

ISTAART Immersives: Engaging People with Lived Experience of Dementia in Advocacy and Research: Implementing Promising Practices

Friday, July 10, 2026 | 1 p.m. - 5 p.m.

Aurora Ballroom 14, 17 — InterContinental — London, United Kingdom

All times are in British Summer Time

In-person attendance only

Overview

This Immersive will introduce participants to a new set of promising practices for engaging people with lived experience of dementia in research and advocacy. This set of practices is being developed through an iterative global process that began at a Skills Workshop sponsored by the ISTAART Partnering with Research Participants PIA at AAIC25, and was continued at an ISTAART-sponsored workshop at the Walking the Talk for Dementia 2025 Symposium, and an “Ask the Experts” session with new Atlantic Fellows for Equity in Brain Health at Trinity College Dublin. The collective insights from all these sessions are being followed by a modified Delphi process designed to generate, prioritize and categorize a long list of ideas, that will build upon existing literature and resources. It is anticipated that approximately 500 people from across the globe will have participated in one or more of these idea generation sessions and/or the Delphi process, including people with lived experience of dementia, advocates, researchers, clinicians, artists, etc. The Delphi process is viewed as an equitable approach where all participants have an equal voice in the prioritization exercise and removes hierarchies and power differentials created by roles and titles. The Immersive will begin with an overview of the prioritized list of promising practices, then participants will participate in three sequential small group discussions, building knowledge of the content and meaning of the practices and exploring how to implement them in different contexts. The half day Immersive will facilitate networking opportunities among Immersive participants. They will leave the Immersive with practical tools they can immediately implement in their work. The Immersive will conclude with a reflective activity for participants to set goals for using this content in their work and possible collaborations after AAIC.

Organizing Committee

- Sherril Gelmon
- Jennifer Bethell
- Maria Florencia Clarens

Target Audience

This ISTAART immersive workshop is designed for Lived Experience and Advocacy.

Learning Objectives

- Describe promising practices for engaging people with lived experience of dementia in research and/or advocacy.
- Identify opportunities to bring together people with lived experience and researchers/advocates to collaborate in dementia research and/or advocacy.
- Apply promising practices in specific strategies for engaging people with lived experience of dementia in one’s own research and/or advocacy work.

Registration

Pre-conferences are offered for in-person attendance only. Preconferences require a separate registration fee in addition to AAIC full conference registration, or they may be purchased as stand-alone events. Visit alz.org/AAIC.

Agenda: Friday, July 10, 2026 | 1 p.m. - 5 p.m.

Time	Session Details	Speakers and Moderator
1:00 p.m. - 1:10 p.m.	Welcome, Logistics and Introductions	
1:10 p.m. - 1:20 p.m.	Overview of the Promising Practices for Engaging People with Lived Experience of Dementia in Advocacy and Research Review the process of development	
1:20 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.	Deep Dive #1: Discussions by Topic #1 Tables will be assigned categories of promising practices that emerged from the Delphi process	
2:00 p.m. - 2:40 p.m.	Deep Dive #2: Discussions by Topic #2 Tables will be	

	assigned categories of promising practices that emerged from the Delphi process	
2:40 p.m. - 3:10 pm	Break	
3:10 p.m. - 3:15 p.m.	Transition to Discussions of Application of the Practices	
3:15 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.	Deep Dive #3: Application of the Promising Practices in Different Contexts Each table will focus on one specific context	
4:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.	Report Back	
4:30 p.m. - 4:50 p.m.	Reflection and Evaluation	
4:50 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.	Closing and Next Steps	