

# DEMENTIA CAREGIVER RESOURCES, INC.

THE DEMENTIA DETAILS DISPATCH APRIL 2021

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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.**



**Urinary Tract Infections (UTIs)** can cause sudden confusion (also known as delirium) in older people and people with dementia. If the person has a sudden and unexplained change in their behavior, such as increased confusion, agitation, or withdrawal, this may be because of a UTI. As the bacteria in the urine spread to the bloodstream and cross the blood-brain barrier, confusion and other cognitive difficulties can be the result. If the infection goes undetected, it can spread to the kidneys and become life-threatening. The classic symptoms of a urinary tract infection are burning pain and frequent urination, but UTIs may not cause these classic symptoms in older adults. Instead, older adults, especially those with a dementia, may experience behavioral symptoms such as confusion. They are often packing their stuff, and rummaging. UTIs are common among people diagnosed with Alzheimer's and other forms of dementia. **This often is attributed to age, dehydration, and partly due to increasing difficulty with hygiene and personal care.**

Sean W. Scott  
Elder Law Attorney

An integral part of obtaining Medicaid benefits is meeting and understanding the Medicaid eligibility requirements. Income, assets, and transfers are the big three eligibility tests that the state uses to determine if you qualify for benefits. Florida Medicaid looks at three things to determine if you are eligible for nursing home Medicaid benefits:

- Medical Need
- Age, Disabled or Blind
- Financial Need

To make an appointment for a free consult, call: (727)539-0181

Visit: <http://www.virtuallawoffice.com/>

**V-safe** is a smartphone-based tool that uses text messaging and web surveys to provide personalized health check-ins after you receive a **COVID-19 Vaccine**. Through **v-safe**, you can quickly tell CDC if you have any side effects after getting a COVID-19 vaccine.

**COVID-19 vaccination providers cannot:**

- Charge you for the vaccine.
- Charge you any administration fees, copays, or co-insurance.

**COVID-19 vaccination providers can:**

- Seek appropriate reimbursement from the recipient's plan or program (e.g., private health insurance, Medicare, Medicaid) for a vaccine administration fee.
- However, providers cannot charge the vaccine recipient the balance of the bill.

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/safety/vsafe.html>



Light for the Journey - Courage for the Soul



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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 [here](http://www.dementiacaregiverresources.org). Registration does not imply endorsement, approval, or recommendation by the state.

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We recognize that sometimes **DELUSIONS** and **HALLUCINATIONS** may be affecting your Loved Ones. Dementia affects about 8 million people in the U.S. and its prevalence is expected to increase as the population ages. Approximately 2.4 million people in the U.S., experience dementia-related psychosis and only about half of them, have been diagnosed. Symptoms of dementia-related psychosis include *hallucinations*, when someone experiences things that are not there, such as seeing or hearing things that others do not and *delusions*, when someone believes things that are not true, such as people are talking about you (paranoia), or fear that someone is stealing from you. These symptoms are also very distressing for family and caregivers and may be associated with increased risk of aggressive behavior in dementia patients. According to the Michael J. Fox Parkinson's Foundation, "Among the estimated 6 million people worldwide with Parkinson's, many say thinking and memory changes -- ranging from mild cognitive impairment to dementia -- are among the most worrisome potential symptoms." This website may offer you more information and resources: <https://www.morethanmemoryloss.com/>

The following Zoom programs from the **Byrd Institute at USF** are free, but registration is required. Call Eileen Poiley (813)396-0635.

1. **Safety Issues** Alzheimer's Caregivers Need to Know: April 8, 2021 3:00 - 4:30pm
2. **Legal and Financial Information** Essential for Caregivers: April 13, 2021 3:00 - 4:30pm
3. **Understanding and Managing** Challenging Behaviors April 15, 2021 3:00 - 4:30pm
4. **Helping New Family Caregivers** Navigate the Alzheimer's Journey: April 22, 2021 3:00-4:30pm
5. **Managing the Stress of Caregiving** April 29, 2021 3:00 - 4:30pm

These are some YouTube videos that you can watch to find out more about **VETERANS BENEFITS** – for more information always contact your COUNTY Veterans' Service Offices – every county in the U.S. has a service office.

1. VA PENSION - <https://youtu.be/zesXZdgi240>
2. VA Service- Connected Disability Compensation - <https://youtu.be/IUpGLR5uSj8>
  - a. Agent Orange - [https://youtu.be/b9KNW\\_orrOU](https://youtu.be/b9KNW_orrOU)
  - b. Camp Lejeune Water Contamination - <https://youtu.be/OfiINMMTof4>
3. Dependency Indemnity Compensation - [https://youtu.be/4V\\_feO0haes](https://youtu.be/4V_feO0haes)
5. Florida Veterans Property Tax Exemptions - <https://youtu.be/FH-qC8M6olk>
6. VA Burial Benefits – <https://youtu.be/eHrU-iXl8zk>



**Dementia Caregiver Resources, Inc.**

P.O. Box 7677

Seminole, Florida 33775

**Thank you Sandy T. for "Paying it Forward"**

☺ Your donations make all the difference ☺

**WE ALWAYS NEED USED INK CARTRIDGES**



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