

# LIVING WITH DEMENTIA

## INFORMATION SHEET FOR PHYSICIANS



### SPECIALIZED HOME-BASED HOSPICE CARE FOCUSED ON THE NEEDS OF PATIENTS WITH DEMENTIA

*CareFirst is a not-for-profit community-based program providing residents of Chemung, Schuyler, and Steuben counties of New York State with complete hospice, palliative care, and grief services.*

*formerly Southern Tier Hospice and Palliative Care*

### WHAT IS THE CAREFIRST LIVING WITH DEMENTIA PROGRAM?

The **CareFirst Living with Dementia** program provides in-home comprehensive medical care and support services for patients with advanced dementia.

### HOW CAN MY PATIENT BENEFIT FROM THE CAREFIRST LIVING WITH DEMENTIA PROGRAM?

The goal of **Living with Dementia** is to **reduce unnecessary hospital visits**, maximize patient function, manage distressing symptoms, support families, and **enable patients to remain in their home**, including nursing homes and other facilities, while receiving quality care, including at the end of life.

If you have a patient with dementia of any cause with incontinence, recurrent infections, swallowing difficulties, weight loss and a FAST score of 7C or greater, he or she may be eligible to join CareFirst's Living with Dementia program.

### WHAT SERVICES CAN MY PATIENT RECEIVE?

- Home-based case management including nursing, social work, spiritual care, personal care, medical equipment, and medication coverage
- 24-hour on-call system that brings skilled care to the home in times of crises or change
- Continuation of primary physician control over patient care plan
- Intensive support and education for patient's family and caregivers, including short-term respite, emotional support, and proactive planning for crises
- LPN skilled care, including personal care, assistance with feeding and walking, and more
- Coverage of short-term hospital stays necessary for symptom control

To learn more about how the **CareFirst Living with Dementia** program can help your patient, please call us at 607.962.3100.



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