happen
- Try to influence your decisions, or persuade you to take/not take a particular course of action
- Withhold information
- Counsel, advise or mediate

## Our service is independent and confidential

Anything you discuss with your Advocate will be confidential. In exceptional circumstances we may need to disclose information to others because of a concern that you or other people are at risk of harm.

## How to get help:

Please let us know if you or someone you know could benefit from our help. You can ask a family member, friend or anyone involved in your care to contact us on your behalf – all they need is your permission to do so.

## Our contact Details:

**Dementia Advocacy Team**

**Tel: 01782 844036**

**Email: [dementia.advocacy@bjf.org.uk](mailto:dementia.advocacy@bjf.org.uk)**

**The Beth Johnson Foundation is a national charity  
dedicated to making a future for all ages.**

The Beth Johnson Foundation, Parkfield House, 64 Princes Road,  
Hartshill, Stoke-on-Trent, ST4 7JL. Main Office Tel: 01782 844036

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