Dementia Friendly America

A Dementia Friendsgiving

November 10, 2026
12:30–3:00 PM ET

Dementia Friendsgiving (Virtual) Event Overview

Harvesting Connections: Celebrating relationships, community and the power of coming together.

Growing a More Connected Future

Keynote Speaker: Julia Hotz, author of ***The Connection Cure***, explores how five core ingredients—movement, nature, art, service and belonging—can help address a wide range of health and well-being challenges, including dementia. Join us for an inspiring conversation about the power of connection and what it means for building a more connected future.

What We've Grown Together

Dementia Friendly America Year in Review: Celebrate the people, partnerships, communities and accomplishments that have helped grow the dementia-friendly movement.

Roots in the Community

Community Spotlight: Celebrate communities that are putting down roots and creating lasting change for people living with dementia and their care partners.

Seeds of Understanding

Dementia Friends Spotlight: Meet the people planting seeds of awareness, understanding and action in their communities.

Where Connection Grows

Memory Cafe Spotlight: Celebrate the people and places creating welcoming spaces where friendship, belonging and connection can flourish.

The Heart of Connection

Lived Experience Panel: Hear directly from people living with dementia and care partners as they share what connection, engagement and belonging mean to them—and what makes a meaningful difference in their lives.

Growing Together in Song

Sing-Along with Giving Voice and Dementia-Friendly Choirs: Come together through the universal language of music. Sing along, clap, listen or simply enjoy the joy of making music together.

Growing Connection: Why Relationships Matter

Explore the importance of relationships, belonging and meaningful connection with **Dr. Fayron Epps**, founder of Alter Dementia, and **Dr. Herb Caldwell**, founder of The Mama Joe Project.

Help Us Grow

A Call to Action: There are many ways to grow the dementia-friendly movement. Discover your next step—from becoming a Dementia Friend to joining or starting a community effort, connecting through music or a Memory Cafe or supporting Dementia Friendly America.

Dementia Friendsgiving After Party

3:10 - 4:00 PM ET

An informal gathering for **fellowship, conversation, story sharing and connection**. Whatever you bring to the table, we're glad you're here!