GLOBAL PEER SUPPORT KNOWLEDGE NETWORK

Peer support is widely implemented and generally recognized as an effective means to mobilise vulnerable citizens with diabetes, or at risk of developing the condition, to connect with other people who can support them in managing their own health.

Peers for Progress is assisting the Cities Changing Diabetes programme in making partner cities aware of the potential of peer support as part of joint action with local partners to address urban diabetes. Together, Cities Changing Diabetes and Peers for Progress are providing technical support to partner cities in defining, executing and evaluating actions or more inspirational stakeholder engagement. Today, peer support is a valued approach in cities such as Copenhagen, Houston, and Shanghai.

To further enhance the quality, scope and impact of peer support programmes in cities, a global peer support knowledge network is established. The network brings together diverse peer support actors and offers an opportunity to:

- Exchange programme approaches, resources (e.g. peer recruitment and training materials), change theory, evaluation design and findings
- Develop a consensus around 'state of the art' methods and procedures (e.g., for promoting insulin use, addressing distress, or promoting healthier lifestyle choices)
- Gain a clear understanding of how peer support activities can contribute to (urban) diabetes care and prevention (e.g. describing the various types of value per support can create)
- Develop shared publications, reports and position paper
- Meet in person occasionally to facilitate exchange among members.

The network will include partner cities that are about to transition from mapping the local diabetes challenge to defining a palette of joint actions.

The peer support knowledge network meets for the first time in connection with the global Cities Changing Diabetes Summit 2017 in Houston.

How to join

If you would like to know more about the network, please contact Bo Wesley from Novo Nordisk: BOWE@novonordisk.com**.**