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### What is The Morning Report?

Morning Report is an independently written and produced on-line news service.

Everyday it brings visitors to the OLTCA web-site news on the people, activities, events and issues in OLTCA member homes. The stories are researched, written and posted by [Axiom News Service](#) without prior editorial approval from either the individual home or OLTCA.

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### OLTCA Members

Get your news on Morning Report  
OLTCA members can submit news tips, feature and story ideas to Morning Report by calling 800-294-0051 or by e-mailing [webmaster\(at\)axiomnews.ca](mailto:webmaster(at)axiomnews.ca)

Please be sure to include the idea, a contact name and whether or not you also have or will be able to get photos that might be used to illustrate the article.

Morning Report is interested in your events, activities, programs, milestones, staff and resident profiles and any other information that you feel people should know about who you are, how you feel, what you do and how you do it.

### Previous Stories

The Morning Report Story Archives now contains over 150 news stories and profiles on OLTCA member homes. To access these stories go to: [Story Archives](#)

## Full Story

# Game providing residents with social and emotional benefits

*Memory Magic promotes all-around success for residents, says activation co-ordinator*

Thursday April 2, 2009 -- Deron Hamel

Since she started using Memory Magic with residents who have mild to moderate cognitive impairment five months ago, Gail Jones says she has seen residents at Alexander Place gain social and emotional benefits from the word game.

Jones, the activation co-ordinator at the Hamilton-area long-term care home, says the game is "geared for success" and residents are enjoying the discussions and reminiscing that comes with talking about the words that pop up during the game.

As part of the game, residents are given sentences with the last word missing. Each resident has a game board containing words. Residents then search for the missing word, which often relates to a past memory.

The Memory Magic website explains the game's benefits.

"The Memory Magic program supports the use of remaining abilities and provides cueing for those abilities that are impaired by the effects of dementia," the site says.

"Unlike typical games and activities, program participants utilize long lasting abilities such as reading, habits and skills from the past, reminiscing and interacting with each other in a structured and supported social setting."

Citing an example of the program's success, Jones says she has seen one resident, who had not been able to say a complete sentence in a long time, suddenly start stringing words together perfectly.

During each Memory Magic game, there is time to discuss words as they come up. Jones says she will often ask residents how a word has been significant in their life and the resident will be given time to explain.

"And we always give everyone a prize, so it's a win-win type of environment for them," says Jones.

Jones says she would like to see more long-term care homes using the Memory Magic program. Because of the success she has seen from the game, Jones will be operating a booth at the upcoming Ontario Long-Term Care Association and Ontario Retirement Communities Association convention and trade show, held in Toronto April 5-7 to showcase its benefits.

To set up the game, Jones says the only thing interested homes need to do is contact the company, which is based out of Akron, Ohio.

More information about Memory Magic can be found at the game's website.

Does your home have an activity that is proving beneficial for residents with a cognitive impairment? If you have a story you would like to share with the Morning Report, please contact the newsroom at 800-294-0051, ext. 23, or e-mail [deron\(at\)axiomnews.ca](mailto:deron(at)axiomnews.ca).

If you have feedback on this story, please call the newsroom at 800-294-0051, ext. 23, or e-mail [deron\(at\)axiomnews.ca](mailto:deron(at)axiomnews.ca).