

Caring Together

JUNE 2026

A PUBLICATION BY THE ALZHEIMER'S ALLIANCE TRI-STATE AREA

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THE MISSION OF THE ALZHEIMER'S ALLIANCE:

To empower those affected by Alzheimer's disease with resources for enhancing their quality of life through education and support.

SUPPORT GROUPS:

🕒 2:00 PM

- JUNE 3
- JULY 1
- AUGUST 5

mark your CALENDAR

ALL MEETINGS HELD AT THE
ALZHEIMER'S ALLIANCE

📍 100 MEMORY LN.

MEMORY CAFE:

🕒 10:00 AM

- JUNE 20
- JULY 18
- AUG 15

TRAUMA-INFORMED CARE: CREATING SAFETY AND TRUST THROUGH A UNIVERSAL APPROACH

JUNE 17 @ 11:00 AM – 1:10 PM CENTRAL TIME (CT)



Caring for someone with dementia goes beyond physical support—it also means creating a sense of safety, trust, and emotional comfort. As dementia progresses, individuals may experience confusion and fear, and those with past trauma may even have old memories or emotions resurface. A trauma-informed approach helps caregivers reduce distress and respond with empathy. This workshop explains how trauma can affect people with dementia and offers practical strategies—like being patient, respecting personal space, and paying attention to cues—to provide more supportive, dignified care.

For more information and events like this, please visit:

<https://alzfdn.org/events/>



Our Place Day Respite Center provides meaningful social engagement in a safe, supportive environment. Through structured activities, peer interaction, and compassionate care, our “friends” enjoy connection and stimulation while caregivers receive much-needed respite.

For more information about Our Place Day Respite Center or to schedule a visit, please contact the Alzheimer's Alliance at:

www.alztristate.org/ourplace

100 Memory Lane Texarkana, TX 75503

903-223-8021

Twice as Fine Texarkana Wine Festival 2026!



Memorials

Ronald Bright

Janis Robbins
Susan Robbins

Betty Sue Cowley

Carie Buckley
Chapelwood Memorial Gardens
Joan and Paul Smith
Jill and Ricky Harrington
Rhonda Cagle Crass
Sada and Fred Hutcheson
Lynn and Bobby Green

Cheryl Durrett

Texarkana Tee Party
Carla and Stephen Ward
Lisa and Bobby Howell
Marcy and Dearn Pegues

Jane Wright

Rhonda Jones
Diane Brown
Curtis Easley
Annette Easley

Peggy Land Stone

Hooks High School Class of 1958

Jeanette Hinton

Virginia and Tom Kesterson

Kathy Shackelford

John Harrison
Cordell Klein
Sue and Dale Works
Connie and Mark Long
Kathy and Selden McMillin
Brenda and Tom Burns
Sara Barnett
Lynn and Bobby Green

Vicki Orr

David Parsons

Ann Renfro

Patricia Stephens

Diana Morriss

Curt Green

William Edward "Ed" Hill

Twin City Title

Lana Rehkopf

Alexander's Jewelers
Denise and James Goodwin

Sandra Rea

Patricia Stephens

Charles Banks

Ann Banks

Honorariums

Al Renfro

Patricia Stephens



PROJECT LIFESAVER

Bringing Loved Ones Home

Project Lifesaver is the premier search and rescue program operated internationally by public safety agencies, and is strategically designed for "at risk" individuals who are prone to the life-threatening behavior of wandering. The primary mission of Project Lifesaver is to provide timely response to save lives and reduce potential injury for adults and children with the propensity to wander due to a cognitive condition.

HOW IT WORKS: CALL **911**

If an enrolled client goes missing, the caregiver notifies their local Project Lifesaver agency by calling 911, and a trained emergency team responds to the wanderer's area. The first responders will then use the client's individualized frequency to triangulate the position of the individual, in an effort to locate them & return them home safely.

Does your loved one qualify for Project Lifesaver?

