

Summer House: Memory Care in a Home-Like Environment



When it comes to memory care, some experts agree that familiarity with staff in an intimate setting is a positive factor one should consider when considering quality care.

At Summer House at Claremont Manor, that is exactly what staff strives for. With a setting as cheerful and bright as a cherished summer home, Summer House is an intimate “neighborhood” featuring 17 residences, each with modern comforts and classic styling. In this one-of-a-kind space specially tailored for those with Alzheimer’s or dementia, you’ll find quiet sun-filled rooms, lovely landscaping, and garden pathways. Summer House is where families can share time together.

“Memory care has come a long way the past few years especially at Claremont Manor,” said Greg Hirst, the community’s executive director. “At Summer House at Claremont Manor, residents are moving into an environment as close as possible to an actual home, not a facility or unit. We have comfortable bedrooms, like and intimate the community the more effective the care. That is our philosophy.”

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– Greg Hirst, Claremont Manor Executive Director

The Summer House residences designed specifically for memory care have received tremendous support from families because the special needs of those with Alzheimer's or related dementia's are being met in a place that is more like living at home than in an institution. The design is central to the orientation. Summer House hallways, for example, are short, easily navigated and provide easy access to common areas that promote social interaction.

Also unique to Summer House is its above average staffing ratio as well as how staff are used. "We have been successful in minimizing staff turnover, so that residents get to know their caregivers and vice versa," Greg said.

"The same staff that residents see in the morning and get them ready for the day, engage with them during activities and serve them meals throughout the day. It's a different feeling than having different staff assigned to specific tasks. Our staff does it all while keeping the residents as their focus."

To further aid caregivers, Summer House uses cutting-edge innovation like iN2L, Music and Memory and SingFit. The technologies plus life enrichment opportunities, games, puzzles, interactive robotic pets, music programs, and more, offer social, intellectual, physical, and spiritual enrichment in both group and independent settings. "Here, technology is a tool—a rich and modern complement to our own brand of compassionate care that never goes out of style.

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