

## What Makes Memory Care Different

When our loved ones can no longer live independently, we are often faced with the difficult decision of what type of care to select. Two of the fastest growing types of senior care are assisted living and memory care, but what are the differences between the two and what are the most important factors in making that choice?

If your loved one is still active and vital but can no longer live independently and needs assistance with everyday activities such as bathing, dressing or eating, one of the options available to him or her is assisted living. Assisted living is an option that combines housing, support services and health care, as needed. Personal care services in assisted living often also include medication management and care is available around the clock.

A loved one with dementia may require more specialized nursing care as his or her disease progresses. Waterford Place provides memory cares services in a specialized neighborhood setting, where the care caters to patients with Alzheimer's disease, dementia and other types of memory impairments.

In addition to providing assistance with activities of daily living, the memory care staff are specially trained to care for people with dementia or impaired cognition. There is a higher resident to staff ratio of 6:1 during the day/evening hours and 13:1 at night. Staff training based on the Teepa Snow GEMS model focuses on what residents can do versus what they can no longer do. Staff go through our virtual dementia tour which has been scientifically proven to provide firsthand experience of the deficits that individuals living with dementia experience. The physical layout and security of our memory care neighborhoods are designed to better suit individuals with Alzheimer's and dementia, providing a homelike environment that is pleasant and easy to navigate.



## WP MC Leadership Team

Executive Director Ben Leavell

Director of Clinical Services Melinda Haight

Director of Recreational Therapy Angie Russo

> Admissions Counselor *Kris Hartney*

Director of Food Service Chef Justin Ely

Director of Housekeeping & Laundry *Tim Vesterfelt* 

Maintenance Brian Nienhuis & Dave Horjus

> Front Desk Lead Martha Kitler



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In addition, the memory care programming is focused around SAIDO learning. SAIDO learning is a non -pharmacological intervention proven to improve symptoms of cognitive impairment, including communication skills and independence in ADL performance. Until now many communities caring for individuals with dementia have focused on managing symptoms and decline. Now, SAIDO learning grants us the opportunity to see improvement. A specialized assessment is completed with residents and their families upon admission so we are able to learn everything we can to better serve. This along with a combination of Montessori purposeful tasks and activities of interest helps us create an individualized tailored living that will help provide meaning to your loved ones life.

Written by: Angie Russo

## Success Stories



We began SAIDO learning here at Waterford Place Memory Care in July and in that small amount of time have experienced our first success story with our very own Arch. Arch is the first individual to move in and begin SAIDO learning here at Waterford Place Memory Care. He has had great advancements after being in SAIDO learning for just two months. Arch moved from our Assisted Living and at that time was essentially nonverbal and unable to communicate his needs to staff. After being in SAIDO learning, Arch is now requesting specific care needs, recognizing his wife and calling her by name. He is smiling, engaging in activities

and communicating in full sentences at times. He is also feeding himself regularly which is also something he was not able to do prior to SAIDO.



Waterford Place Memory Care integrates SAIDO Leaning® with a Montessori based life style and an industry leading 6:1 direct care staffing ratio.

Questions? Would you like a tour?

Please contact Kris Hartney, Admissions Counselor. <u>khartney@sunsetmanor.org</u> 616.667.6000

Aterford Place Memory Care