Popular Searches – starting a dementia care unit / improving environments

F amilies and professionals are often looking for activity materials to engage persons with dementia and interact with them. Identified here is a selected list of activity resources.

Materials may be available for loan from the Alzheimer's Association Green-Field Library or for downloading and purchase through various outlets. Search for titles in the online catalog and visit how to borrow. Items may be also be available for purchase through online outlets.

Resources for starting a dementia care unit / improving the environments for persons living with dementia

Consult your state nursing home regulations and local statistics

Start here. Check with your state health department or Department of Health and Human Services for the following: policies or statutes regarding dementia care units; statistics and other local data on special care units. Search the Internet to find the health department in your state using these terms: **health department [name of your state]** or **department of health and human services [name of your state]**. Or use this link
https://www.cdc.gov/stltpublichealth/sitesgovernance

NH regulations plus

The University of Minnesota has compiled a one-stop location to examine state regulations related to nursing homes with comparative analyses of over 70 topics in narrative and tabular form.
http://www.hpm.umn.edu/nhregsplus/index.html

Dementia care and the built environment. Position paper

Alzheimer's Australia, 2004
This paper provides a starting point for thinking about dementia design.
http://www.alzheimers.org.au/common/files/NAT/20040600_Nat_NP_3DemCareBuiltEnv.pdf

Dementia care practice recommendations for assisted living residences and nursing homes. Phases 1 & 2

Chicago, IL: Alzheimer's Association National Office; 2006.
Phase 1 includes dementia care practice recommendations for the environment.
http://www.alz.org/national/documents/brochure_DCPRphases1n2.pdf.

***Dementia care practice recommendations for assisted living residences and nursing homes.* From research to application: supportive and therapeutic environments for people living with dementia (2018), pp. S114 – S128.**

Margaret Calkins
https://www.alz.org/getmedia/1a0020aa-0bfb-47ac-a545-1dd8a3ee1444/alzheimers-dementia-care-practice-recommendations

Dementia design guidelines. Home and Community Care Capitol Works Program.

Hodges, L.; Bridge, C.; Chaudhary, K.
Lidcombe, NSW: University of Sydney, The Home Modification Information Clearinghouse Project Team, 2006.
https://www.homemods.info/resources/hminfo-research-publications/occasional/dementia-design-guidelines-home-and-community-care-capital-works-program

Dementia special care units in residential care communities: United States, 2010
(statistics)

Eunice Park-Lee, Manisha Sengupta, Lauren Harris-Kojetin
Hyattsville, MD: National Center for Health Statistics
http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/databriefs/db134.htm

Design innovations for aging and Alzheimer's: creating caring environments.

Brawley, E.C.
Hoboken, NJ: John Wiley & Sons, 2006. Available on Amazon.

Designing for Alzheimer's disease: strategies for creating better care environments.

Brawley, E.C.
New York, NY: Wiley, 1997. Available on Amazon

Designing environments for dementia

Chicago, IL: Alzheimer's Association National Office; 2006.
A comprehensive resource of books, articles, Web sites, and videos on designing environments for dementia care which includes this selected list and more produced by the Alzheimer's Association Green-Field Library.
https://www.alz.org/media/Documents/design-environ-for-alzheimers-rl-2017.pdf

Environmental design resources at the Alzheimer's Association Virtual Library Pinterest page.

Registration is required**.**
http://www.pinterest.com/AlzVL/environmental-design

Geriatric care by design: a clinician's handbook to meet the needs of older adults through environmental and practice design

Chicago, IL: American Medical Association, 2011
http://amascb.pdn.ipublishcentral.com/product/geriatric-care-by-design

Health promotion by design in long-term care settings.

Concord, CA: The Center for Health Design, 2006.
A study reporting the physical environment impacts and outcomes in resident quality of life, resident safety, and staff stress.
http://www.healthdesign.org/chd/research/health-promotion-design-long-term-care-settings

Low cost practical strategies to transform nursing home environments.

Cutler, L.J.; Kane, R.A.
Minneapolis, MN: Retirement Research Foundation, University of Minnesota, 2006.
Contains ideas for modifying the existing physical environment of nursing homes in ways that improve residents' quality of life and without major expenditures.
https://www.pioneernetwork.net/wp-content/uploads/2016/10/Low-Cost-Practical-Strategies-to-Transform-Nursing-Home-Environments.pdf

***Put yourself in my place: designing and managing care homes for people with dementia**.*

Cantley, C.; Wilson, R.C.
www.jrf.org.uk/sites/files/jrf/1861348118.pdf

***Questions about the environment: an assessment checklist**.*

Lansing, MI: Michigan Department of Community Health, 1999.
This resource lists questions a professional or family caregiver can ask to determine how well the physical environment provides for the strengths and needs of a person with dementia.
https://www.michigan.gov/documents/mdhhs/Caring_Sheet_22_619135_7.pdf

Technology for long-term care

Government funded resource containing information on over 1200 technology products for quality improvement in long term care.
http://www.techforltc.org

Therapeutic environment screening survey for nursing homes (TESS-NH)

An observational instrument for assessing the physical environment of institutional settings for persons with dementia.
Sloane, P.D.; Mitchell, C.M.; Weisman, G.; et al. *The Journals of Gerontology. Series B.* Mar 2002; vol. 57(2), pp. S69-S78.
www.unc.edu/depts/tessnh/tess_info.htm

Virtual environments

Stirling, Scotland: Dementia Services Development Centre, University of Scotland
Online resource for facilities (nursing and hospital) and families demonstrating dementia-friendly design
http://dementia.stir.ac.uk/design/virtual-environments