

## National Council of Certified Dementia Practitioners (NCCDP) Announces 2017 Educator of the Year

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**National Council of Certified Dementia Practitioners →**

02 May, 2017, 09:03 ET

SPARTA, N.J., May 2, 2017 /PRNewswire-USNewswire/ -- Ivette Rivera-Ortiz, Dietitian and Pharmacist Program Manager for the Texas Department of Health and Human Services, has been awarded the 2017 Educator of the Year by the National Council of Certified Dementia Practitioners. The NCCDP honors educators for their achievements and hard work. This honor formally recognizes trainers whose outstanding efforts have enabled them to meet the challenging standards of facilitating quality dementia education. The NCCDP received several hundred nomination letters for educators from around the country. These educators work in nursing homes, assisted living facilities, adult day care programs, hospitals, home care agencies, hospice agencies, government agencies, associations and learning institutions. Rivera-Ortiz was nominated by colleagues who provided meritorious examples of her innovative teaching methods. She is specifically knowledgeable about the neurological changes in the brain that affect the cognitive functions of Alzheimer's sufferers. She teaches her students how to recognize changes in their patients' behavior due to these cognitive issues. She is an inspirational educator who motivates her students with her passion for teaching. Health care professionals are eager to attend her live seminars and learn from this enigmatic speaker. We are proud to have her teach the NCCDP's Alzheimer's Disease and Dementia Care Curriculum. Rivera-Ortiz has met the challenges of reaching beyond state and federal regulations regarding dementia education and has inspired a lifelong passion in her students to seek continued growth in patient care.

Rivera-Ortiz is a Certified Dementia Practitioner (CDP) and a Certified Alzheimer's Disease and Dementia Care Trainer (CADDCT) through the National Council of Certified Dementia Practitioners. The NCCDP Educator of the Year is recognized as one of the nation's most prestigious awards for health care education.



Congratulations to NCCDP's 2017 Educator of the Year: Ivette Rivera-Ortiz! CEO, Sandra Stimson, and COO, Lynn Biot Gordon awarded Rivera-Ortiz this prestigious honor in Austin, TX on 5/1/17.

Lynn Biot Gordon, COO, of the NCCDP and Sandra Stimson, CEO, presented the award to Rivera-Ortiz on May 1, 2017 at 12:00 pm at the Texas Health and Human Services Winter's Building in Austin, TX.

**The NCCDP would also like to congratulate the following CADDCTs for earning our Distinguished Educator of the Year Awards:**

Maria Wellisch, RN, LNFA, CDP, CADDCT, Vice President of Corporate Training, Morningside Ministries, TX

Elizabeth McManamy, Rph, CDP, CADDCT, Quality Monitoring Program Pharmacist, Department of Health and Human Services, TX

Denise Scruggs, ADC, CDP, CADDCT, Director of the Beard Center on Aging, Lynchburg College, VA

Cindy Lamica, ADC, LPN, CDP, CADDCT, Harmony Program Director, Notre Dame Healthcare, Inc., MA

Linda Chapman, RN, CDP, CADDCT, Regional Clinical Educator, Heart to Heart Hospice, MI

Rhonda David, RN, CDP, CADDCT, Director of Education, the Medical Team, MI

Tameka Battle, CTRS, CDP, CADDCT, Assistant Professor, Nassau University Medical Center, NY

The National Council of Certified Dementia Practitioners (NCCDP) was formed in 2003 and has thousands of members throughout the United States and many countries. The NCCDP provides Alzheimer's disease and dementia care education globally and issues dementia certifications to health care professionals and frontline staff. For more information please contact: [nccdpcorporate@nccdp.org](mailto:nccdpcorporate@nccdp.org)

SOURCE National Council of Certified Dementia Practitioners

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