Wake up London – Raising awareness of dementia in London’s Black, Asian and Minority ethnic communities

The UK Prime Minister’s Challenge on Dementia for 2020 drew attention to the implications of living with dementia for black, Asian and minority ethnic communities in London. The Mental Health Foundation and CNWL Trust held an expert seminar in 2015 involving voluntary sector organisations working with raising dementia awareness to explore common experience and share good practice. ‘Wake Up London’ a paper produced based on the seminar looks at the challenges presented to some of the largest older minority-ethnic communities in the UK and some of the recent initiatives across the capital that are tackling the issues. The seminar group’s discussions and follow-up work produced Race Against Dementia a national Call for Action to create a co-ordinated approach to raising awareness about dementia in Black, Asian and minority communities supported by a comprehensive account of good practice success stories with a variety of community groups.

Biography

David has worked for over thirty years in the UK developing community services for people with complex care needs and enduring mental health problems in a career spanning the voluntary sector, local authority and the NHS. From 2005 to 2008 he led the Delivering Race Equality programme in the CNWL Foundation Trust (one of the largest NHS Trusts in the UK). From 2009 - 2011 was the Dementia Implementation Lead for Commissioning Support for London. More recently he has developed a role as an independent writer and advisor on dementia support and services for Black, Asian and minority ethnic communities.

davidtruswell@icloud.com