



Orange County (OC) CARES A Dementia-Capable Community Project

OC CARES (Orange County Caregiver Awareness, Respite, Education and Support) offers expanded services to people living with dementia and related conditions in Orange County, their caregivers and related service providers. The goal of the program is to create a more dementia-capable community in Orange County and to improve the health and quality of life for caregivers. The OC CARES program is made possible by a 3-year grant from the US Administration for Community Living and includes the following services:

Caregiver Respite Program: offers respite for local family caregivers. Through group interactions, activities, and exercises, the program provides numerous opportunities for socialization and stimulation to older adults with cognitive impairment. Limited to 10 participants and is led by dementia care professionals and degree-specialized students. FREE for qualified participants and is held from **10 am to 3 pm on Wednesdays at the Seymour Center in Chapel Hill and 11 am to 4pm on Fridays at the Passmore Center in Hillsborough**. To enroll, please contact Lisa Meinert at lmeinert@orangecountync.gov, or call 919-245-4253.

In-home Coaching Services: provides support in the home to address activity engagement, care coordination and caregiver skill building. Scheduled as needed with individual caregivers of people with dementia and related disorders.

Memory Cafes are an expansion of the support groups through the Department on Aging, and add a social component for both people with dementia and their care partners. They provide opportunities for individuals with memory concerns and their families to socialize with others in similar situations. Enjoy company, light refreshments, activities, and entertainment.

Fee: FREE

Seymour Center - Memory Café

2nd Mon, Sep 11; Oct 9; Nov 13

1:30 - 3:30 pm

Passmore Center - Memory Café (233017-01)

3rd Mon, Sep 18; Oct 16; Nov 20

2 - 4 pm

RSVP not required, but encouraged

For RSVPs or Questions Contact: Kim Lamon-Loperfido at

kloperfido@orangecountync.gov or 919-245-4253

Dementia Friendly Business (DFB) Initiative: Is your favorite business Dementia Friendly? Dementia Friendly Businesses are committed to being aware and accommodating of the needs of patrons with dementia or other special needs. Thank your local businesses for being a Dementia Friendly Partner (see list of Dementia Friendly Businesses in this issue), or ask them to become one! For more information, call 919-245-4253 or email info@DFOC.org

Dementia Education Collaborative provides basic information about dementia. Offered in alternating months, *'What Can We Expect?: Dementia Basics'* is a three-part series with topics regarding brain health, types and stages of dementia, and preparation for the journey ahead. *'Everyday Living with Dementia,'* is a three-part series focused on communication, activity engagement, and environmental supports.

Instructors: OC CARES team and experienced practitioners/community members

Fee: FREE

Everyday Living with Dementia

- Passmore Center: Tue, Sep 12, 19, & 26 (223032-02) 10 am – 12 noon
- Chapel Hill Public Library: Tue, Nov, 7, 14, & 21 (343022-18) 10 am – 12 noon

What Can We Expect: Dementia Basics

- Chapel Hill Public Library: Tue, Oct 10, 17, & 24 (354101-08) 4 – 6 pm

Please register with the OC CARES team at least two days prior to the first session of each month at 919-245-4253 or mdagger@orangecountync.gov Parallel respite care will be available for loved ones with dementia if requested.

In addition, OC CARES is collaborating with Transitions Guiding Lights to provide dementia-specific training to in-home care providers. Please contact Marie Dagger for more information: 919-245-4253 or MDagger@orangecountync.gov

All services offered through OC CARES are free of charge to residents of Orange County, their care partners and related services providers.

For more information or client referrals call: 919-968-2087 (Aging Helpline)
OC CARES Staff office: 919-245-4253

