

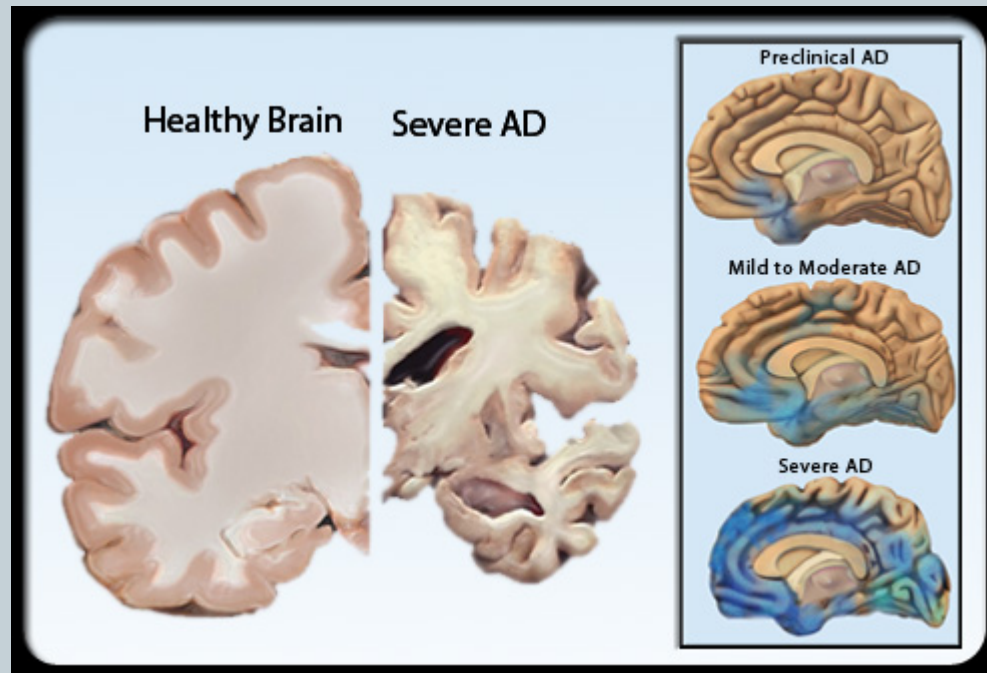
Partnership for Patients



ALZHEIMER'S RESOURCE OF ALASKA



Alzheimer's Disease



Food for Thought

- Does dementia cause:
 - wandering?
 - calling out?
 - crying?
 - aggression?
- If someone *without* dementia did any of these, how would we respond?



G. ALLEN POWER, MD

Behavior defined



a : the manner of conducting oneself

b : anything . . . involving action and response to stimulation

c : the response of an individual . . . to its environment

Source: Merriam Webster Dictionary

Behaviors – actions of another – can definitely be baffling



Behavior re-defined

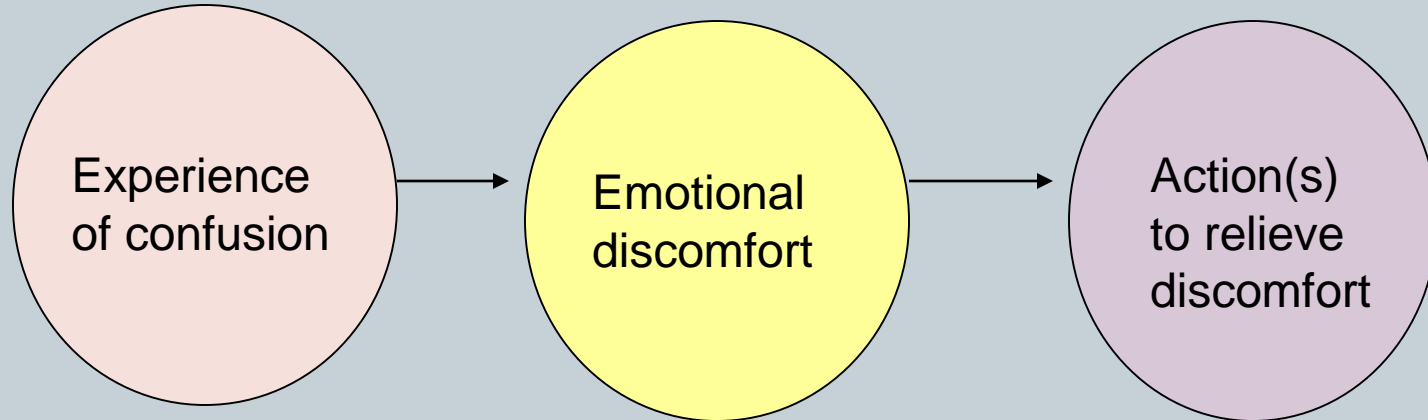


a: communication

b: expression of unmet needs



The experience of dementia as an experience of confusion



Adapted from Hepburn, et al., *The Savvy Caregiver*

Emotional Needs



- Calm
- Safety
- Security
- Control
- Reassurance

Restore Calm



- Only *one* person interacts
- Clear lines of sight
- Open, non-threatening non-verbal communication
- Get at or below eye level
- Maximize the person's sense of control
- Calm, steady voice
- Active listening
- Do not argue or dispute; do validate distress
- If unable to calm, maximize safety and leave

