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[Caring Resources](#)

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[Blog](#)

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## The Open Arms Blog

Blog posts from Open Arms' very own Julie Kollada. [See all of Julie's posts.](#)

### Introducing Certified Dementia Practitioner Julie Kollada

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I spent this past Monday and Tuesday (3/14 & 3/15) in Orlando, Florida becoming a certified Dementia Practitioner Trainer by the National Council of Certified Dementia Practitioners (NCCDP). A CDP is the earned credential that recognizes the highest standard in Alzheimer's and Dementia education and that has been achieved.

More than 5.3 million Americans are currently affected by Alzheimer's disease. This number is expected to increase to 21 Million by 2050, 172 billion dollars in annual costs, and is the 7<sup>th</sup> leading cause of death. The NCCDP is committed to educational programs that inform Certified Dementia Practitioner (CDP) professionals about new changes that influence the certification process.

My mother Jeanne and our Director of Operations' mother, Gloria, have been hit by this horrible, cruel disease. We truly understand the burden placed on the family is as severe as the afflicted person. Caring for a patient with Alzheimer's requires a higher level of training and skill. A well trained caregiver can ease the burden on the family and the patient. There is a shortage of Alzheimer specialists and we are committed to making Open Arms a premier provider of excellent Alzheimer's care. My receiving the Certified Dementia Practitioner Certification is a major step toward achieving our goal.

The benefits of Certified Dementia Practitioner (CDP) certification are numerous to the health care professionals. Health Care Professionals who have taken the steps to complete comprehensive training in Alzheimer's and Dementia Care and have completed certification have

the necessary educational tools to provide care to Alzheimer's and Dementia patients. Certified Dementia Practitioner (CDP) Certification is essential for today's health care professional as the dementia population continues to rise.

We are in the process of organizing a series of Alzheimer and Dementia Seminars in the Chicagoland area. Please keep an eye out for dates and locations.

This entry was posted in [Uncategorized](#) on [March 18, 2011](#).

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