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Florence agencies partner for dementia awareness

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By Brooke Holden **CONNECT**

FLORENCE, SC (WMBF) - A series of training seminars with in-depth information on dementia will be starting next month.

Officials from the Florence County Sheriff's Office, along with New Generations Adult Day Care Center, Inc., Elmcroft Senior Living Communities and Embrace Hospitals will sponsor the series, "Understanding Dementia" for family members, care givers, professionals and other interested persons who would benefit from the training.

The first of seven seminar series entitled "Welcome to My World" will begin Monday, May 12 at the Leatherman Senior Center on Senior Way. The seminar is from 6:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m.

The series will be presented by Adelle Stanley, a National Certified Dementia Practitioner and Erlinda Henderson, LBSW, MSW.

In a press release issued by the FCSSO, Sheriff Kenney Boone said the group is happy to be a part of the training.

"More and more we in law enforcement encounter citizens with mental health issues and those suffering from various forms of dementia, including Alzheimer's disease," Sheriff Kenney Boone stated. "That's why we are happy to be a part of this important awareness training."

The educational objectives for this free training include:

- Differentiating the most common forms of dementia;
- Understanding family/professional care and management strategies;
- Identifying effective communication skills;
- Understanding how environment can enhance feelings of safety as caregivers assist family and residents;
- Description of interventions that may be used;
- Identifying community resources available for professionals and family caregivers.

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