

Families make videos to reassure patients with dementia

17 April 2015, by Jim Fitzgerald



Charlotte Dell, Director of Social Services at The Hebrew Home of Riverdale, in New York, describes the laptop computer process used to record messages for dementia patients at the facility, Wednesday, March 25, 2015. The nursing home in the Bronx has started a pilot program in which relatives record video messages for patients of Alzheimer's and other forms of dementia. The videos are played for them each morning to calm their agitation and reassure them about their surroundings and their routines. (AP Photo/Richard Drew)

A new program designed to comfort nursing home residents afflicted with dementia was inspired by an Adam Sandler movie.

At the Hebrew Home at Riverdale in the Bronx, patients' relatives can make videos designed to affectionately remind the residents of where they are and what their day will entail.

The home is hoping the family videos can calm the unrest and fear that victims of [dementia](#) can be subject to when they wake up each morning.

When one woman made a video for her mother, she included a nursery rhyme they used to recite together and the family farewell, "Kiss, kiss."

She said the [video program](#) helps her feel she's with her mother more.

The home's social services director says the movie "50 First Dates" gave her the idea.



Tamara Rusoff-Hoen, talks about the video she will record for her mother, Louise Irving, at The Hebrew Home of Riverdale, in New York, Wednesday, March 25, 2015. The nursing home in the Bronx has started a pilot program in which relatives record video messages for patients of Alzheimer's and other forms of dementia. The videos are played for them each morning to calm their agitation and reassure them about their surroundings and their routines. (AP Photo/Richard Drew)



Tamara Rusoff-Hoen, right, receives instructions about the video she will record for her mother, Louise Irving, from Charlotte Dell, Director of Social Services at The Hebrew Home of Riverdale, in New York, Wednesday, March 25, 2015. The nursing home in the Bronx has started a pilot program in which relatives record video messages for patients of Alzheimer's and other forms of dementia. The videos are played for them each morning to calm their agitation and reassure them about their surroundings and their routines. (AP Photo/Richard Drew)

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APA citation: Families make videos to reassure patients with dementia (2015, April 17) retrieved 29 June 2022 from <https://medicalxpress.com/news/2015-04-families-videos-reassure-patients-dementia.html>

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