

Friends Place DeSoto and McKinney Awarded Contracts with VA

Adult day services and Alzheimer's care now available to veterans in DeSoto, McKinney and surrounding areas.

Friends Place Adult Day Services of DeSoto and McKinney, Texas announced today that both centers have been awarded contracts with the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA).

With the VA contract, Friends Place's premier daytime Alzheimer's and dementia care centers in DeSoto and McKinney can now offer their services to veterans all over North Texas who are referred by a VA physician.

Friends Place DeSoto serves Cedar Hill, southwest Dallas County, DeSoto, Duncanville, Grand Prairie, Lancaster, Midlothian, Ovilla, Red Oak and Waxahachie, while Friends Place McKinney caters to Anna, Allen, Celina, Frisco, Lucas, Melissa, McKinney, north Plano, Princeton, Prosper and Van Alstyne.

Founded in 2005, Friends Place specializes in adult daytime care services that enable veterans and existing clients with Alzheimer's or other forms of dementia to maintain lives of dignity, meaning and purpose.

Friends Place's unique curriculum helps veterans with Alzheimer's or dementia to:

- Preserve social/language skills and cognitive abilities
- Build relationships with peers
- Stay physically active through exercise activities
- Minimize stress, agitation and risk of falls
- Maintain proper nutritional intake
- Receive medications when needed
- Restore dignity and improve self-esteem

From family members to caregivers, Friends Place also provides benefits to those indirectly affected by the disease, including:

- Affordable care options
- Reprieve from caregiving
- Opportunity to continue in the workplace
- Support groups and resources
- Information and referral
- Peace of mind

The VA contract allows for eligible veterans to enroll at both Friends Place DeSoto and Friends Place McKinney at no charge – though some veterans may be required to pay small co-pay to the VA.

“We currently have eleven veterans enrolled at Friends Place McKinney, all of whom have contacted the VA to learn more about the benefits of the contract,” says Alex Nameth, owner of Friends Place McKinney.

As the only specialized Alzheimer’s daytime care centers contracted with the VA in Dallas, Ellis and Collin counties, Friends Place DeSoto and Friends Place McKinney both have seen a growth in enrollment from their veteran members.

“It’s so satisfying to be able to see half a dozen veterans increase their attendance thanks to the VA partnership,” said Friends Place DeSoto owner Marylynne Henry.

“Because of the contract, we’ve even had one gentleman return to Friends Place after having to leave earlier this year due to financial reasons.”

Now contracted by the VA, Friends Place DeSoto and Friends Place McKinney will continue to offer a model of care that enables individuals with Alzheimer’s and other dementias to remain at home and delay placement in a long term care facility, while maintaining an optimal level of function and independence.

For more information on Friends Place’s adult day care services and Alzheimer’s care programs, visit www.friendsplaceads.com or call the DeSoto center at (972) 274-2484 or the McKinney center at (972) 569-9000. Friends Place is open Monday through Friday, from 7:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

About Friends Place Adult Day Services

Friends Place Adult Day Services was founded in 2005 by Pam Kovacs, a health care professional with extensive Alzheimer’s knowledge, training and more than 30 years in the field of aging. With centers in Richardson, DeSoto and McKinney, Texas, Friends Place is dedicated to providing specialized daytime care and programs for individuals with Alzheimer’s or other dementias; which will enable them to maintain a life with dignity, meaning & purpose, while remaining as independent as possible.