DEMENTIA CAREGIVER RESOURCES, INC.

THE DEMENTIA DETAILS DISPATCH MAY 2021

Karen Truman, PhD, President and Jeff Truman, MS Ed, Director drkaren@bookofhope.us 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.



HELICOPTER ADULT CHILDREN

Parents with a form of dementia are often getting to the point of being incapable of good self-care. Usually, it is the adult daughter or daughter-in-law who steps in to take care of mom. She will oversee every aspect of care and may take over so much that it becomes very similar to the "Helicopter Parent" who has to control every aspect of a child's life. We tend to underrate autonomy and adult children often put their parent in a fix-all boxyou're old and you're frail and the best we can do for the rest of your life is protect you. Yes, they need supervision for safety and health reasons, but are they in a longterm care setting? Are you going there so often that the staff tends to ignore your Loved One because they know a family member will take the burden off of the staff? Our expectations will have to be lowered and our hearts will sink but trying to make mom dress and look like she used to is very hard to do. A helicopter adult child will wear themselves out and create a burden of remorse and self-guilt. The questions to ask: Is this genuine concern? or Is this your personal need to ease your un-deserved guilt feelings and grief?



DURABLE POWER of ATTORNEY

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, especially those produced by non-lawyers, do not contain the language that will be required to qualify for Medicaid benefits.

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

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

MORBIDITY VS. MORTALITY

- 1. Morbidity is the state of being symptomatic or unhealthy.
- 2. Mortality is the number of people who die from a disease.

Dementia-related psychosis occurs in many types of dementia, including Alzheimer's disease, dementia with Lewy bodies, Parkinson's disease dementia, vascular dementia, and frontotemporal dementia. Serious consequences have been associated with psychosis in patients with dementia, such as repeated hospital admissions, increased likelihood of nursing home placement, progression of dementia, and increased risk of morbidity and mortality. This website may offer you more information and resources: https://www.morethanmemoryloss.com/

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WHY? WHO? WHEN? WHAT?

We may think of Alzheimer's as a disease of the elderly, but up to 5% of Americans with Alzheimer's (around 200,000) have the early-onset variety, which can start to show symptoms as early as one's 30's. These are rare and inherited (genetic) forms of Alzheimer's. Though the cause still is not well understood. Increasing age is the greatest risk factor for Alzheimer's disease. One in 10 individuals over 65 and nearly half of those over 85 are affected. Some studies have shown evidence that **poor** sleeping habits may cause plaques to form, but it's unclear whether sleep deprivation causes Alzheimer's or is simply a side effect of it. For decades, researchers have pondered whether aluminum may be linked, but these findings are inconclusive and mostly disregarded today.

ORGANIZING YOUR SPACE

Being in the new reality of at home a lot more and trying things in a whole new way has forced us to think outside the box. A family we know has decided to go with an Oriental theme in a small dining area and have experimented with different wallpapers, and numerous items they already had. They transformed their dining space so much that it is tranguil and lowers your blood pressure just by sitting down. They bought a new shattered glass-top table and adjustable chairs, and now have ZEN like moments with eating and sharing ideas. It just feels so right when we take better care of our physical and emotional worlds. We all need more self-caring during these hard days of uncertainty and caution. Based off recent studies evaluating the realworld effects of COVID-19 vaccination, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention **(CDC)** announced last week that fully vaccinated people can now **safely travel** within the United States without needing to get tested or self-quarantine. A person is considered fully vaccinated 2 weeks after receiving the second dose of the Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna vaccine or 2 weeks after the one-shot Johnson & Johnson vaccine. This is as long as they continue to take precautions while traveling, including wearing a mask and physical distancing.

FLORIDA HOUSE PASSES BILL TO PERMANENTLY BAN COVID-19 'VACCINE PASSPORTS' (APRIL 2021)

What Florida's vaccine passport ban means: A new executive order bans any Florida **government agency** from issuing a vaccine passport and restricts any business from requiring them before allowing a customer to enter.



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

■ Light for the Journey - Courage for the Soul
 ■ ■ 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 <u>here</u>. Registration does not imply endorsement, approval, or recommendation by the state.