

# PRACTICAL APPLICATIONS OF CURRENT RESEARCH IN THE INSTITUTIONALIZED CARE OF THOSE LIVING WITH DEMENTIA DIAGNOSES

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**R**esearch outcomes mean very little if they are not translated into improving quality of life for those living with diagnoses of Alzheimer's disease or related forms of dementia. However, there remains much research that goes untranslated into care practices in institutionalized settings due to a lack of knowledge regarding research outcomes. Institutional leaders who are unwilling to change current care practices or a lack of funds enabling the purchase of new resources needed to implement care practices that have been empirically demonstrated to improve the quality of life for affected individuals. Additionally, institutional administrators often persist in putting those diagnosed with dementia in a deficit-based perspective rather than seeking proven methods to maximize quality of life by practicing abilities-based and wellness-based philosophies of care. This presentation will seek to review current research depicting state of the art quality of life interventions available for those living in institutionalized care and will demonstrate some of the said interventions. Additionally, the presenter will discuss some of the factors impeding the translation of proven, empirically-demonstrated interventions into institutional practice and will provide suggestions for overcoming these factors. Finally, a wellness-based daily program will be presented, featuring eight domains of wellness and that emphasizes person centered approaches which has been shown to improve quality of life for those living in institutional settings in the United States.

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