# A Gardeners Guide to Culture Change in Dementia Care





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### Step 1: Know your Soil

Before starting a journey it is a good idea to know where you are starting from and where you want to go to!





#### Understand where your culture is at

Trust
Respect
Fun
Relationships
Do what's
Needed
Commonality





Cynicism
Blame
Frustration
Devalued
Unions
Sickness
Role restricted
Selfish



#### How to measure

**Staff Satisfaction Surveys** 

Sickness

Turn over

**Culture Measurement Tools** 

**Client/Resident feedback** 

(http://www.edeninoznz.com.au/Eden-Homes-Centres/Eden-Surveys/Eden-Surveys-Now-On-Line.asp)



### Step 2: Warm the soil





#### **Actions Speak Louder than Words!**

**Mitzvahs** 

**Social Occasions** 

**Thank You** 

**Organisational Recognition** 

**Feedback** 

Develop and share a vision



## Step 3: Planting The Seeds

Learning is a constant not an event





### **Education and Training are Critical**

Where are the knowledge gaps?

What training do you consider mandatory?

**Utilise learning circles** 

Knowledgeable and skilled staff are a key to your culture

Who needs to be involved?



## Step 4: Empower the Gardeners

**Empowerment requires:** 

Knowledge

**Trust** 

Resource

A warm culture

Self directed work teams

**Wise Management** 



### The Shabahz

(http://thegreenhouseproject.org)



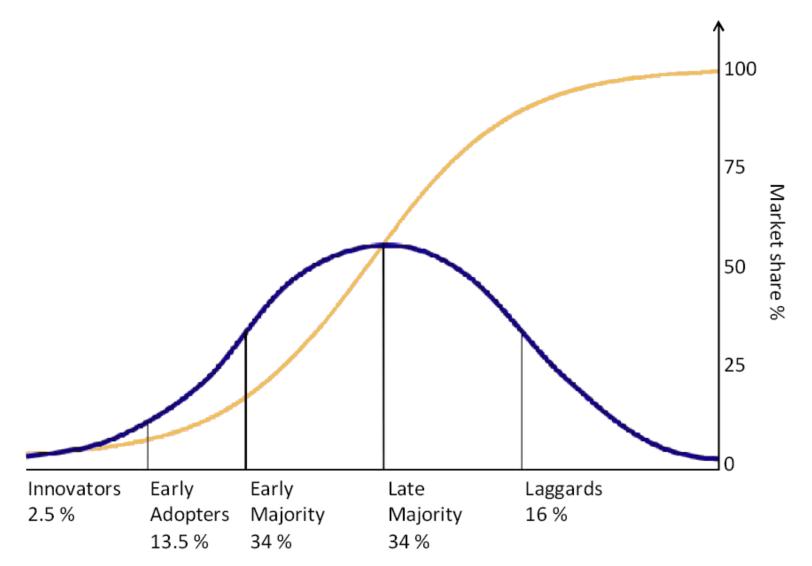
## Step 5: Don't Water The Weeds





### Where to invest your energy

**Tipping Points (Malcolm Gladwell) and Diffusion of Innovation Theory (Everett Rogers)** 



### **Stages of Adoption**

**Rogers**, 1962

- 1. Knowledge
- 2. Persuasion
- 3. Decision
- 4. Implementation
- 5. Confirmation



### **Step 6: Be A Wise Gardener**

Management is doing things right; leadership is doing the right things.

**Peter Drucker** 



### Management Treat Staff as Staff Treat Elders

**Eden Alternative** 

Culture change requires wise and brave leaders

Leadership can come from anybody

Do we foster leadership skills?

Are you a leader?



### What we can Learn from Geese



- Fact 1: As each goose flaps its wings it creates an "uplift" for the birds that follow. By flying in a chevron or "V" formation, the whole flock adds 71% greater flying range than if each bird flew alone.
- Lesson: People who share a common direction and sense of community can get where they are going quicker and easier because they are travelling on the thrust of one another.
- Fact 2: When a goose falls out of formation, it suddenly feels the drag and resistance of flying alone. It quickly moves back into formation to take advantage of the lifting power of the bird immediately in front of it.
- Lesson: If we have as much sense as a goose we stay in formation with those headed where we want to go. We are willing to accept their help and give our help to others.
- Fact 3: When the lead goose tires, it rotates back into the formation and another goose flies to the point position.
- Lesson: It pays to take turns doing the hard tasks and sharing leadership. As with geese, people are interdependent on each other's skills, capabilities and unique arrangements of gifts, talents or resources.
- Fact 4: The geese flying in formation honk to encourage those up front to keep up their speed.
- Lesson: We need to make sure honking is encouraging. In groups where there is encouragement the production is much greater. The power of encouragement (to stand by one's heart or core values and encourage the heart and core of others) is the quality of honking we seek.
- Fact 5: When a goose gets sick, wounded, or shot down, two geese drop out of formation and follow it down to help and protect it. They stay with it until it dies or is able to fly again. Then, they launch out with another formation or catch up with the flock.
- Lesson: If we have as much sense as geese, we will stand by each other in difficult times as well as when we are strong.



### Step 7: Take Continual Care of Your Garden

Ongoing reviewing, temperature measuring, reaffirming of vision is needed

**Deal with the Droughts** 

Make it sustainable and not reliant on one leader



## Final Step: Enjoy The Harvest!







Celebrate the good things
Celebrate the achievements
Celebrate each other
Let the world know what you are doing



### What is Your Vision for Your Garden?

Henry, finding a key

(http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QG7X-cy9iqA&feature=related)



#### **Further Information:**

**Eden Alternative Model:** 

www.edeninoznz.com.au

www.edenalt.org

**Spark Of Life** 

www.dementiacareaustralia.com

**Household Model:** 

http://actionpact.com

Greenhouse

http://thegreenhouseproject.org

**Culture Change Resources:** 

www.culturechangega.org

http://walkingthetalk.com

