We live longer

Life expectancy in Sweden has been on the rise since the end of the 1800s, and this trend is continuing. Soon one in four people will be over 65 years old. Today, around 500,000 people are over 80 years old, and in 2050 this figure is estimated to be 800,000.

Stiftelsen Silviahemmet

Silviahemmet was founded in 1996 by H.M. Queen Silvia of Sweden who early on saw a need for education in the field of dementia.

Knowledge for quality of life has been the guiding principle of the past 20 years. Since its inception, Silviahemmet has worked to raise the level of knowledge and expertise in the field of dementia.

Silviahemmet regularly offers training and education for healthcare workers and relatives of persons suffering from dementia. There are almost 800 Silvia Sisters and Silvia Nurses trained in dementia care at Sophiahemmet University in collaboration with Silviahemmet. The number of Silvia Doctors is increasing in the cooperation with Karolinska Institutet, and through this collaboration, H.M. the Queen will soon be able to issue diplomas for Silvia Physiotherapists and Silvia Occupational Therapists.

Silviahemmet's certification programme, which is in high demand, means that not only all healthcare workers but also other staff such as caretakers and cleaners etc. at a unit complete a three-step training programme. Silviahemmet annually follows up on how the knowledge is utilized. Sixty units will soon have completed the programme, including nursing homes, medical wards, daycares and home help groups. There are also units in Germany and Poland that have obtained Silviahemmet's certification.

The daycare unit at Drottningholmsmalmen is the heart of Silviahemmet. Here, young and old persons with dementia are welcomed daily by Silvia Sisters who, with great care and knowledge, provide each guest person-centered care and make sure to treasure the healthy aspects of each person. Silviahemmet’s goal has been, centered care and make sure to treasure the healthy aspects of each person. Silviahemmet’s goal has been, centered care and make sure to treasure the healthy aspects of each person.

The history of SilviaBo

It started with afternoon tea at Silviahemmet one November day in 2015. The chairperson of Silviahemmet, H.M. the Queen, had invited IKEA's founder Ingvar Kamprad and a small group of people for a presentation of Silviahemmet. Kamprad was impressed by Silviahemmet's work and the fact that the Queen had decided from the very start to focus on assistant nurses, providing them with expert knowledge in dementia care. Ingvar Kamprad therefore wanted to support the Queen's future work in this field. H.M. the Queen suggested that these funds could be used to fulfil Silviahemmet's next vision.

On Silviahemmet's 20th anniversary, 17 May 2016, H.M. the Queen presented Silviahemmet's next step, SilviaBo. Silviahemmet's knowledge of dementia care, and of functional and dementia-friendly environments, IKEAs knowledge of interior design, smart solutions and pleasant homes, and BoKlok's knowledge of building financially viable and sustainable homes, have been combined to create the concept of SilviaBo.

SilviaBo is not a nursing home, it is an ordinary housing, an apartment adapted to suit a person suffering from dementia and their partner at a reasonable cost. A home for continued safe and functional living as long as possible.

SilviaBo Malmén is a pilot project aimed at creating good homes for persons with dementia and their partners. The links and proximity to the daycare are clear and Silviahemmet is working on proposals for brand new care solutions regarding daycare and possible home help and home medical care solutions. All parts of the project will be carefully monitored, reviewed and developed within the pilot project.

H.M. the Queen decorates SilviaBo Malmén

The apartments at SilviaBo Malmén will be rented out as a complement to guests at Silviahemmet's daycare activities. The apartments are decorated according to H.M. the Queen's proposals and considerations regarding safe and pleasant homes for persons with dementia and their partners. Aspects such as colours, functionality, safety, light, accessibility and congeniality have been considered and designed in consultation with dementia experts.
SilviaBo at Drottningholmsmalmen

SilviaBo at Drottningholmsmalmen, Ekerö municipality in Stockholm, is a pilot project with special preconditions. The apartments are built to allow persons with dementia to live in a unique environment near Silviahemmet’s daycare with specially trained staff. The 55 sq. m apartments have two rooms and a kitchen, as well as a balcony or terrace. Each building has a common entrance with an access balcony. The access balcony leads to the front door of each apartment. There is an elevator to the upper level.

BoKlok has built SilviaBo and will be able to deliver specially adapted contracts around the country according to SilviaBo’s concept, in the form of apartments with two, three or four rooms plus kitchen. Architect Anders Larsson at ALoCo — Architect SAR MSA, trained at the Royal Danish Academy of Fine Arts — has for over 20 years been developing residential areas and houses for BoKlok and other companies. Learn more at aloco.se

BoKlok is the result of a meeting in the mid-1990s between the entrepreneurs Ingvar Kamprad, IKEA, and Melker Schörling, Skanska. They saw the need to build financially, socially and environmentally sustainable houses. The result is flexible and well-planned wooden houses with apartments of varying sizes in pleasant surroundings. Learn more at boklok.se

SilviaBo has marked a new approach for BoKlok which, in a 50-point system, has combined BoKlok’s guidelines with the needs of those suffering from cognitive impairments, such as persons with dementia. Since BoKlok’s start, it has been a cooperation with IKEA regarding the furnishing of the apartments. The SilviaBo Bas display a complete home with decoration, furniture and products mainly sourced from IKEA. SilviaBo Vision – the second display home is intended as a showroom, a place for innovations, smart solutions and creative thinking regarding aids, furniture and other practical things that make daily life easier for those suffering from dementia. The constant stream of new technology, innovations and products means that SilviaBo Vision will be updated over time.

Stiftelsen Silviahemmet owns the rights to the concept and intellectual property that is SilviaBo. The properties at Drottningholmsmalmen are owned by Stiftelsen Silviahemmet. BoKlok will realise the SilviaBo concept in other places, nationally and internationally. The project has given all the involved parties new knowledge about how important cooperation is in order to enhance the possibility for people to stay in their home despite dementia.