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## LCCC coordinator honored with national award

*By Staff report, The Morning Journal*

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Jennifer Krupa, program coordinator for [Lorain County Community College's Center for Lifelong Learning](#), received a national award as Educator of the Year from the [National Council of Certified Dementia Practitioners](#), according to a news release.

Krupa was nominated by students and peers for her work, including one-day training sessions, that have helped fill a gap in education for professionals dealing with dementia and Alzheimer's and other work through activity professionals training programs, the release said.

"In order to be a dementia friendly workplace, people need education, and that's what I do and why I was recognized, Krupa said. "It makes me grateful and glad all the years of hard work have been recognized."

Her achievement was recognized at a reception of 200 people April 23 at the Normandy Care Center in Rocky River.

She was presented with the award by CEO Sandra Stimson and chief operations officer Lynn Biot Gordon of the National Council of Certified Dementia Practitioners.

Krupa also is a Certified Alzheimer's Disease and Dementia Care trainer, activity consultant certified/educator specification, and activity consultant board certified.

Before working to help older adults at the Center for Lifelong Learning, Krupa worked as an adjunct instructor at LCCC beginning in 1996 before becoming director of the center, according to the release.

"In her time here, she has developed more than 100 diverse program offerings and was the first to offer a college-based dementia training program," said Hope Moon, dean of Health and Wellness Sciences. "She is converting the Activities Professional Certificate from noncredit to credit, with future plans to develop an associate degree, and possibly, an applied baccalaureate degree."

The Center for Lifelong Learning offers noncredit programming designed especially for those who are at least 50 years old and/or retired.

These programs and courses offer learning opportunities in computers, the internet, estate planning, career enrichment, fitness and recreation, world cultures, astronomy, gardening, history, genealogy, antique collecting, creative writing and more.

All courses provide adults the opportunity to attend classes with their peers.

For more information, visit [www.lorainccc.edu/community/center-for-lifelong-learning](http://www.lorainccc.edu/community/center-for-lifelong-learning).

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