

Why Comfort Matters?

There is no more important role for The Oasis Assisted Living and Reflections Memory Care than that of bringing comfort to people with advanced dementia and, by extension, to their families and friends. By partnering and participating in the Comfort Matters program, we are actively taking steps to prevent and avoid unnecessary pain and suffering before they take hold of your loved one.

Through this program the staff works closely together to identify, address, and alleviate an underlying reason for distress with each individual resident. By partnering with you to develop an individualized care plan for your loved one, we are able to focus on the specific needs and causes of distress to bring them the comfort they deserve.



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All services are provided without regard to race, color, national origin, disability or age.



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ComfortMatters[®]
*From Beatitudes Campus
Living Better with Dementia*

partnering with

The Oasis
ASSISTED LIVING
&
Reflections
MEMORY CARE

*Through Christian love and excellence
we are dedicated to providing
a fulfilling lifestyle and promoting
independence to those we serve.*

480.834.0600

What is Comfort Matters?

Comfort Matters Dementia Care Education is interdisciplinary education for professional caregivers who, in collaboration with family and friends, provide care for persons with dementia. Known formerly as Palliative Care for Advanced Dementia: A Model Teaching Unit, this program began in 2005 when Beatitudes Campus and Hospice of the Valley created an education program focused on teaching best practices for dementia care in Phoenix, Arizona.

From its beginning, Comfort Matters adopted two principles of caregiving initially advocated by Thomas Kitwood—comfort care and personhood. Building on these principles, Comfort Matters educates long-term health care professionals on how to make comfort the goal of all tasks for people with dementia. Comfort or palliative care, as it is often called, has long been considered for persons at end-of-life. Comfort Matters demonstrates that this model of care improves life for persons with dementia long before they are end-stage. With Comfort Matters, persons with dementia continue to be viewed as experts on their personal comfort, despite the challenges of living with dementia.

Defining Comfort

Merriam-Webster's definition

1. "To give strength and hope to"
2. "To ease the grief or trouble of"

Synonyms

assure, cheer, console, reassure, soothe

Antonyms

distress, torment, torture, trouble

Rationale for Comfort

- **Comfort is a benefit to people with dementia.**
- **People with dementia are experts on their personal comfort told in all forms of communications.**
- **People with dementia communicate comfort and discomfort through their actions.**
- **Everyone with dementia can be comfortable.**
- **Comfort is NOT just for end-of-life circumstances; it's necessary on every leg of their journey here with us.**

What does comfort look like for people with dementia?

- **They are free from pain.**
- **They sleep when they're tired and wake when refreshed.**
- **They eat what they enjoy when they're hungry.**
- **They receive any care on their own terms.**
- **They are engaged in things that make sense to them.**
- **They experience an environment which meets their needs at every level.**

