



## IN2L: It's Never Too Late - "Help for a Winning Experience"

### **Administrator:**

Mr. Garrette Woodham

### **Bill Nichols State Veterans Home**

1784 Elkahatchee Road

Alexander City, Alabama 35010

(256) 329-0868

Who said I am too old to learn? Who doesn't want the best of everything for their resident's? The disciplinary team searched for ideas to implement and to create a great atmosphere for our residents, families and staff, volunteers and community. Our Best Practice "IT'S NEVER TOO LATE" gives us the opportunity to work with our residents, families, staff, volunteers and the community. "IN2L" is designed to increase knowledge about the resident and the facility, improve communication, decrease behaviors and most importantly improve relationships and connections.

The primary purpose of IN2L is that it can be used to help maintain and strengthen relationships, keep residents active and involved, and ensure the comfort of knowing your love one matters and staff cares; such as, (1) upon admission to assist families with separation experiences, (2) help the residents to connect with each other and facility, (3) assist staff (especially new hires) to become familiar residents and families (4) involves all residents with various cognitive levels.

Everyone could benefit from the creation of the It's Never Too Late. "IN2L" provides a history of the resident, family, facility, volunteers, community, and staff which enables all to have an avenue of better understanding and communication. "IN2L" has given our residents and all involve a connection. This feeling of connection has combated feelings of isolation, depression, low self-esteem, and behaviors and. This connection lifts each other up and day-to-day increase activity and therapy participation and most of all family connection.

More IN2L's are needed. The IN2L system is a portable oversized interactive computer system that travels from place to place for residents, families, and staff to utilize. In order for all residents and families to have equal sharing time with system, there is a day set aside daily for resident, staff, and family use.

We consider our Best Practice excellent and innovative because it improves resident's quality of life, improve communication, decreases behaviors, and continues to builds successful relationship with all involve (residents, families, volunteers, staff, and community). Most importantly, with time and effort this idea can be done by any facility. Your outcome depends on your effort-you get out what you put in!