



### **Benefits to Community**

When a caregiver is looking for a place for a loved one with dementia to live, they often think of all the freedom and interactions the person will lose, or no longer have access to. The move can often be thought of in a negative light. The caregiver may feel he or she is moving their loved one into a “home” or a “facility,” when in actuality they are moving them to a community that is specifically designed and operated for people with Memory Care concerns.

When a person ages the number of social interactions generally decreases, due to lack of availability of such interactions. In pre-retirement the number of social interactions is normally higher due to work, social activities, children/grandchildren events, church, social clubs, and family gatherings. Post-retirement these numbers decrease related to a person no longer working and as they age some of their other interactions start to decrease as well. A person that has dementia experiences a more rapid decline in social interactions due to not being able to participate in functions and gatherings as they once did. This is usually related to the overall struggle that caregivers experience in regards to transportation and providing cognitively appropriate interactions in a safe and stimulating environment.

**HOPE**  
*for Dementia is here*

### **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***



**June 2019**

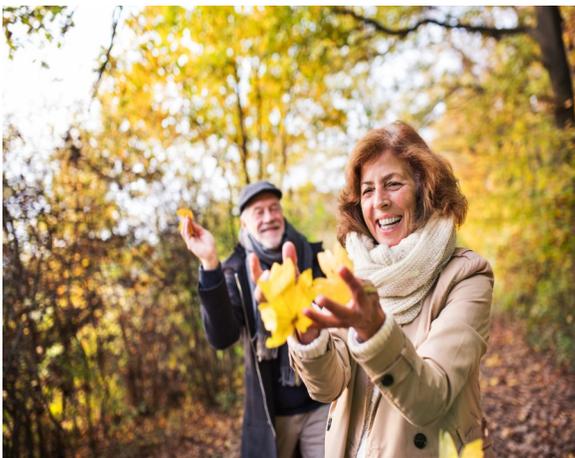
Waterford Place Memory Care is able to provide an environment that allows and promotes people with dementia to thrive in a community that has been specifically designed and planned just for them, as it relates to the limitations they may experience in the disease process. The design of the community truly lends itself to focus on not what a resident can't do, but focuses on what they can do. Residents have a team of caring, compassionate, and dedicated individuals that are encouraging them and assisting them in the tasks and cares that they cannot do for themselves. This in turn helps to encourage independence within a disease that is normally viewed as robbing and debilitating.

Another benefit to living at Waterford Place Memory Care is the social interactions that our residents are encouraged to take part in. These interactions often happen naturally after friendships are formed but, are also encouraged by our specially trained recreational therapy and nursing teams. Residents with dementia often have a harder time than people without dementia in forming meaningful relationships. At WPMC we have daily events and activities that help find commonality and bond between residents that may have been absent prior to moving to the community.

One of the other great aspects of community is choice. During the dementia process a person's world generally gets smaller and smaller as they lose the ability to choose. Within WPMC we encourage choice as to help promote dignity and empowerment to our residents. For some, this can be as simple as what the person would like to eat or what they would like to wear. With residents with less of a cognitive deficit this can extend into choice of activities and events, planning events and outings, planning of menus, meals and even having "jobs" within the community that help instill a sense of purpose and pride. Choice is truly key in helping provide independence and purpose.

At Waterford Place Memory Care, we take a different approach to caring for people with dementia. We view each and every one of our residents as unique individuals created by God himself for a purpose and a plan. We have embraced the culture of not seeing a disease or illness, but instead seeing a person that we can learn from, love, and grow with. We are truly blessed to be part of this unique community that helps promote life and living.

Written by: Ben Leavell, LNHA



**Questions? Would you like a tour?**

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*Waterford Place*  
Memory Care