

Caregiver Resources for Dementia Care and Respite Lamoille, Orange & Washington Counties

PLEASE NOTE THAT SOME SERVICES MAY BE RESTRICTED, ONLINE ONLY OR UNAVAILABLE DUE TO COVID CONDITIONS. PLEASE CHECK WITH CONTACTS FOR THE SERVICES YOU ARE INTERESTED IN AS LISTED BELOW. THANK YOU.

Area Agency on Aging & CVCOA HelpLine

- **Central Vermont Council on Aging (CVCOA)**, 59 N. Main Street, Barre, VT 05641
Phone: 802-479-0531 / Toll Free: 877-379-2600 / Fax: 802-479-4235
Email: info@cvcoa.org / Website: www.cvcoa.org
- **CVCOA HelpLine** 1-802-477-1364 -- The CVCOA HelpLine provides information and assistance to help you learn about services and identify options that may fit your needs. In-depth options counseling visits are also free and can be held at your home, at CVCOA offices, or by phone; call the HelpLine for more information.

Alzheimer's Association

- Alzheimer's Association 24/7 Helpline: 800-272-3900 / www.alz.org/
- Alzheimer's and Dementia Caregiver Center: www.alz.org/care/overview.asp
- Alzheimer's Association/VT Chapter: 802-316-3839 / www.alz.org/vermont/

Education and Support/Social Groups

- **“Powerful Tools for Caregivers”**
An evidence-based, six-week series of classes for family caregivers designed to help you restore the balance between caring for others and caring for yourself. For information contact Barb Asen, Family Caregiver Support Director at CVCOA: 802-476-2681 / basen@cvcoa.org.
- **Memorable Times Café (Memory Café) and Memorable Times Online**
A social gathering where people experiencing memory loss and their care partners come together to have fun and connect in a relaxed, non-judgmental atmosphere. This program is offered in partnership with the ABLE Library of the VT Department of Libraries and facilitates access to library resources. The group meets online the first Wednesday morning of each month over Zoom. Additional in-person events are resuming as safety allows. Contact Barb at CVCOA for more info: 802-476-2681 or basen@cvcoa.org.
- **Caregiver Tea** is an in-person social gathering for family caregivers. Participants can enjoy a break from caregiving and share in conversation with other caregivers. A brief wellness or arts activity is offered each time. Schedule subject to public health considerations. Contact Barb Asen at 802-476-2681 or basen@cvcoa.org.
- **Alzheimer's Association education programs: “Know the Ten Signs”; “The Basics: Memory Loss, Dementia and Alzheimer's Disease”; “Living with Alzheimer's”; and “Legal and Financial Planning for Alzheimer's Disease”.** Contact the Alzheimer's Association at 1-802-316-3839 or www.alz.org/vermont for information and schedule.

- **ALZConnected** online social networking community for people with Alzheimer’s disease and their caregivers: questions and input among peers; public and private groups; topical message boards / www.alzconnected.org
- **Support groups – check with contacts for information on groups meeting remotely**
 - **Alzheimer’s Caregiver Support Group -- Weekly over Zoom**
Every Monday at 2 p.m. Register at <https://tinyurl.com/AlzAssnSupportGroups>
 - **Alzheimer’s Telephone Caregiver Support Group**
Second Tuesday of the month, 4:00 – 5:30 p.m.
Contact 802-316-3839 x8011 for information
 - **Alzheimer’s Online Message Board and Chat Rooms** at
http://www.alz.org/apps/we_can_help/support_groups.asp
 - **Randolph Area Caregiver Support Group** – Gifford Medical Center
Meeting online and in-person as conditions allow. Second Wednesday of every month from 2:00 - 3:30 p.m. For information, please contact Kayla Thibault at 802-728-7781 or Noreen Fordham at nfordham@giffordhealthcare.org
 - **UCM Caregiver Support Group** – Unitarian Church, Montpelier. For info, please contact Hugo Liepmann 802-565-0059, Gale Pekar 856-986-3477 or UCM 802-223-7861.
 - **Support Group for Caregivers of People with Dementia – DHMC**
Dartmouth Hitchcock Medical Center; now meeting online
For information and to register: <https://events.dartmouth-hitchcock.org/organizer/aging-resource-center/> or call 603-653-3460
 - **End of Life / Bereavement / Grief Support Groups**
Berlin/Online: Central VT Home Health & Hospice, 802-224-2241 for information
Morrisville: Lamoille Home Health & Hospice, 802-888-4651 for information
Dartmouth Hitchcock Aging Resource Center/Online: 603-653-3460 for information

Care Provider Agencies & Respite

- **Medicare Certified Home Health Agencies**
 - **Central Vermont Home Health and Hospice (CVHHH):** www.cvhhh.org, 802-223-1878
 - **Lamoille Home Health & Hospice:** www.lhha.org, 802-888-4651
 - **Visiting Nurse & Hospice for VT and NH:** www.vnhcare.org, 888-300-8853
 - **Bayada Nurses** (South Burlington): www.bayada.com, 802-655-7111, 800-466-8773
- **In-Home Care, Homemaking and Respite Services**
Private “fee-for-service” help provided in the home is available. Services may include personal care, bathing, toileting, meal preparation, light housekeeping, shopping, respite and more. For a comprehensive listing of home care provider agencies and their service areas, contact the **CVCOA HelpLine** at 800-642-5119 or email basen@cvcoa.org
- **Dementia Respite Grants**
Central Vermont Council on Aging offers respite grants to family members and other unpaid primary caregivers who are providing day-to-day care in the home for a person who has been diagnosed with Alzheimer’s disease or a related dementia and who meets certain financial criteria. These funds can be used to provide in-home respite services (home care or chore services, personal care, companion services) or out-of-home respite services (adult day programs and short-term stays in residential care facilities or nursing home), along with some additional “supplemental” services. Call the **CVCOA HelpLine** at 800-642-5119 for information.