Aggressive Behaviors



- **Don't wait. Be alert and on watch for any initial signs of distress.**
- **Key worker/ familiar face**
- **Rescue method**
- **Patrol method**

- **Time to debrief**

Prevention of “next time”

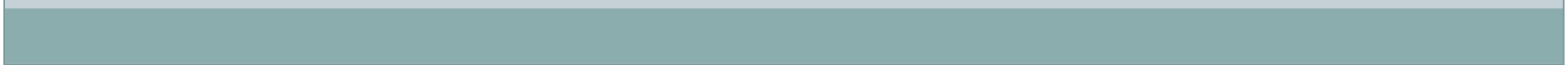
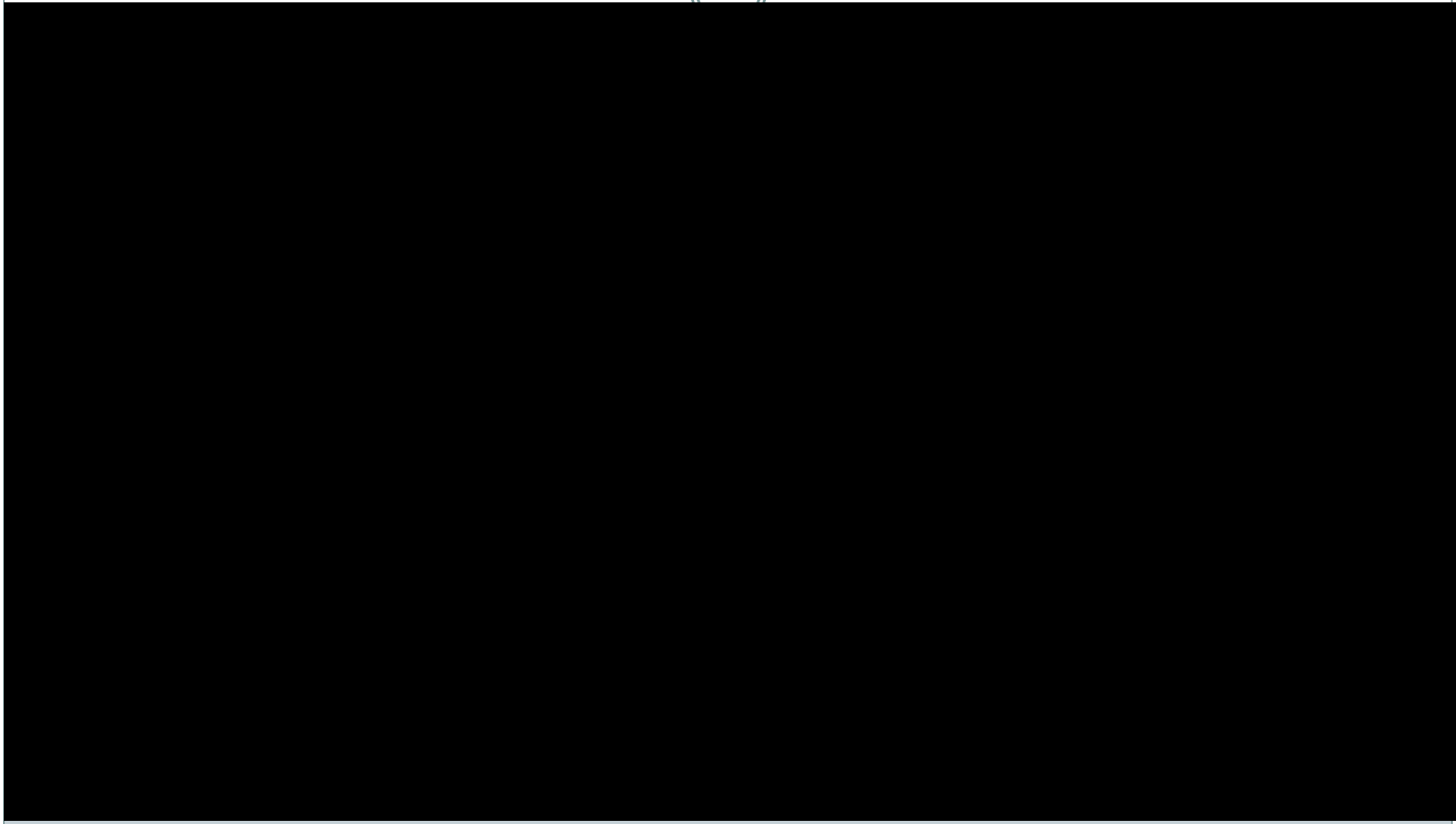


