DEMENTIA CAREGIVER RESOURCES, INC.

THE DEMENTIA DETAILS DISPATCH MARCH 2021

Karen Truman, PhD, President and Jeff Truman, MS Ed, Director drkaren@bookofhope.us www.dementiacaregiverresources.org



We hope to resume our regular support groups and special presentations at some time in 2021 – we miss all of you and hope you are doing OK.



The Alzheimer's Foundation of America (AFA) offers free virtual memory screenings which allow individuals to receive one-on-one, confidential memory screenings from a qualified professional using their computer, smart phone, or tablet. Memory screenings are a significant first step toward finding out if someone may have a memory problem. Memory problems could be caused by a number of medical conditions, including vitamin deficiencies, thyroid issues, urinary tract infections and depression, which are treatable. If the memory problem is the result of a dementia-related illness such as Alzheimer's disease, early detection may enable the person to begin treatments and therapeutic interventions sooner, afford greater opportunity to participate in a clinical trial and take a more active role in developing their health, legal and financial plans.



COUNTABLE and EXEMPT ASSETS

Alternative ways to not violate Medicaid's **look-back** rule is to pay off debt, such as mortgage or credit cards, make home repairs and modifications, including an addition to the home, or buy a device that is not covered by insurance, such as hearing aids. Essentially, when one modifies their home or purchases hearing aids, one is utilizing countable assets and turning them into exempt assets. Another option to lower countable assets would be to purchase an irrevocable funeral trust, which allows applicants and their spouses to prepay funeral and burial expenses. To make an appointment for a free consult, call: (727)539-0181 Visit: http://www.virtuallawoffice.com/

We recognize that sometimes **DELUSIONS** and HALLUCINATIONS may be affecting your Loved Ones. Over the years when facilitating support groups, we have heard stories about "the invisible cats"; the WWII, Korea and Vietnam veterans experiencing flashbacks; the Lewy body hallucinations and so many more. Hallucinations and delusions can cause a person to lose touch with reality, and their loved ones to lose touch with them. These symptoms may sometimes be severe enough to cause a disruption in daily life. (i.e.: Believing comments, objects, or events are real, "They're talking about me on the news again.") This website may offer you more information and resources:

https://www.morethanmemoryloss.com/

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A copy of the official registration and financial information for Dementia Caregiver Resources, Inc., a Florida-based nonprofit corporation (registration no. CH8538), may be obtained from the division of consumer services by calling toll-free 1-800-help-fla (435-7352) within the state or visiting their website <u>here</u>. Registration does not imply endorsement, approval, or recommendation by the state.

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Tony Bennett's Battle with Alzheimer's

For four years, the legendary singer and his family have kept his secret. Now, they are breaking their silence: https://www.aarp.org/entertainment/celeb rities/info-2021/tony-bennettalzheimers.html



The Department of Elder Affairs (DOEA) partnered with Ageless Innovation's Joy for All® Companion Pets to enhance meaningful interactions among older adults, their caregivers, and family members. DOEA began delivering therapeutic robotic pets to socially isolated seniors and adults living with Alzheimer's disease and related dementias in April of 2020. The interactive companion pets help combat loneliness or depression by improving overall mood and quality of life. Robotic pets remain available through DOEA's online application and are available for any older adult.

http://elderaffairs.state.fl.us/

Karen was recently a guest on the **"Rodger That Podcast**", "*The podcast dedicated to guiding you through the haze of dementia.*" She spoke about dementia, Huntington's disease and caregiving resources and programs that are available. There are many episodes to listen to, so visit this website to learn more:

https://www.rodgerthat.show/season-2



MUSIC and EMOTIONS

Tears flow spontaneously in response to a release of tension, perhaps at the end of a particularly engrossing performance. Certain pieces of music can remind us of past events, experiences, and people, triggering memories and associated emotions. At other times, we may feel tearfully awestruck in the face of the greatness or sheer beauty of the music. If we look at other activities rewarded by the brain, like eating or procreating, they tend to also provide a survival benefit. According to science: **Music can help us thrive, but it does not actually help us survive.**

https://www.inverse.com/mind-body/whymusic-gives-you-chills



Dementia Caregiver Resources, Inc. P.O. Box 7677 Seminole, Florida 33775

Your donations make all the difference WE <u>ALWAYS</u> NEED USED INK CARTRIDGES

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