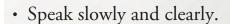
Communication Tips for Family Members of Persons with Dementia



- Don't rush the person. Pause for response. Offer a guess if you are not sure what the person is saying.
- · Limit distractions.
- Look for the FEELINGS underlying the person's communication, and validate them.
- Encourage unspoken communication. Use gestures, visual prompts, sensory cues.
- Provide a solution rather than a question.
- Instead of using "it" or "that" name the object or place, specifically. Example: Instead of "Here it is," say "Here's your hat."
- · Avoid saying "NO!"
- · Avoid asking questions they can't answer.
- Encourage the use of the person's remaining skills and strengths!

