



The City of Vandalia was named as a Dementia Friendly Community on the Dementia Friendly Community Registry in 2024. Dementia Friendly Salem seeks to raise awareness, reduce stigma, provide resources and increase support for people living with dementia and their care partners through education and coordination of resources.

What is a Dementia Friendly Business or Organization?

A Dementia Friendly Business or Organization is part of a Dementia Friendly Community where businesses, service agencies, organizations, faith communities and others have some knowledge of what dementia is, how to recognize a person living with dementia, know how to communicate with someone living with dementia, and understand that family members and caregivers need support while caring for their loved one. Making it easier for People living with Dementia and their caregivers to do business in their community has the benefit of people living in their homes longer and they as well as caregivers will use businesses that are easy to navigate and have helpful, aware staff.

A Dementia Friendly business or organization receives recognition and increased visibility in the community by placing a decal in the window after completing an awareness program.

Vandalia is a completely rural community but it has many businesses and the health department is very strong in this initiative. Vandalia consists of caring people who live and/or work in the community in such places as the local government, faith based and community-based organizations, healthcare and in the numerous businesses. Dementia Friendly Vandalia Task force brings these people together to create supportive places in the community for those living with Dementia and their care partners. For more information on how you can complete an awareness program at our business or organization, you can contact Midland Area Agency (Judy Kleine or Nancy Hinton) at 1-618-532-1853. You can also inquire about joining our taskforce!

The registry is listed on the IL Cognitive Resources website at
<https://www.ilbrainhealth.org/>

