

Dementia Friendly Delaware to Support Those with Dementia, Their Families

Lt. Governor Bethany Hall-Long and the Delaware Department of Health and Social Services' Division of Services for Aging and Adults with Physical Disabilities (DSAAPD) are hosting an event on Tuesday, April 30, in Dover to show what Dementia Friendly Delaware can offer for Delawareans living with dementia and their families.

Dementia Friendly Delaware (DFD) is a network of communities, organizations and individuals seeking to ensure that communities across Delaware are equipped to support people living with dementia and their caregivers. Dementia-friendly communities foster the ability of people living with dementia to remain in the community and engage and thrive in day-to-day living.

"As Delaware's Lieutenant Governor, I am working with partners from around the state to take on our most pressing health care challenges, including behavioral health, in order to make Delaware a stronger and healthier place," Lt. Governor Bethany Hall-Long said. "We all can join together to address these challenges. As awareness of dementia grows, we can take action to create dementia-friendly communities. Every part of the community, including your organization, has a unique role in supporting people with dementia and their family and friends."

Delaware will offer a preview of the new Delaware Center for Alzheimer's disease and Related Dementia (DECARD), a virtual hub for resources and information on dementia, at the April 30 event at the Blue Hen Corporate Center at 655 Bay Road, Dover. Delaware is looking for municipalities, corporations and organizations to take the lead and become dementia friendly.

If you or your agency are interested, please attend this event to learn more. It starts at 1:30 p.m.

The DECARD site will host tools that organizations can use to support staff who are caring for individuals diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease or related dementia or who have been diagnosed themselves. Trainings, videos and guides for different community sectors will also be available on the site, which will be the virtual home to Dementia Friendly Delaware. This is part of a larger initiative, Dementia Friendly America (DFA). Visit www.dfamerica.org to learn more about DFA.

DSAAPD, one of DHSS' 11 divisions, advocates for, provides access to, and coordinates long-term services and supports in the most appropriate setting. For more information about DSAAPD, call the Aging and Disability Resource Center at 1-800-223-9074.

If you cannot attend the event but would still like more information, please contact Julie.Devlin@delaware.gov.

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The Department of Health and Social Services is committed to improving the quality of life of Delaware's citizens by promoting health and well-being, fostering self-sufficiency, and protecting vulnerable populations.