

By Dawn, The Cedars in McPherson

Person centered care has changed the lives of ALL of our residents at The Cedars. I have residents who were filled with dread at the thought of losing their homes, belongings, privacy, independence and to top it off their pets/companions. With person centered care they are able to have their animals here to continue providing companionship and purpose. I have Ken who is able to have whatever he wants fixed for lunch. I have Ruth who can sleep in everyday and not cry all evening every evening because she is too tired. I have Bettie who can get up and fix her own oatmeal at whatever time she chooses. She also has her cat. She has several sewing stations throughout the facility that she can putter at. I have Ken who can go into the clean linen room and get his own linens because it makes him feel productive and worthwhile to accomplish something. I have Kenneth who can host the MS support group because staff makes refreshments for him to serve. Jerry has taken Ken to several gatherings (party to celebrate opening of pheasant season) in Canton so that he can stay active with his friends, community and extended family. When Della was declining, she had friends bring in her favorite foods so we could serve them to her. All of these things are little things, but if you asked these residents, they would tell you that all of these things have made a difference to them. I had Joe, an old farmer, who was able to sit out in our courtyard to get some fresh air and enjoy being outside. We make special request meals such as sauerkraut and wieners and fried potatoes and onions. We make each resident the desert of their choice on their birthday. All of these things improve quality of life.