



Basics Guide

This document is a QuickStart guide for organizations looking to start their journey toward Dementia Friendly Oklahoma recognition. It is produced by the Oklahoma State Department of Health's Oklahoma Healthy Brain Initiative. This guide will provide information on:



Dementia Friendly
Oklahoma



What it Means to be
Dementia Friendly



Who Can be
a Partner



Requirements
for Recognition



Helpful Links
& Resources

What is Dementia Friendly Oklahoma?

- Dementia Friendly Oklahoma is an initiative to bring awareness and education across the state to support those living with dementia and their care partners.
- Oklahoma is a member of the Dementia Friendly America® Network, which is a multi-sector, national collaborative on a mission to foster communities that are equipped to support people with dementia and their family and friend care partners by working to become “dementia friendly.”

What does it mean to be a Dementia Friendly Community?

- A dementia friendly community is more than just being kind to those with the disease and their care partners. A dementia friendly community is where those with the disease, as well as their families and care partners, feel supported, respected and included to foster quality of life.

- Joining DFO means an entity is engaging in a process to become more dementia friendly. Every part of the community plays a role and works together to take steps to create a dementia friendly culture.
- It is a continuous process in which an entity is willing to continue learning and creating a better space in the community for those with the disease and their care partners to be able to continue living their lives to the fullest.

Who can be a Dementia Friendly Oklahoma Partner?

- Businesses/Organizations
- Campuses
- Communities/Towns/Cities
- Faith Organizations
- Restaurants
- Clinics/Health Care Systems, etc.

What is required to be recognized as a Dementia Friendly Oklahoma partner?

1. To become a Dementia Friendly Oklahoma partner, you will need to sign up to host an educational presentation to learn about how to make your place of business, organization, congregation, campus, restaurant or community more supportive of those facing this disease and their care partners.
 2. Once you have held a presentation, a link will be sent to apply so we can learn about the initiatives and efforts you are taking to become Dementia Friendly.
 - Each year you will need to reapply to be a Dementia Friendly Oklahoma partner so we can learn of new things you are doing to create a safe and welcoming environment for those facing the disease.
 - We highly recommend you apply to be Certified Healthy, as well, and be sure to mark that you are Dementia Friendly (once approved) on their application. You can learn more about Certified Healthy Oklahoma [here](#).
- **Presentations offered:**
 - Employee-focused (required):
 - Dementia Friendly Work@Health
 - Employee-focused (optional):
 - Inservice presentations can be created based on needs.
 - Community-focused (optional):
 - Ten Warning Signs
 - Understanding Alzheimer's and Dementia
 - Effective Communication
 - We recommend that you continue to offer presentations beyond the one required to bring better awareness and education to your community and employees. You can even set up a series and host the members of your community so they can become more dementia friendly!

Helpful Links & Resources

- OSDH Webpage: <https://oklahoma.gov/health/dfo.html>
- Dementia Friendly America: <https://dfamerica.org/>
 - DFA Local Government Sector Guide: <https://view.officeapps.live.com/op/view.aspx?src=https%3A%2F%2Fdfamerica.org%2Fwp-content%2Fuploads%2F2024%2F02%2FLocal-government-guide.docx&wdOrigin=BROWSELINK>
- ACT on Alzheimer's: <https://actonalz.org/>
- Alzheimer's Association: <https://www.alz.org/>
- Us Against Alzheimer's: <https://www.usagainstalzheimer.org/>
- Oklahoma Healthy Aging Initiative (OHA): <https://www.ouhealth.com/oklahoma-center-for-geroscience/healthy-aging-services/oklahoma-healthy-aging-initiative-ohai/>
- Oklahoma Dementia Care Network: <https://www.ouhealth.com/oklahoma-center-for-geroscience/healthy-aging-services/oklahoma-dementia-care-network-okdcn/>
- Certified Healthy Oklahoma: <https://oklahoma.gov/certifiedhealthy.html>

