

Video: Surprise launches Memory Café helps families living with dementia

Partnership includes Banner Alzheimer's Institute, Banner Sun Health Research Institute and other Valley nonprofits

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SURPRISE, Ariz. (Oct. 22, 2019) – Just weeks after declaring itself Arizona's second "Dementia Friendly City," the City of Surprise is hosting a Memory Café every two weeks in partnership with Banner Sun Health Research Institute and other local partners as part of the [Dementia Friends Initiative](#).

“ Our mission is really to end Alzheimer’s and related dementias before we affect another generation. ”

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With Arizona anticipated to experience the [highest-growth rate](#) of Alzheimer's disease and related dementias nationally, it's important to create more programs and resources to help entire communities understand what dementia is and how it affects people.

“Our mission is really to end Alzheimer's and related dementias before we affect another generation,” said [Lori Nisson, LCSW](#), Family and Community Services director at Banner Sun Health Research Institute and Banner Alzheimer's Institute. “[Participants] get some socialization, get support, get education, find out about resources and really just feel connected to their own community.”

The Memory Café and additional community events aim to raise awareness of the disease, lower stigma and improve support for Northwest Valley families living with dementia. Supporting organizations include: Banner Sun Health Research Institute, [Banner Alzheimer's Institute](#), [Benevilla](#), [Sun Health Wellness](#) and the [Alzheimer's Association](#). For more information on Dementia Friendly Surprise, [click here](#). The City of Tempe, which became the state's first Dementia Friendly City in 2016, hosts weekly events that can be found by [clicking here](#).

About Banner Sun Health Research Institute

Since 1986, Banner Sun Health Research Institute, part of nonprofit Banner Health, has been a leader nationally and internationally in the effort to find answers to disorders of aging including Alzheimer's and Parkinson's disease. The institute, together with its Arizona Alzheimer's Consortium partners, has been designated by the National Institutes of Health as one of just 29 Alzheimer's Disease Centers in the nation. The institute's Cleo Roberts Center for Clinical Research takes laboratory discoveries to clinical trials that foster hope for new treatments. Banner Health is Arizona's leading health care provider and largest private employer. For more information, visit www.bannershri.org or visit us on [Facebook](#).

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