

DEMENTIA CAREGIVER RESOURCES, INC.

THE DEMENTIA DETAILS DISPATCH AUGUST 2026

Karen Truman, PhD, President and Jeff Truman, MS Ed, Director

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<http://www.dcrinc.org/>

AUGUST SUPPORT GROUP's



Clearwater

→ **Tuesday August 11th - 1:30PM**

3055 Union St. 33759 (727)260-2826

j.pham@aravillaclearwater.com



The INN at FREEDOM SQUARE (3rd Floor)

→ **Wednesday August 12th - 1:30 PM**

10801 Johnson Blvd. - Seminole 33772

(727)398-0363

damigodeana@freedomssquarefl.com



→ **Tuesday August 18th - 1:30PM**

2010 Greenbriar Blvd. Clearwater 33763

(727)735-6200

isahhar@preserveatdunedin.com

STIGMA and Alzheimer's

Captain *Sully Sullenberger* (75), *Bill Ritter* (TV News Anchor) (76), and *Danny Glover* (Actor) (79), all revealed they have Alzheimer's disease, the most common form of dementia. They recently went public with their diagnoses to raise awareness and reduce the **stigma** surrounding dementia.

1. Fear and Myths: People often fear memory loss because they do not understand how the disease works.

2. Negative Labels: Using harsh words or treating patients as if they are invisible devalues them. **3. Delayed Help:** Shame and fear stop families from visiting a doctor for early testing.



SCOTT

Legal Advocates
for Aging Americans.

ADDING NAME to JOINT ACCOUNT

Adding your name to an aging parent's bank account may seem like a simple solution. It lets you pay bills, monitor expenses, and handle urgent transactions. However, joint ownership can affect Medicaid eligibility, creditor claims, taxes, and inheritance.

These problems may appear long after the account was changed. Florida families have safer options that provide access without giving an adult child ownership. A **durable power of attorney** is often a better option because your parent keeps ownership of the money. You receive only the authority granted in the document.

For a free consultation, call: (727)539-0181

or visit: <https://virtuallawoffice.com/>



\$\$ RISK FACTORS

While there is no cure for dementia, up to 45% of the risks can be attributed to modifiable risk factors such as *tobacco, alcohol use, social isolation, physical inactivity, air pollution and non-communicable diseases* (NCDs), including *high blood pressure and diabetes*. Beyond health, dementia affects a person's independence, dignity and safety.

Financial Hardship: A study highlighted that persistent money troubles and low income during a person's 50's can accelerate age-related brain aging and cognitive decline. Conversely, sudden financial mistakes and bad judgement can be an early warning sign of developing Alzheimer's disease.

Light for the Journey - Courage for the Soul

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"A copy of the official registration and financial information may be obtained from the division of consumer services by calling toll-free within the state. Registration does not imply endorsement, approval, or recommendation by the state." 1-800-435-7352 <https://www.fdacs.gov/>

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The Functional Assessment Staging Tool

(FAST) scale for dementia divides

Alzheimer's progression into seven distinct stages based on functional decline rather than just memory, ranging from normal adult function (Stage 1) to end-stage dementia (Stage 7). It helps determine hospice eligibility and care needs by monitoring how well a patient can perform daily tasks.

Stage 1: No Functional Decline –

Normal adult, no cognitive impairment.

Stage 2: Very Mild Decline - Subjective forgetfulness (e.g., misplacing items).

Stage 3: Mild Cognitive Decline –

Early-stage dementia, noticeable to loved ones (e.g., trouble at work, losing items).

Stage 4: Moderate Cognitive Decline –

Mild dementia; difficulty with complex tasks like finances or planning.

Stage 5: Moderately Severe Decline -

Moderate dementia; needs help choosing clothing and managing daily activities.

Stage 6: Severe Cognitive Decline -

Moderately severe dementia; requires assistance with dressing, bathing, toileting, and incontinence. (2–4-year-old)

Stage 7: Very Severe Decline –

End-stage dementia; loss of speech, mobility (walking/sitting), and ability to smile or hold up head. (Newborn)

Whether a person with dementia realizes they have it depends on the stage of the disease, the specific area of the brain affected, and individual factors. In early stages, many people notice memory lapses and know something is wrong, but as the condition worsens, they often lose this insight entirely.

LATE = Limbic-predominant age-related

TDP-43 encephalopathy (LATE) is a recently characterized type of dementia. Similar to other forms of brain disorders, such as Alzheimer's disease, LATE causes problems with memory and thinking but has different underlying causes. Researchers identified LATE based on results of autopsy studies that revealed abnormal clusters of a protein called TDP-43. TDP-43 is involved in other brain disorders, including [amyotrophic lateral sclerosis](#) (ALS) and [frontotemporal lobar degeneration](#). (FTLD), is an umbrella term for a group of brain diseases. In LATE, it exhibits a different pattern of brain changes and tends to affect people over the age of 80. The symptoms include:

- Problems with memory
- Difficulty thinking and making decisions
- Trouble finding the right words
- Wandering or getting lost

Currently, there is no way to diagnose LATE in living people. It can only be diagnosed after death through a brain autopsy.

<https://www.nia.nih.gov/health/alzheimers-and-dementia/what-limbic-predominant-age-related-tdp-43-encephalopathy-late>



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