# WHEN IS IT TIME TO CONSIDER

Memory Care?

#### YOU NOTICE DIFFICULTY PERFORMING DAILY ACTIVITIES

- 1. Wearing the same clothing multiple days.
- 2. Changes to personal hygiene such as not completing bathing and grooming tasks.
- 3. Skipping meals, not preparing meals, or keeping expired foods in the kitchen.
- 4. Laundry and housekeeping are becoming difficult and a burden.
- 5. They are isolating themselves to only a few rooms in their home.

#### YOU NOTICE INCREASED MEMORY LOSS AND CONFUSION

- 1. They are repeating questions and statements.
- 2. Making repetitive phone calls with the same questions.
- 3. Wandering.
- 4. Trusting strangers, falling for scams, becoming the victim of elder abuse.
- 5. Forgetting to do things that once were routine like paying bills or picking up the mail.
- 6. Leaving the stove on and frequently misplacing items around the house.
- 7. Accusing others of stealing from them.

## **SAFETY CONCERNS**

- 1. Stairs, or clutter that creates a risk for falls, trips, and stumbles.
- 2. Difficulty getting out of the bathtub or using the toilet.

# YOU ARE CONCERNED ABOUT MEDICATION MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION

- 1. Forgetting to take medication, taking more medication than is required, or missing doses.
- 2. Running out of medications due to not re-ordering them or keeping expired medication.
- 3. Finding forgotten or dropped pills on the floor or around the house.

## LACK OF SOCIALIZATION

- 1. Losing touch with friends and isolating themselves at home.
- 2. Loss of interest in activities that they once enjoyed, such as going to church.
- 3. Showing signs or having a diagnosis of depression, for example sleeping or crying a lot.
- 4. Loss of a spouse, relative, pet, and/or long-time friend
- 5. Loss of driver's license and mode of transportation.

#### FEAR AND ANXIETY

- 1. Becoming increasingly paranoid or fearful of others.
- 2. Afraid to be left alone.
- 3. Becoming increasingly dependent on family members.
- 4. Fear of surroundings and neighborhood.
- 5. Making accusations that have no merit or are clearly false.

