DEMENTIA CAREGIVER RESOURCES, INC.

THE DEMENTIA DETAILS DISPATCH JUNE 2019

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

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www.dementiacaregiverresources.org

JULY Support Groups

JULY 2 - The Preserve at Clearwater 9:30 AM 2010 Greenbriar Blvd. CLW (727)735-6200 JULY 2 & 16 - Grand Villa - Largo 6:00 PM 750 Starkey Rd. Largo 33771 (727)586-0108

AUGUST Support Groups

AUGUST 6 - The Preserve - Clearwater **9:30 AM**AUGUST 6 & 20 Grand Villa Largo **6:00 PM**



WORKING MEMORY is the brain's ability to hold bits of information and 'work with' it.

Working memory is involved in nearly everything we do because the brain often needs to hold several bits of information while we are thinking or doing something.

- Holding lots of information in mind at one time
- Doing two tasks at once
- Getting back to a task after being distracted
- Only appearing to 'get' or understand part of an instruction
- Answering questions, particularly long ones
- Needing lots of repetition before doing or understanding something
- Learning new things
- Remembering a plan and acting on it
- Keeping a goal in mind to check that it will be reached
- Being realistic about how much can be achieved.



When it comes to planning ahead, the most important thing is having in place a good **DURABLE POWER OF ATTORNEY**. When I say good-- I mean a document that has all of the required *powers* that will be necessary for your backup person to be able to step in your shoes and do those things that are required in order to obtain Medicaid benefits. Many power of attorney documents <u>do not</u> contain the language that will be required to qualify for Medicaid benefits. The Five powers that need to be in every power of attorney but are most commonly missing are these:

- The power to create a trust, including both revocable and irrevocable trusts.
- The power to fully manage <u>individual</u> retirement accounts (IRAs).
- The power to make gifts, especially to the named power of attorney.
- The power to convey the home and all the principle's interest.
- The provision specifying the backup to the named power of attorney.

For more information or to make an appointment for a free consult, (727)**539-0181**

http://www.virtuallawoffice.com/

WE ALWAYS NEED USED INK CARTRIDGES



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The Alzheimer's Foundation of America,

Congressman Tom Suozzi and Congressman Peter King announced new, bipartisan legislation to help increase federal funding for Alzheimer's disease research. Congressmen Suozzi and King, working with AFA, are sponsoring the legislation (HR3453), which would create the Alzheimer's Research and Caregiving (ARC) Trust Fund to provide additional funding to federal Alzheimer's research efforts and caregiver support services. Americans would be to able make a voluntary, taxdeductible contribution on their federal tax returns to fund Alzheimer's research and caregiver support services to supplement the \$2.34 billion in existing federal funds Congress appropriated last

https://www.newsday.com/news/health/alzheimer-s-research-funding-suozzi-king-1.32912995?fbclid=IwAR1xymFUyOp3NcetOei2blq1yLqLfgyWfCQEFSaaSf2nDIuTGbLjDqyJBXc

year to fund research and support services.

To read the full article, visit:

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CARE DOES NOT STOP WITH PLACEMENT

The importance of taking our Loved Ones who live in long-term care settings to the dentist, for a pedicure, or to get new shoes is sadly not being addressed by the majority of family caregivers. Our Loved Ones still need new clothes, dental check-ups, a hearing specialist, and dermatology visits. Taking them for an outing and then for quick lunch is a welcome break in their routine and so necessary to "hear" them out. Even if your Loved One has worn dentures or partials for a number of years, they still need to have these professionally cleaned. Also the dentist can make sure they still fit, or if they need adjustments and check for mouth sores and infections.

It is well established that many DRUGS with ANTICHOLINERGIC PROPERTIES should be avoided in the elderly whenever possible. These include drugs that have been used in medicine for many decades in the treatment of such diverse conditions as: diarrhea, asthma, overactive bladder, urinary incontinence, COPD, anesthesia, gastrointestinal disorders, insomnia, motion sickness, Parkinson's disease symptoms and psychiatric disorders. Did you know that the risk for dementia with anticholinergics remains even after drug discontinuation? Antipsychotics are **not** approved for use in psychotic conditions related to dementia, as they may increase the risk of death in older adults with dementia-related conditions. See this article for a complete list of meds that should be avoided in the elderly:

https://www.drugs.com/article/anticholinergic-drugs-elderly.html#drug-list



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