- Not allowed to drive a vehicle
- Cannot live alone
- Must be supervised at all times

If your loved one meets the qualifications, contact the Alzheimer's Alliance to enroll:

 **903-223-8021**

4,605

RESCUED TO DATE INTERNATIONALLY

LOCATES
DAY OR NIGHT

AVERAGE RECOVERY TIME:

30 MINUTES



This program was partially funded by the Alzheimer's Foundation of America (AFA)

NOW FOR BOWIE, CASS AND MILLER COUNTIES

Medicare's Care Compare: A Must-Know Tool for Caregivers

Finding the right doctor, nursing home, or home health agency for a loved one with Alzheimer's can feel overwhelming. Medicare's free online tool, Care Compare, makes it easier to navigate those decisions with confidence.

At [medicare.gov/care-compare](https://www.medicare.gov/care-compare), you can search and compare hospitals, nursing homes, home health agencies, hospice providers, inpatient rehabilitation facilities, and doctors — all in one place. Each listing includes quality ratings, performance scores, patient outcome data, and contact information so you can evaluate options side by side before making any calls or visits. Nursing home listings even include staffing levels and health inspection results, which are especially important when looking for memory care. No Medicare account or login is required, and the tool is completely free for anyone to use — whether or not your loved one is currently enrolled in Medicare. It works on any phone, tablet, or computer.

<https://www.medicare.gov/care-compare/>

Our Place!



It was a big month for birthdays! Lee was crowned king for the day and celebrated with a homemade apple pie! Pene showed off a stunning jigsaw puzzle featuring colorful birds among wildflowers. She was all smiles and rightfully so — it's a beautiful one! Our Wednesday ladies made paper mache vases they got to take home! We are so thankful to share these special moments with our friends and companions!

Can Hospice Help My Loved One with Dementia Even Though They Have Been Placed in a Care Facility?

The short answer is yes — and for many families, this comes as a profound relief. One of the most common misconceptions about hospice care is that it is only available to patients living at home. In reality, hospice can be brought directly to your loved one wherever they call home, including an assisted living facility, a memory care unit, or a skilled nursing facility.

Understanding What Hospice Actually Is:

Hospice is covered under Medicare Part A, Medicaid, and most private insurance plans, meaning cost is rarely a barrier for qualifying patients.

Does Your Loved One Qualify?

To qualify for hospice under Medicare, a physician must certify a life expectancy of six months or less if the illness follows its expected course.

For dementia, doctors look for markers such as:

- Inability to walk or communicate meaningfully
- Incontinence of bowel and bladder
- Inability to eat or swallow adequately, with significant weight loss
- Recurrent infections such as aspiration pneumonia

How Hospice Works Alongside a Care Facility

When a loved one lives in a nursing home or memory care community, a hospice team works alongside the existing facility staff. The facility continues to provide housing, meals, and basic daily care, while the hospice team layers in specialized support focused on comfort, symptom management, and emotional and spiritual care.

What Can Hospice Do?

- Pain and Symptom Management — Hospice nurses and physicians are experts at identifying and treating discomfort, adjusting medications as the disease progresses and catching signs of pain that are easy to miss.
- More Frequent Nursing Visits — A hospice nurse makes regular, dedicated visits to your loved one and most programs offer on-call nursing support 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.
- Personal Care from Hospice Aides — Additional hands-on support such as bathing, grooming, and repositioning for comfort, supplementing what the facility already provides.
- Social Work Support — A hospice social worker helps the entire family navigate difficult decisions, assist with advance care planning, and provide guidance through the emotions that come with watching a loved one decline.
- Chaplaincy and Spiritual Care — Compassionate spiritual support tailored to your family's values and beliefs, whatever they may be.
- Bereavement Support — Hospice care does not end at the time of death. Families receive bereavement support for at least 13 months following the loss of their loved one.

Importantly, a patient does not need to be "days away" from death to receive hospice.

Many dementia patients receive services for months or in some cases years.

Earlier enrollment typically means greater benefit for both the patient and the family.

You do not have to wait for a doctor to bring it up.

Any family member can call a hospice provider directly and request a free evaluation.

Taking the Next Step

If you think your loved one might benefit, here are a few simple steps:

- Ask the care facility's director of nursing or social worker whether a hospice evaluation seems appropriate.
- Speak with your loved one's physician and ask directly: "Is it time to consider hospice?"
- Contact a local hospice provider — most offer free consultations and will come directly to the facility.