## MAPLEWOOD Jenior iving

## FAMILY AFFAIR: FIND SOLUTIONS TOGETHER

As parents age and begin to decline either physically or mentally, it is important to keep the lines of communication open with all siblings and other members of the family. Whether it is a sudden change or a new development with an existing condition, keeping everyone on the same page is key to reducing stress, anxiety, and resentment.

## **POTENTIAL CHALLENGES FAMILIES FACE**

- Siblings and all other family members live too far away to do any physical care
- There is a difference of opinion in the status/condition of the person
- Siblings have no desire to be involved or are potentially in denial so they are not involved
- There is a disagreement in regards to care options
- · Financial concerns with the cost of care options
- · Everything falls on one caregiver due to proximity

## **CREATING A COHESIVE FAMILY PLAN:**

- Gather siblings and family together with parent/ parents to have a family discussion
- Share all the relevant information

- Let everyone express their opinion or viewpoint on the situations
- Discuss options for care and financial implications (i.e. living at home with family or paid assistance, community living, etc.)
- · Identify potential challenges with options discussed
- Once options are decided upon, appoint a person or people to gather additional information for each option.
  For example, interview providers, visit assisted living communities, etc.
- When a final decision is made, create a realistic plan for what each sibling is capable of doing. Is it better for one sibling to handle all financial matters or contribute financially? When moving into a community, who will be the daily contact to streamline communication?

If you would like more information, please contact a Maplewood Senior Living community. Our knowledgeable staff of professionals understands and is here for you and your loved ones throughout the journey. New Jersey: Plainsboro | Ohio: Chardon, Cuyahoga Falls, Twinsburg