# What is Dementia?

Dementia is an illness that affects the brain, resulting in memory loss, difficulties with language, recognition, planning and performing complex tasks. It can affect adults of any age but it is more common among those who are above 65 years old. There are several stages for the progression of dementia and the experience is different for each person.

# **ABCD Signs and Symptoms** of Dementia

A person may have dementia if he/she displays these **ABCD** signs and symptoms.

# **Activities of daily living**

Difficulty performing daily activities or tasks such as cooking and dressing

### Behaviour

May become socially withdrawn, more easily upset and frustrated

### Cognition

Difficulty remembering things, problems with language and performing calculations

### Disorientation

May lose his/her way in less familiar places, poor orientation of day, date and/or time

# **How Can You Help?**

Be **KIND** when you come across someone who is alone and appears anxious.



**Keep a lookout** for people who show the ABCD signs and symptoms of dementia

### **Interact with patience**

- Be patient and ask "Can I help?"
- Talk and communicate slowly

### Notice their needs and offer help

- Ask for the next-of kin's whereabouts or contact number
- Look for an identification sticker with next-of-kin's details e.g. EZ-Link Card
- Check the Dementia Friends app for updates of missing persons

#### Dial for help

- Call the next-of-kin
- Bring the person to the nearest Go-To Point that can provide assistance
- Please call the police at 999 as the last resort

Meet **Giffy**, our helpful Dementia Friend who cares and looks out for the people around him!



### **Communicate with CARE**

It is important that you communicate with **CARE** to someone who may have dementia.

Use **Clear** and simple language when talking

**Acknowledge** his/her concerns

Be **Respectful** and reassuring

**Engage** to provide comfort and build trust

Find the nearest **Go-To Point**: https://dementiafriendly.sg/Home/GoToPoints

# Dementia Friends Mobile App



Download the **Dementia Friends** app to learn more about caring for persons with dementia. With the app, you can:



Get info, tips and resources on dementia



Post cases of missing loved ones and help keep a lookout



Receive updates on events and training







### **Helping Your Loved Ones**

To enable persons with dementia to move around safely, caregivers may indicate their contact details on the sticker below and stick it onto an EZ-Link Card or other personal items.



# In Case of Emergency, Dial (ICED):

Next-of-kin's Name & Contact (家属名字及联络号码)

For assistance and support:

Email AIC at careinmind@aic.sg

Call Singapore Silver Line 1800 650 6060

[Monday to Friday, 8.30am to 8.30pm & Saturday, 8.30am to 4.00pm]

If the next -of-kin is uncontactable, please contact the neares Go-To Point (https://dementiafriendly.sg/Home/GoToPoints) or contact **the Police at 999** 

# **Happy Mind, Healthy Life!**

Lower the risks of developing dementia with these tips on keeping your mind and body active.



Regular exercise

Take part in activities such as exercises, brisk walks and Zumba



An active social life
Connect with friends and
family, and volunteer in your

community



Healthy diet
Adopt a healthy diet
and cooking methods



Challenge your brain

Engage your brain through reading, playing games and learning new skills

# **Self-Care Tips for Caregivers**

Caring for a loved one can be rewarding and at times, challenging. Here are some tips to help Cope with caregiving stress.

### **Care for vourself**

Exercise regularly, eat well, and take time off for personal activities and relationships

### open yourself to help

Let your loved ones know when you need help with caregiving and accept help when offered

# Prepare yourself for caregiving

Participate in support groups to exchange knowledge and tips with other caregivers

# **Empower yourself**

Embrace your role as a caregiver, feel positive and focus on what you can control

### **Dementia-Friendly Singapore**

The Dementia-Friendly Singapore (DFSG) initative aims to build a more caring and inclusive society to support people with dementia to age in place. With help within easy reach, people with dementia and their caregivers will feel respected, valued, and confident to be able to continue to lead independent lives at home and in the community.

If you would like to join us in building a Dementia-Friendly Singapore or if you have any enquiries, you may contact:

#### careinmind@aic.sq

Learn more about dementia and get updates on DFSG on our Facebook Page :



### **Useful Contacts**

### **Singapore Silver Line**

- www.silverpages.sg \ \ 1800 650 6060
- Monday Friday, 8.30am 8.30pm Saturday, 8.30am - 4.00pm

# Alzheimer's Disease Association Dementia Helpline

- Monday Friday, 9.00am 6.00pm



### **Forget Us Not**

www.forgetusnot.sg



An initiative by











Grandma has dementia.

But that doesn't change the way I love her.



Download the Dementia Friends Mobile App

See inside for more details