# The Importance of Socialization for Seniors

Social interaction is one of the most influential factors in aging successfully. The health benefits of socialization for — as well as the adverse effects of isolation on — older adults are clear:

#### Mental Health

- Socializing reduces the brain's production of the stress-causing hormone cortisol.
- Higher cognitive function is linked to increased social interaction.
- - Studies show maintaining a large social network reduces the risk of dementia.

### Sense of Purpose & Belonging

- Feelings of acceptance and confidence are connected to cognitive longevity.
- Having a support system better equips you to adapt to changes and challenges of aging.
- A strong emotional bond with loved ones, such as grandchildren, leads to a more active, healthier lifestyle.



### Staying Engaged with Life

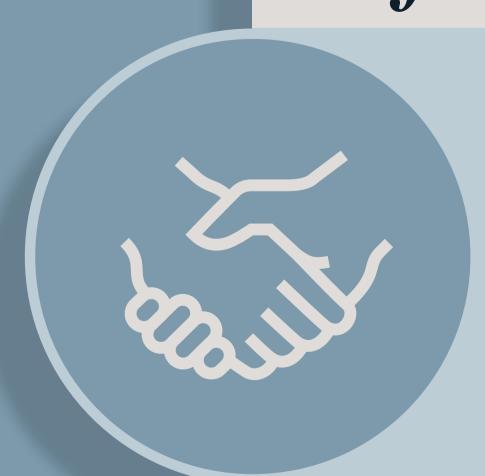
- Socialization offers more opportunities for physically and mentally engaging activity.
- Planning social activities produces higher self-satisfaction and confidence.
- Social isolation is a major risk factor for morbidity and mortality, especially in older adults.

## **Physical Health**

- Being social is correlated with lower systolic blood pressure.
- Sticking to a healthy diet is proven to be more effective with a support system.
- Social well-being may be associated with reduced risk of age-related diseases like Alzheimer's.







- Social isolation contributes to fall risk rates in seniors.
- Loneliness and depression have a synergistic adverse effect on well-being.
- Those with large social circles generally have better health than those without them.

At Hamlet at Chagrin Falls, it's easy for seniors to be social. Our community offers countless chances to find friends and meaningful fulfillment right outside your door. Take a moment to see what <u>Independent Living</u> is like here at Hamlet. See the full blog about the importance of socialization for seniors here.

