#### Referrals

For referrals, please contact:

#### **Living with Dementia Program**

Carewest Day Hospital

Carewest Glenmore Park

6909 - 14th Street S.W.

Calgary, Alberta, T2V 1P8

Phone: 403-640-6480

Fax: 403-258-7681

#### **Additional Information**

We will provide information to your family physician about your treatment and progress in the program. The cost of the program is for lunch and transportation only.

The Day Hospital team collaborates with Alberta Health Services on a wide variety of services and programs.

As a result, clients and their families are able to choose the options for care that best meets their needs.

#### Innovative Health Care

Carewest is a leading-edge health care organization that provides long-term care, rehabilitation and recovery services and community programs for adults of all ages.

As Calgary's largest care provider of its kind, Carewest operates 13 locations and several community services aimed at helping people live more independent lives.

# The Calgary Health Trust

The Calgary Health Trust fundraises for excellence in health care and helps ensure the quality of life for those served by Carewest. To donate please call 403-943-0615 or visit www.calgaryhealthtrust.org

Calgary Health Trust Charitable Reg. (B.N.) 89383 4697 RR0001

## Philosophy of Care

In support of our Carewest Frame of Reference, our Philosophy of Care is:

To provide our residents and clients with quality care in safe, comfortable and supportive environments.



www.carewest.ca

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#### What is Dementia?

Dementia is a progressive loss of memory and difficulty with day-to-day tasks. It is due to one or more medical conditions, such as Alzheimer's disease, cerebro-vascular disease (stroke), Parkinson's disease, just to name a few. Alzheimer's disease is the most common form of dementia.

People with dementia may experience a loss of function in any of the following areas:

- Speech or language;
- Carrying out physical activities such as dressing, eating, walking and personal grooming;
- Recognizing objects, people or surroundings;
- Planning, organizing and carrying out day-to-day activities.

### **Support for Caregivers**

Taking care of family members at home is a big responsibility and may become challenging for a variety of reasons. There is support available through resources and programs in the community.

### The Program

At the Living with Dementia Program, we:

- Assess the specific needs of the client, including mental health and psychiatric issues, eating difficulties or other concerns.
- Provide education and support for the primary caregiver.
- Offer an environment for clients to learn and participate in meaningful activities and support their abilities and individuality.
- Provide helpful information and referrals for other community programs and respite services.
- Link caregivers with ongoing support groups.

#### The Care Team

The team of professionals able to assist you includes:

- Geriatric Psychiatrist
- Nurse
- Recreational Therapist
- Social Worker
- Therapy Aides and Assistants

As time goes on, the person with dementia needs more help with daily-living activities. Generally, care is carried out at home by family members, with some assistance from other agencies, such as Home Care. Both the person with dementia and their caregiver attend the program every Wednesday, normally for a period of three months.

At the Living with Dementia Program, clients and their caregivers participate in a variety of physical and social activities, such as exercises, crafts and games, as well as education sessions and discussions

# The Alumni Support Group

The Alumni Support Group was created for caregivers who participated in the Living with Dementia Program. The Alumni Support group offers a supportive environment for caregivers to come together, foster previous connections and create new ones as they navigate the dementia journey with their loved ones.