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Felician Village, HFM partner on new Manitowoc Lakeshore Memory Clinic | Chamber Notebook

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According to statistics from the Alzheimer's Association, Alzheimer's disease is the sixth-leading cause of death in the United States and one in three seniors will die of the disease. Approximately 110,000 individuals in Wisconsin live with this fatal disease, and the number is expected to rise to 130,000 by 2025. In Manitowoc County, the number of individuals older than 65 is 20.5% of the total population, with projections that this age group will grow in the next several years.

These startling statistics brought together leaders from Felician Village and Holy Family Memorial to discuss the development of a memory clinic. In May 2019, the two organizations opened the Lakeshore Memory Clinic — a clinic to properly diagnose and care for patients who have memory loss, including those with Alzheimer's disease or other forms of dementia.

The clinic is affiliated with the Wisconsin Alzheimer's Institute Dementia Diagnostic Clinic Network, which has a statewide network of memory clinics. This network provides service and education beyond the boundaries of the University of Wisconsin-Madison and is able to directly and locally influence the health of individuals and families.

"With the formation of the Lakeshore Memory Clinic, both Felician Village and Holy Family Memorial are excited to continue exceeding industry standards by delivering high-quality, compassionate care to those who have memory loss and their families," said Frank Soltys, president and CEO of Felician Village.

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Main entrance to Felician Village in Manitowoc, pictured in 2017. (Photo: Provided)



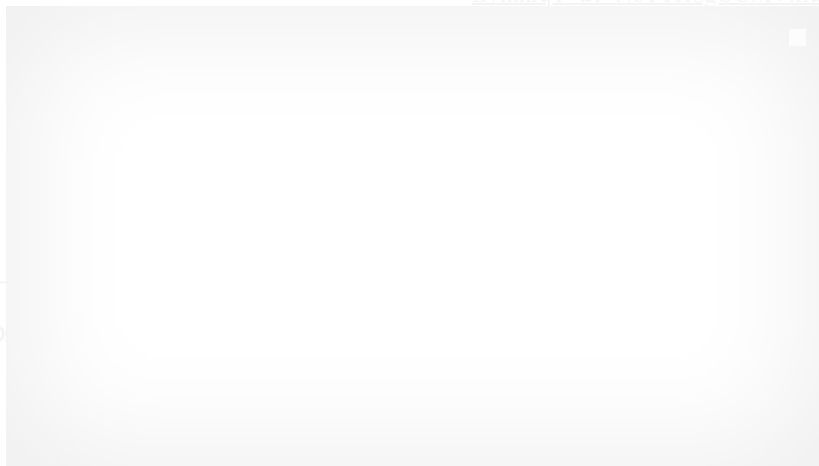
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The clinic is one more offering in the extensive array of services provided by the Dementia Center of Excellence at Felician Village. These services include support, education, advocacy and now, diagnosis.

Community outreach services offered by Felician Village include the Virtual Dementia Tour and Caregiver College to help enhance the skills and knowledge of caring for a person with Alzheimer's or other forms of dementia.

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In addition, Felician Village also has two memory care areas on its 23-acre senior living campus on the south side of Manitowoc.

"Early diagnosis and treatment of dementia helps to ease the challenges of day-to-day care for the patient and family," Soltys said. "With this collaboration, we can combine expertise from both organizations to benefit our community."

The treatment team for the Lakeshore Memory Clinic includes Cameron Goetz, HFM licensed psychologist; Melissa Koss, FNP, APNP-BC, HFM family nurse practitioner; Connie Thimmig, CDP, Felician Village certified dementia practitioner; and Jeffrey Corrigan, M.D., HFM family practice physician.

During a typical appointment, the patient meets with the psychologist while family members meet with the dementia practitioner to gather the family's concerns. The treatment team then meets to discuss findings. After this, the nurse practitioner meets with both the patient and family to discuss the diagnosis and develop a treatment plan, if warranted.

The Lakeshore Memory Clinic is at Felician Village, 1635 S. 21st St., Manitowoc. Individuals can self-refer or obtain a referral from their primary care provider or a social service agency.

To schedule an appointment at the Lakeshore Memory Clinic, call 920-320-8600. For more information, visit www.felicianvillage.org.

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