



Dementia Friendly NJ



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What is Dementia Friendly America?

- ▶ A national network of communities, organizations and individuals seeking to ensure that communities across the U.S. are equipped to support people living with dementia and their caregivers. Dementia friendly communities foster the ability of people living with dementia to remain in the community and engage and thrive in day to day living.



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Dementia Friendly America History

- ▶ The DFA movement began in September 2015 following the White House Conference on Aging.
- ▶ It's based on Minnesota's statewide successful initiative, ACT on Alzheimer's.
- ▶ DFA launched in 2015 with pilot communities in Denver, CO; Prince George's County, MD; Santa Clara County, CA; Tempe, AZ; and the state of West Virginia.



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DFA Member States

1. Alabama	18. Nebraska
2. Arizona	19. Nevada
3. Arkansas	20. New Hampshire
4. California	21. New Jersey
5. Connecticut	22. New York
6. Delaware	23. North Carolina
7. Florida	24. Ohio
8. Georgia	25. Oklahoma
9. Hawaii	26. Oregon
10. Illinois	27. Pennsylvania
11. Indiana	28. Tennessee
12. Maine	29. Texas
13. Maryland	30. Utah
14. Massachusetts	31. Virginia
15. Michigan	32. Washington
16. Minnesota	33. West Virginia
17. Montana	34. Wisconsin
	35. Wyoming



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What is a Dementia Friendly community?

- ▶ A dementia friendly community is a village, town, city or county that is informed, safe and respectful of individuals with the disease, their families and caregivers and provides supportive options that foster quality of life.
- ▶ Joining DFA means a community is engaging in a process to become more dementia friendly.



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Who is involved in a DFA community?

- Every part of the community plays a role works together to take steps to create a dementia friendly culture.
- ▶ Businesses and Banking
 - ▶ Law enforcement and first responders
 - ▶ Health care systems
 - ▶ Faith communities
 - ▶ Local governments
 - ▶ Community members
 - ▶ Restaurants, grocery stores, and libraries
 - ▶ Employers
 - ▶ Residential care and community services



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How can we get involved?

- › If your state is listed as a DFA community, contact your state lead and join the initiative

- › If not, you can download a toolkit and launch in your own state!
 - Bratton Law
 - Initial founding board member
 - Member task force
 - Trainer



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What we did in NJ

- Formed a Task force to Connect Across Sectors
- › Division Director and Executive Director from Atlantic County Division of Intergenerational Services (AAA)
 - › Elected officials
 - › Chiefs of police
 - › Emergency medical services staff from multiple communities
 - › Flora Baker Center for Alzheimer's Disease which is neurology practice that specializes in dementia related illness
 - › Legal and banking industry
 - › Community-based organizations and people living in community with dementia and their care partners: service providers supporting people and families experiencing Alzheimer's and other related dementias; the Alzheimer's Association; people with dementia and their care partners
 - › Convention Services in Atlantic City



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Defined:

- › A dementia friendly business is one in which management and employees are able to recognize the signs of dementia in customers, communicate effectively with individuals with dementia, connect individuals to dementia-specific resources, and support caregiver employees.

- › A dementia friendly business is a supportive, prepared and knowledgeable place for people with dementia and their care givers to visit or be employed.



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Mission and Vision

- ▶ Dementia Friendly New Jersey's mission is to empower, educate, and engage individuals with dementia, their caregivers, and businesses throughout the state of New Jersey to create a community that is informed, safe and respectful of individuals with the disease, their families and caregivers and provides supportive access that foster quality of life. DFNJ envisions a community that is respectful, safe, compassionate, accessible and welcoming for people with dementia.



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Services -

- ▶ Education Campaign not a certification
 - Training:
 - Alzheimer's and Dementia
 - Dementia-Related Behavior
 - Effective Communication Strategies.
 - Specific sector trainings from DFA (business, etc.)



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Services

- ▶ Virtual Dementia Tours
- ▶ Care Consultations for individuals with Dementia and their families/caregivers



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Questions/Discussion


