# DEMENTIA CAREGIVER RESOURCES, INC.

### THE DEMENTIA DETAILS DISPATCH JANUARY 2024

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

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## SUPPORT GROUPS

A loved one has been diagnosed with a form of dementia or you may have just placed a family member in a long-term care community and you're wondering what now? What do I do next? Where is this leading? How do I start to take care of myself again? Join us to find solutions & comfort in knowing you are not alone on this journey.



TuesdayJANUARY 9th2:00PM-3:30PM620Belleair Road - Clearwater, FL 33756For more info, Call: (727)467-9464ad.belleair@pacificaseniorliving.com



## The INN at FREEDOM SQUARE

Wednesday JANUARY 10<sup>th</sup> 1:30PM-3PM 10801 Johnson Blvd. - Seminole 33772 RSVP: Eric Kane (727) **398-0363** kaneeric@freedomsquarefl.com

#### Three new groups starting soon:

\*Baywood - Pinellas Park \*Oaks of Clearwater \*Wentworth on Central – St. Petersburg



Happy New Year 2024 From The Diary of Ann Frank: "What a wonderful thought it is that some of the best days of our lives haven't even happened yet. Our lives are fashioned by our choices."

(Thank you, Rob and Cheryl, for this reminder)



#### The Law Office of Sean W. Scott

Assists families across the state of Florida with estate and incapacity planning, probate, trust administration, Medicaid benefits, veterans' benefits, and legal issues related to the aging process. Attend a FREE Seminar in January: TUESDAY January 2<sup>nd</sup> – 2PM Palm Harbor Library FRIDAY January 5<sup>th</sup> – 2:30PM Largo Library MONDAY January 8<sup>th</sup> – 2PM Seminole Library *For a free consult, call*: (727)539-0181 http://www.virtuallawoffice.com/

#### TOOTH CARE and BACTERIA and DISEASE

A recent analysis led by National Institute on Aging (NIA) scientists suggests that the bacteria associated with periodontal disease that causes the chronic inflammation are also associated with the development of Alzheimer's disease and related dementias, especially vascular dementia. Records show that former Bucs star Mike Williams died of bacterial sepsis. He was hit on the head by heavy construction supplies falling on him. Initial CT scans showed he had brain swelling and infections. The medical examiner believes those may have been caused by infections in his mouth that spread through his bloodstream. The NFL player's death is linked to cavities. Under Williams' cause of death, there are numerous factors listed, including: bacterial sepsis, cerebral abscesses, necrotizing pneumonia due to multiple dental cavities or infections and retained tooth roots.

#### Please see your dentist and take better care of your mouth – it is REALLY IMPORTANT!

 ${\mathcal T}$  Light for the Journey - Courage for the Soul  ${\mathcal T}$ ©2024 - A 501(c)(3) Non-Profit Organization since 1997

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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### **HC** Helping Households Connect

The Affordable Connectivity Program is an FCC benefit program that helps ensure that households can afford the broadband (internet) they need for work, school, healthcare and more. The benefit provides a discount of up to \$30 per month toward internet service for eligible households. Eligible households can also receive a onetime discount of up to \$100 to purchase a laptop, desktop computer, or tablet from participating providers if they contribute more than \$10 and less than \$50 toward the purchase price. A household is eligible for the Affordable Connectivity Program if the household income is at or below 200% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines, or if a member of the household meets at least one of the criteria below:

- Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
- Veterans Pension or Survivor Benefits
- o Medicaid

For more information, visit: https://www.fcc.gov/acp

#### Florida Telecommunications FTRI Relay, Inc.

FTRI is a statewide non-profit 501(c)3 organization that administers the Specialized Telecommunications (free) Equipment Distribution Program for citizens of Florida who are Deaf, Hard of Hearing, Deaf/Blind and Speech Disabled. For more information, Call: 1-(800)222-3448 Or visit: <u>https://www.ftri.org/</u>

#### FAMILY MEETINGS & LONG-TERM CARE

Start discussions early with your family members. Who will honor your wishes? Have a family meeting - this could be in-person, on Zoom or FaceTime call - (group chats and email can also be added). It is critical to involve all family members who offer to help. They may be hands-on, provide rides to doctors, cook or clean, do the finances and legal things, or maybe they can research support services and make phone calls. There is an array of things that will need to be done when a person has to have more help and/or placement. It is overwhelming, and sometimes a sibling or spouse feels left out or does not understand all of the issues until it is brought up in a discussion with a proper diagnosis, medical facts, and real numbers. Most of us want to remain in our homes as long as possible, but sometimes that dream is totally unrealistic, and the money is just not there to accommodate that wish. **IMPORTANT:** Get permission in advance from the person with dementia to have his or her doctor(s), lawyer, credit card company, Medicare, insurance, banks, financial advisor, monthly service providers (i.e.: cable, electric, lawn, and homeowner associations, etc.) to be able to speak with a designated family member, if necessary, in the future. You will have to call these companies and they may request more information, but if you do this in advance, you will avoid a lot of issues later!



25+ years of assisting caregivers
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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