





“A scheme to bring lonely people together, in an ordinary house, in an ordinary street, getting support and creating an atmosphere of companionship from neighbours and family; returning to the community rather than moving away from it.”

Richard Carr-Gomm

(Abbeyfield. (n.d.-a). <https://www.Abbeyfield.Com/about-Us/>.<https://www.abbeyfield.com/about-us/>)



Not crisis or 'hands-on' care



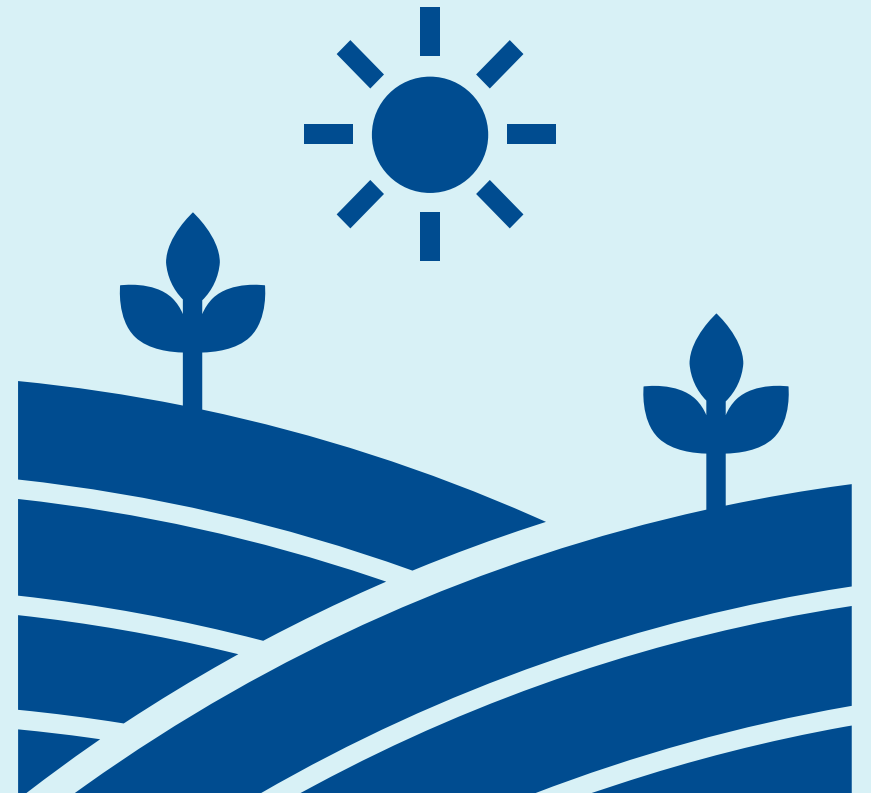
Independent living, low mental health needs



Encourages integration into community

Community

- The power of community – a sense of identity
- Structure & Routine (Watkins et al., 2017)
- ‘When do the interviews start?’



