# DEMENTIA CAREGIVER RESOURCES, INC.

## THE DEMENTIA DETAILS DISPATCH JUNE 2025

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

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#### **JUNE SUPPORT GROUPS**

JUST KNOW you are not alone.



Room #607

→ Monday JUNE 9<sup>th</sup> - 2:30 - 3:45PM 420 Bay Ave. Clearwater (727)445-4788 Anita M. actdir@clearwateroaks.org



ARAVILLA Clearwater

→ Tuesday JUNE 10<sup>th</sup> - 1:30 - 2:45PM 3055 Union St. 33759 (727)260-2826 A.murphy@aravillaclearwater.com



The INN at FREEDOM SQUARE (3<sup>rd</sup> Floor)

→ Wednesday JUNE 11<sup>th</sup> - 1:30PM-3PM
10801 Johnson Blvd. - Seminole 33772
(727)398-0363

damigodeana@freedomsquarefl.com

# FDA CLEARS FIRST BLOOD TEST USED IN DIAGNOSING ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE

A new blood test for Alzheimer's disease, the Lumipulse G pTau217/ß-Amyloid 1-42 Plasma Ratio, has been cleared by the FDA. This test measures the levels of two proteins, pTau217 and beta-amyloid 1-42, in blood plasma and compares their ratio to detect amyloid plaques in the brain, a hallmark of Alzheimer's. The test is intended for individuals aged 55 and older who are experiencing cognitive decline and other signs and symptoms of the disease.

\$
SCOTT

http://www.dcrinc.org/

Myth: You have to be completely impoverished to qualify for Medicaid.

**Fact:** While Medicaid has asset limits, not all assets are counted when determining eligibility. Certain assets, such as a primary residence, personal belongings, and a single vehicle, are typically exempt. Additionally, there are strategies that can be used to protect assets for the well-spouse or heirs while still qualifying for Medicaid.

# FREE Medicaid SEMINARS

at these Pinellas Libraries

Friday JUNE 6<sup>th</sup> Largo 2:30PM Monday JUNE 9<sup>th</sup> Seminole 2:00PM Tuesday JUNE 10<sup>th</sup> Palm Harbor 2:00PM For a free consultation, call: (727)539-0181 Visit: http://www.virtuallawoffice.com/

## WHAT IF YOU CAN'T?

There are so many reasons to PRE-Plan for the unexpected life happenings, Hurricane prep, and other emergencies. This is a short list of the things that you and your family may need to be prepared to handle and get through. What if you get sick? What is your back-up plan? Do you have a list of places to take your Loved One if you cannot care for them? Do you have an updated durable power of attorney to allow your selected person to take over for you and pay the bills? Who can make those health care decisions if you cannot? Where are the documents that may be necessary to find for benefits, monthly income sources, investments, legal papers and more? Using a binder makes things easier. A little pre-planning can prevent pitfalls later.

Light for the Journey - Courage for the Soul

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**Billy Joel** revealed he was recently diagnosed with **normal pressure** 

hydrocephalus (NPH), a rare, but reversible type of dementia. The statement notes that performing worsened some of the 76-year-old "Piano Man's" symptoms. The condition has been exacerbated by recent concert performances, leading to problems with his hearing, vision, and balance. Under his doctor's instructions, Billy is undergoing specific physical therapy and has been advised to refrain from performing during this recovery.

Normal pressure hydrocephalus is a treatable form of dementia characterized by a build-up of cerebrospinal fluid (CSF) in the brain, leading to enlarged ventricles and potentially damaging brain tissue. It's often misdiagnosed as Alzheimer's disease or Parkinson's disease because of similar symptoms like memory loss, difficulty walking, and urinary incontinence.

The very fact that this kind of dementia is reversible is so important. Please make sure you take your Loved One to a Memory Disorder Clinic to get a "proper" diagnosis. Too many doctors do not take the time to refer a family to a neurologist or specialist to get further testing and advice. Florida has 17 Memory Disorder Clinics (MDC). There is one near you! There are specialty clinics all over the world. It can be life changing for so many reasons! <a href="https://elderaffairs.org/wp-content/uploads/2022-MDC-Map.pdf">https://elderaffairs.org/wp-content/uploads/2022-MDC-Map.pdf</a>

#### **PLANNING AHEAD**

Some families may plan for assisted living in advance. In some cases, something happens that sparks a family conversation around mom or dad needing more supervision and care. Maybe there was a recent hospitalization, or a series of falls, scam alerts, car accidents, medication noncompliance, or other incidents that cause concern. Maybe the primary doctor has said that he or she can no longer live independently. We often have to scramble to find out the legal and financial things that may be in place but may be dated or from another state and need refreshing. Is there a pre-need plan for when they pass away? These are all very valid reasons to have those family conversations. Have a zoom chat if necessary. Involve everyone and make some decisions. Start the conversation with "The Doctor Said ...." That way you are not the bad son or daughter.



Your donations make all the difference!
WE ALWAYS NEED USED INK CARTRIDGES



**♥** 28+ years of assisting caregivers **♥ DEMENTIA CAREGIVER RESOURCES, INC. P.O. Box 7677 - Seminole, Florida 33775** 

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 <a href="here">here</a>. Registration does not imply endorsement, approval, or recommendation by the state.