- Listen during calming and validation for clues to causes
- Follow-up looking for causes
- Share what you know



Hand in Hand
A Training Series for Nursing
Homes

Actions and Reactions



In summary:



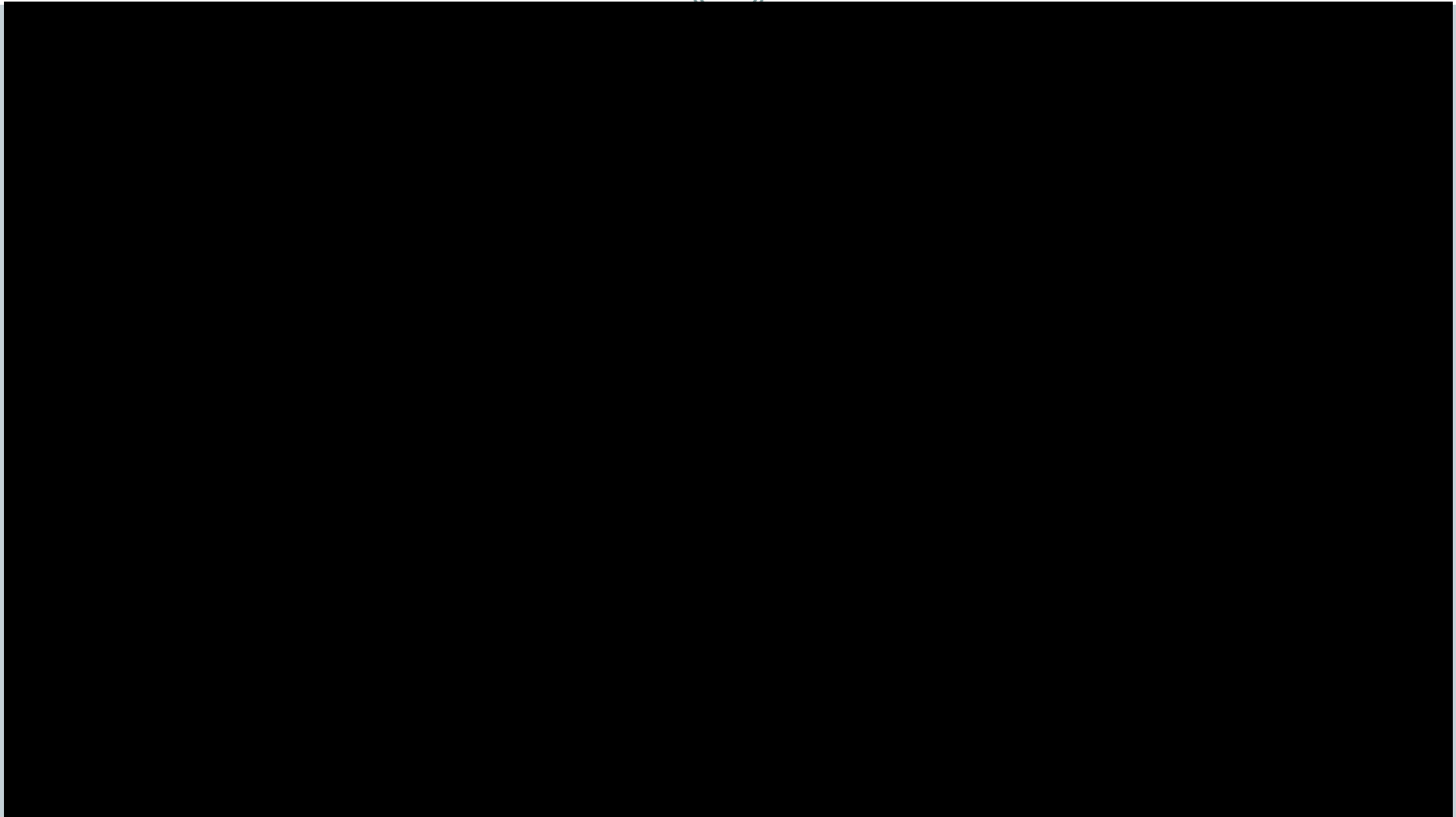
- **Do**

- List 3 do's

- **Don't**

- List 3 don'ts

Teepa Snow





**Alzheimer's
Resource
of Alaska**



**Statewide
1-800-478-1080
www.alzalaska.org**