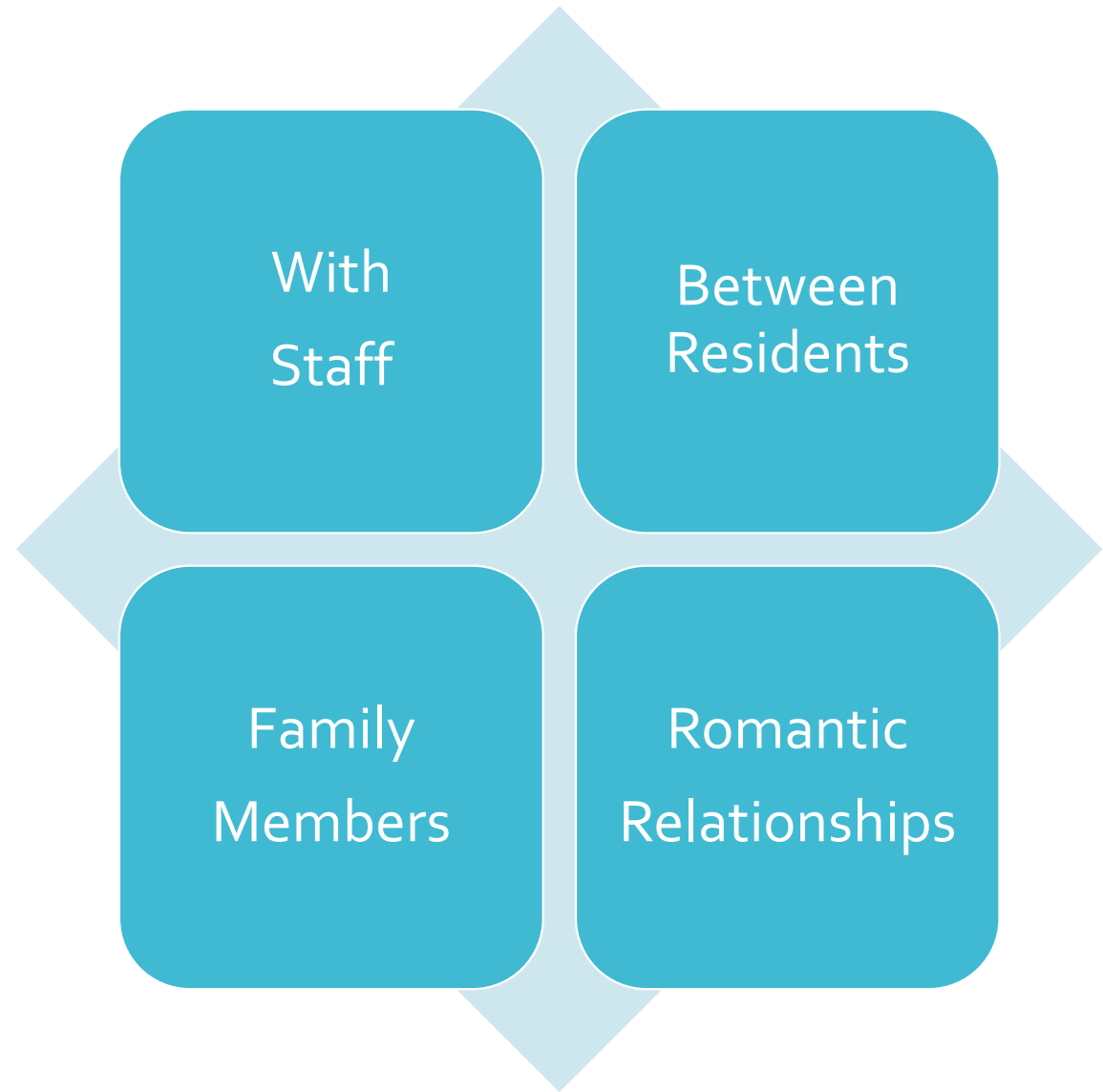
Independence

- Aim to support independence
- Encouraging autonomy (Perkins et al., 2012)
- Able to continue socialising, hobbies and maintaining relationships – part of identity



Relationships

- Relationships are a vital component of care (Brown, 2009)
- Some of my favourite moments have been whilst discussing the importance of family and romantic relationships with the residents



Activities

- Residents are encouraged to take part in activities
- Connection through art (Schouten et al., 2015)
- Small change, big impact

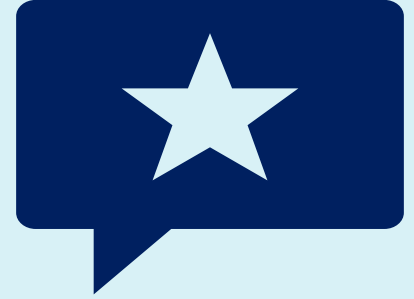


Ethical Issues

- Confronted with ethical issues and practicing professional boundaries
- Working closely with management
- Complexities of balancing care needs and dependency (Van der Weele et al., 2021)



Overall Experience



- Experienced the power of active listening, being 'present', SOLER & empathy in real life setting (Rautalinko et al., 2007)
- Totally out of comfort zone
- A real honour to spend time with the residents and listen to their experiences

References

(Abbeyfield. (n.d.-a). <https://www.Abbeyfield.Com/about-Us/>.<https://www.abbeyfield.com/about-us/>)

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