

The Advertiser's Club Introduces

Family Tree Home Care



Co-founders, owners and Care Directors for Family Tree Home Care, Pam McKinley (L), Jean Brigham and Regional Manager, Rick Carroll (R). Family Tree Home Care, serving Worcester and Middlesex counties for the past 14 years is now expanding its service area, to include Milford, Mendon, Upton and surrounding communities.

By Michael McInnis
Staff Reporter

Whether an elder lives at home, in assisted living care or in a nursing home facility, Family Tree Home Care can help to make their daily living a little easier, while also providing peace of mind for their family members.

Serving Middlesex and Worcester counties for the past 14 years, Family Tree Home Care is currently expanding into Milford, Upton, Mendon and surrounding communities, providing a variety of services for senior living.

Co-founders, owners, and Care Directors, Jean Brigham and Pam McKinley established Family Tree Home Care in 1999. Jean, a licensed Occupational Therapist, and Pam, a licensed Physical Therapist Assistant, bring collectively over 60 years of experience to each client and case. "We have done home care as therapists and saw a real need," noted Brigham. "We are able to fill the needs Medicare cannot provide coverage for," added McKinley.

Among the services, which Family Tree Home Care offers are: transportation, light housekeeping, home meal preparation, shopping and errand runs and assistance for daily living activities. "All of the things that (help) keep people in their homes," McKinley explained.

Family Tree Home Care can provide as little as 2 hours per visit up to 24 hours per day. Their goal is to help an elder remain in their home, retirement community, or assisted living facility. However, Family Tree caregivers can provide companionship and support to those elders residing in nursing homes. Additionally, caregivers often provide respite to family members who are providing ongoing care.

At-home seniors are often isolated from the community and so, transportation is an especially important service provided by Family Tree Home Care. "It's not a taxi service," McKinley pointed out, "It's really a companionship transporter. Companionship - that's the number one thing that we (provide) in all of our situations," Brigham added.

Families are especially appreciative of the free assessment offered to potential clients. "When a client calls, we go out to their home, or to the facility," Brigham explained. "We meet the client, meet the family and any support system they have and we try to get a good sense of the client's level of function (and then) offer our opinion on what would work for them and the family."

"There's a lot of anxiety when the family is making that decision for their mother or father, knowing that they're very vulnerable," McKinley noted. After receiving a Family Tree comprehensive care plan, the family members concerns are usually put to rest.

While Family Tree Home Care has earned a reputation for excellence in Middlesex and Worcester counties, their expansion into the local area is relatively new. "We're (now) taking on new clients in the Milford area and are looking forward to servicing them," stated Rick Carroll, Regional Manager. Family Tree Home Care also invites area case managers, social workers, visiting nurses and "anyone who has clients that might need services" to contact them to learn more about the company and the services they provide.

Jean Brigham noted, with pride, that Family Tree Home Care is well respected in the elder-care community and that all of their employees "are well-trained - and many of them have worked for us for years. We treat our clients like they're family - they're not (just) a number to us."

To learn more about Family Tree Home Care, visit www.familytree-homecare.com. For questions or to schedule a free assessment, call: 508-543-0443; 978-266-0443; 508-842-5576 or 877-942-5576.

Dr. Sam Alkhoury, Milford Braces

By Michelle Sanford
Staff Reporter/Columnist

What inspired Dr. Sam Alkhoury to become an orthodontist was witnessing the positive impact braces had on his sister's life. "After her braces came off, she was transformed; she was a new, much more confident person."

Dr. Alkhoury began practicing dentistry in 1994 after receiving his doctoral degree from Boston University Goldman School of Dentistry and his orthodontic degree from New York University.

One of the things he prides himself on is the personal service he provides to each of his patients. "We are a friendly and vivacious team, with infectious energy that runs through the office. I know and care about every one of our patients, and because they see only me when they come in, I have the opportunity to really get to know them. In many ways, my patients become somewhat of an extended family to me," he said.

When most people think of orthodontic treatment, a young teen may come to mind, however, in recent years Dr. Alkhoury has seen a rise in the number of his adult patients. "People are becoming more aware of their smiles these days." His philosophy when treating children and adults is to try and maintain their natural teeth by non-extraction. "We favor the nonextraction approach for one simple reason; I don't like taking out adult teeth." With that said, Dr. Alkhoury stresses that all children should have an orthodontic evaluation by the age of seven to avoid invasive treatment and loss of possible treatment options.

Dr. Alkhoury is a member of the International Team for Implantology and is also part of the renowned Elite Spears Institute; a peer-to-peer networking group of dentists who convene to discuss the latest in dental technology.

Having two young children, Dr. Alkhoury realizes the importance of family and giving back to the community. He sponsors a number of local groups and teams such as the Holliston and Ashland youth baseball team, as well as the Milford football and cheerleading teams. As February marks the National Dental Health Month, Dr. Alkhoury and his team are traveling to local schools to discuss the importance of practicing good oral hygiene. Dr. Alkhoury's practice is located at 208 Main St. in Milford. For more information, call (508) 473-2002 or visit him online at www.simplyortho.com. His Holliston office is located at 403 Washington St. and may be reached by calling (508) 429-7800.



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