

## Resources for Library Services for People with Dementia

Susan H. McFadden, Ph.D. ([susan.h.mcfadden@gmail.com](mailto:susan.h.mcfadden@gmail.com))  
Fox Valley Memory Project ([www.foxvalleymemoryproject.org](http://www.foxvalleymemoryproject.org)), Appleton, WI

Library Memory Project: <https://www.librarymemoryproject.org/>

Libraries in three counties in Wisconsin collaborate on programs for people having dementia. They offer a number of memory cafés.

Dementia Friendly Libraries In Wisconsin: A Best Practice Guide:

<http://wai.wisc.edu/pdf/librariesguide.pdf>

Developed by the Wisconsin Alzheimer's Institute (WAI), this guide has many good suggestions for librarians. WAI also has published a best practice guide focusing on memory cafés: <http://wai.wisc.edu/pdf/memorycafeguide.pdf>.

Massachusetts Memory Café Toolkit:

[www.jfcsboston.org/MemoryCafeToolkit](http://www.jfcsboston.org/MemoryCafeToolkit) (English)

[www.jfcsboston.org/GuiaCafeDeMemoria](http://www.jfcsboston.org/GuiaCafeDeMemoria) (Spanish)

These excellent guides were developed by Jewish Family & Children's Service, an organization that now coordinates over 100 memory cafés throughout Massachusetts, including some for people with intellectual/developmental disabilities and dementia.

Memory Café Directory: <https://www.memorycafedirectory.com/>

This site allows people to search by state to locate memory cafés. Note that it is hard to stay up to date about the cafés, so there can be cafés not listed here, and others on the list may have closed and not informed the manager of the site.

The Purple Angel: <http://www.purpleangel.org.uk/>

The Purple Angel is an international symbol indicating that a business or organization (including many libraries) has received training in how best to meet the needs of people with dementia. This website from the US calls for greater awareness of the meaning of the Purple Angel:

<http://www.alzheimersspeaks.com/purple-angel-project>. This website also has a section on memory cafés.

Alzheimer's Society (Great Britain):

<http://www.alzheimers.org.uk/site/scripts/downloads.php?categoryID=200436>

This page gives links to many documents about dementia-friendly communities. The one called "Building Dementia-Friendly Communities: A Priority for Everyone" reports on interviews with people with dementia about what they most wanted from their communities. One individual talked about no longer going to the library because of concern about using the automated check-out system.