

What is person-centered dementia care?

A person-centered dementia care program values and fosters a dynamic culture that supports a partnership among persons served, families/support systems, and providers. Leadership recognizes that dementia care is a maturing, challenging, and forward-thinking field. It commits to providing the supports, resources, and education needed to stay current while enriching and optimizing the:

- Function and quality of life of persons served.
- Strengths of persons served.
- Capabilities of personnel.
- Performance of the program.
- Partnerships with families/support systems.

Through ongoing communication and assessment processes, the program demonstrates that it:

- Knows the histories, preferences, abilities, interests, skills, talents, and ongoing needs of persons served and recognizes and anticipates that these change over time and
- Bridges the person's past, present, and future.



About CARF

CARF International, is an independent, nonprofit accreditor of health and human services.

Through accreditation, CARF assists service providers in improving the quality of their services, demonstrating value, and meeting internationally recognized organizational and program standards.

For more information:

Visit www.carf.org/aging for more information and full descriptions of the programs available for accreditation.

To learn how to add dementia care accreditation to an existing CARF accreditation; seek accreditation for your nursing home, adult day services, assisted living residence, or CCRC; or attend or arrange for an educational program about the dementia care standards, please call our staff at (888) 281-6531 or as@carf.org.

Setting the Standard in Dementia Care



Did you know?

- 42% of assisted living residents in the US have Alzheimer's or other dementias
- 61% of nursing home residents have moderate or severe cognitive impairment
- 75% of people with Alzheimer's will be admitted to a nursing home by age 80, compared with only 4% of the general population

All of the stats listed above are from The Gerontologist, 2018, Vol. 5B, No. 51.

Research aligns with CARF Standards

The 2018 Dementia Care Practice Recommendations outlined by the Alzheimer's Association® are intended for providers in residential and community-based care settings. The substance and intent of the CARF dementia care standards align with the recommendations by addressing:

- Person-centered care
- Detection and diagnosis
- Assessment and care planning
- Medical management
- Information, education, and support
- Ongoing care for behavioral and psychological symptoms of dementia, and support for activities of daily living
- Staffing
- Supportive and therapeutic environments
- Transitions and coordination of services

Where are person-centered dementia care standards applicable?

These standards may be applied in conjunction with existing standards in any of the following programs:

- Adult Day Services
- Assisted Living
- Person-Centered Long-Term Care Community (Nursing Home)
- Continuing Care Retirement Community (CCRC)
- Home and Community Services
- Case Management

Examples:

A nursing home that has a special care unit for residents with Alzheimer's disease. These standards would be applied in the special care unit and the Person-Centered Long-Term Care standards would be applied to the nursing home.

An adult day program that has special programming throughout the day geared toward persons with Alzheimer's disease. These standards would be used in conjunction with the Adult Day Services standards.

An assisted living organization that is totally dedicated to caring for persons with Alzheimer's disease. These standards would be used in conjunction with the standards for Assisted Living.

A CCRC that has identified persons living in its assisted living units who have Alzheimer's disease or other dementias. It provides daily programming to them using personnel who are educated in this area of care.

How the standards were developed

The standards represent an international consensus. Development began when CARF convened an International Advisory Committee representing Alzheimer's Associations in the United States, Canada, and Europe; providers of Adult Day programs, Assisted Living, Independent Housing, Nursing Homes, CCRCs and care provided at home; clinicians; therapists; a family member; and a person with Alzheimer's disease.

A draft of the standards was submitted to the field for review and refinement. Hundreds of consumers, caregivers, providers, payers, and regulators studied and commented on the standards before their publication.



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