# Celebrating with seniors to create holiday magic







Our vision, in everything we do, is to convey a shared value of compassion, a commitment to excellence, open communications, motivation to be the best, and a sense of personal integrity.

We are honored to care for our residents and share a passion to make their days enriching and fulfilling.

It's The Caraday Way!

The holidays can be joyful but sometimes overwhelming, especially for older adults. Meeting seniors where they are—rather than expecting perfection—helps ensure celebrations are meaningful and stress-free. To make gatherings enjoyable and comfortable for your loved ones, consider these tips:

# Start by engaging your loved one in planning.

Invite them to be part of the process—choosing favorite meals, decorating with special mementos, or helping decide on activities. Even if they cannot fully participate, being surrounded by conversation and laughter can be the best way to feel included.

### Remember their favorite foods.

A holiday table feels extra special when favorite dishes are served. Food can spark memories and bring everyone together.

### Revive traditions.

Ask your loved one about cherished traditions and recreate them. Following their lead in enjoying those rituals makes the moment more meaningful.

# Stroll down memory lane.

Looking at photos or sharing stories can stir fond memories—and sometimes a few tears, which is part of remembering. Ask openended questions that encourage feelings and reflection. This is especially helpful for older adults with memory changes.

# But no quizzes.

Avoid testing or pressuring seniors to recall details, which can cause frustration. Instead, let memories surface naturally with the help of music, scents, or familiar objects.

# Most of all, let it flow naturally.

Follow your loved one's pace. If they seem tired, sad, or irritable, be patient and flexible rather than pushing forward with plans.

Whatever form your celebration takes, stay present and focus on the joy of being together—health or memory challenges should never overshadow the gift of shared time.