- **Respite Grants** for caregivers of individuals with other conditions may be available on a limited basis. Contact Barb Asen at 802-476-2681 or basen@cvcoa.org for information.
- **Kinship Respite Grants** are available to individuals 55 years and older who are the primary guardian for a minor in their care. Funds may be used for child care in the home, outside the home or at youth activities. Contact Barb Asen at 802-476-2681 or basen@cvcoa.org.

Adult Day Programs

Daytime care in a social club atmosphere to foster independence & well-being while providing caregivers with needed respite. Services include: supervision, personal care, nursing services, socialization, and recreation.

- **Lamoille Area Adult Day Services** (Morrisville): 11 Court Street, 802-888-7045
- **Gifford Adult Day Program** (Bethel): 802-234-2165
<https://giffordhealthcare.org/service/senior-services/>

Memory Centers

These centers diagnose age-related memory & thinking disorders and provide treatment including drug therapies, family/patient support & counseling, and referrals to appropriate service agencies.

- **Dartmouth Geropsychiatry & Memory Clinic**, Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center
Hanover, NH 603-650-7075 for Intake and Appointments; 603-650-4725 for General Information; Information about dementia and assessment (see FAQs – “Being Diagnosed”):
<https://www.dartmouth-hitchcock.org/neurology/dementia.html>
- **The Memory Program**, University of Vermont Medical Center
Colchester, Vermont 1-800-358-1144
<https://www.uvmhealth.org/medcenter/Pages/Departments-and-Programs/Memory-Program.aspx>

Long-Term Care

Frail or disabled adults who medically and financially qualify for nursing home level of care may be eligible for Choices for Care, Vermont’s Long-Term Care Medicaid Program. This program provides individuals with a choice of settings in which to receive care: a nursing home, residential care home or in-home support. In-home supports include case management, personal care (e.g., help with bathing or dressing), respite care, adult day health center services, assistive devices and home modification. Choices for Care - Moderate Needs can provide assistance with adult day and some homemaker services. For more information about these programs contact the **CVCOA HelpLine** at 802-477-1364, your local home health agency, or visit the state’s Adult Services Division website at http://asd.vermont.gov/sites/asd/files/documents/Choices_for_Care_Options_At_A_Glance_o.pdf

Veteran-Directed Care Program

This program is designed for military veterans seeking an alternative to nursing home care and helps them receive in-home assistance and support so they can remain in their homes. It is a statewide collaboration between the Veterans Administration and Area Agencies on Aging. There is no income eligibility, but veterans must need a specified level of care. For information, call the **CVCOA HelpLine** at 802-477-1364 or visit www.va.gov/GERIATRICS/Guide/LongTermCare/Veteran-Directed_Care.asp#

Out of Home Placement and Respite Care

There are many residential care facilities in our service area, both large and small. Some of them may also provide short-term out of home respite, depending on bed availability. Contact the **CVCOA HelpLine** at 802-477-1364 for information.

Legal Assistance

Consulting with an attorney may be helpful as you and your family face a memory or cognitive impairment. Several organizations can help you locate a lawyer who specializes in your area of need.

- If you need help locating an attorney, contact the **Vermont Bar Association Lawyer Referral Service** at 800-639-7036 or www.vtbar.org.
- The **National Academy of Elder Law Attorneys** has a member directory which you can search for individuals who work with older clients, people with special needs and their families. Contact them at 703-942-5711 or www.naela.org.
- For information about putting **legal/estate and financial plans** in place visit www.alz.org/care/alzheimers-dementia-financial-legal-planning.asp.
- **Vermont Legal Aid's Elder Law Project** provides free legal advice and representation to persons over 60 in a broad range of civil legal areas (not criminal), including housing, healthcare, public benefits, abuse and exploitation cases, planning for incapacity, residential care issues, guardianship, veterans' issues. Call 800-889-2047 or see www.vtlegalaid.org.

Some Additional Resources (If you need help accessing online resources, please contact CVCOA.)

- Suicide Prevention Resources, vermont.gov/suicide-prevention-resources
- Dementia Map -- Free online guide to the resources needed by those diagnosed with a form of dementia, family members, and professionals providing care or services. www.dementiamap.com
- Alzheimer's Speaks -- radio/podcasts with diverse guests; quick tips, blog, dementia chat webinars, dementia-supportive products and services: www.alzheimersspeaks.com
- Maria's Place -- Free engaging activities for older adults and caregivers, mariasplace.com.
- Eldercare Locator, www.eldercare.gov
- Family Caregiver Alliance / National Center on Caregiving, www.caregiver.org
- National Institute on Aging, www.nia.nih.gov/HealthInformation
- Community of Vermont Elders (COVE), www.vermontelders.org
- VT Kin as Parents (VKAP), www.vermontkinasparents.org
- Safe Return Online, www.medicalert.org/safereturn or 888-572-8566
- GMT Community Rides, 802-223-7287
- ABLE Library (Audio, Braille, Large Print and Electronic Books), lib.ablelibrary@vermont.gov 802-636-0020 or toll-free, 800-479-1711
- American Parkinson's Disease Assn. -- VT Chapter, www.parkinsonsvt.org 802-847-3366
- Brain Injury Association of Vermont (BIA-VT), www.biavt.org 877-856-1772
- Vermont Assistive Technology Program, <https://vt.at4all.com/welcome.aspx>

There are many more resources that can be shared and explored!
Call our Helpline at 802-477-1364 or Family Caregiver Support at 802-4766-2681.
Also visit our website at www.cvcoa.org!

If you have additions, updates or corrections to information on these pages,
please contact basen@cvcoa.org. Thank you!