

# Professional Biography as per DNA Programme

*“Reeta Ram, Family Representative, Dementia Partners worked in Legal 500 Law firms as an injury specialist and corporate lawyer for Aviva plc. Since 2011, Reeta injects views of her clients in “one stop shop” complete care services from assisting with nursing home plans, through care home funding appeals. Reeta is registered as a non-practising solicitor on the SRA's Roll of Solicitors. Reeta is a vetted provider of family representative services on Age UK’s directory, London.”*



Workshop organised by **Reeta Ram**, Family Representative



# Dementia Network Advocates DNA

Introduction by Reeta Ram,  
Dementia Partners, Director

Organised by Dementia Partners



# Aims of DNA Group

- We have got positive feedback from generic advocates, statutory advocates, dementia advisers, support workers, clinicians, lawyers and nursing home personnel who all consider the programme today to be very interesting – Thank you all involved.
- The Group would like to see an increasingly integrated, multi disciplinary team approach between the professionals involved in the care of a person with dementia syndrome – clinicians, social care team, advocates, other professionals assisting financial or health Attorneys/Deputies and paid carers.



# Workshops with Networking

- A national support network, four times per year. Our venues will be in various parts of the South East. This will encourage questions and answers and networking face to face
- The next workshop will take place on Wednesday, 13<sup>th</sup> May
- The plan is to facilitate webinars nationwide



# Knowledge & Networking

- Increase knowledge base to enable sharing of good practice and new areas.
- Encourage networking opportunities for advocates to meet each other, reflect on their work and discuss current practice.
- The Group's aim is to help each other to continue your great work in advocating for or involved in making best interest Mental Capacity Act 2005 decisions, on behalf of people living with dementia.
- One of the Group's aims is to raise awareness amongst service users (unpaid carers) that people with dementia benefit from knowledgeable, understanding and skilled advocates to ensure their voices and those of their families are injected in processes, so that they can have real input on choices about the way the person with dementia lives. DNA offers information and presentations to service users of members of voluntary organisations.



# Partnerships

- DNA was sad to see the closure after 12 successful years of the Dementia Advocacy Network for statutory advocates in December 2013 due to financial constraints. It does create an opportunity for a wider type of advocates to network going forwards.
- The group seeks to work with others in the generic and statutory areas of advocacy
- We will ask the CQC to speak at the next workshop.



# Vacancies and Volunteers

## The Group are looking for volunteers to assist with:

- Writing up short case studies to be published to service users and DNA members
- Being speakers on issues relating to dementia and dementia advocacy at quarterly events
- Authoring articles highlighting best practice in dementia advocacy
- Working on policy papers outlining improvement needed in dementia services for people with dementia, families and healthcare workers



# Membership

*Members will receive monthly email alerts about the work of the Group, its members' case studies, guest speaker events and more.*

*Membership of DNA is free.*

*Please email [reeta@dementiapartners.com](mailto:reeta@dementiapartners.com) to sign up.*





# Advocates' Experiences

Fabia Chan, BDS, MJDF, Cert MOS (FGDP)  
Specialist Care Dentistry Registrar, Eastman  
Dental Hospital, London

Dr Vanessa Raymont, Honorary Senior  
Lecturer and Consultant Psychiatrist

Simon Brown, Barrister,  
Crown Office Chambers, Temple

Roger Crouch, Solicitor,  
FMW Law, Hammersmith

Thank you all for coming

We look forward to welcoming you next time  
along with friends and colleagues

