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SAGE staff receives dementia certification

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This spring, Ellisa Lee, SAGE Eldercare Director of HomeCare, and Deanna Butters, SAGE Eldercare Director of Spend-A-Day Adult Day Health Center, pictured left to right, have trained thirty SAGE employees so they can be better equipped to assist clients who have Alzheimer's disease or a form of dementia. As part of a grant from the Head Foundation, the training will allow staff to apply and receive their Certified Dementia Practitioner (CDP) certification from the National Council of Certified Dementia Practitioners (NCCDP). For more information on SAGE, please call 908-273-5550 or visit www.sageeldercare.org. / Photo courtesy of SAGE Eldercare

Written by Staff Report

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SUMMIT — As part of a grant from the Head Foundation, SAGE Eldercare has been offering prerequisite courses to help staff obtain their Certified Dementia Practitioner (CDP) certification from the National Council of Certified Dementia Practitioners (NCCDP).

The courses have been led by SAGE employees, Ellisa Lee, director of HomeCare, and Deanna Butters, director of Spend-A-Day Adult Day Health Center, who have both received their CDP certification from the NCCDP, including trainer certification.

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This spring, nearly 20 SAGE Home Health Aides and staff received training and completed coursework to obtain their CDP certification.

National Council of Certified Dementia Practitioners (NCCDP) was formed in 2001 by a group of professionals with varying work and personal experiences in the field of dementia care. Their goal is to promote standards of excellence in dementia and Alzheimer's education. A CDP certification reflects a commitment on the part of the front line staff, health-care professional and organization to provide a quality of care to their dementia patient(s).

SAGE Eldercare is a unique community resource that offers a comprehensive array of programs and services for older adults and caregivers, promoting independence and quality of life. Founded in 1954, SAGE is one of the few non-profit eldercare agencies in the United States, and the oldest in New Jersey, that offers a broad and comprehensive array of services under one roof that assist elderly, often frail, adults to remain independent in their own homes.

SAGE Eldercare serves 7,000 people throughout Union, Essex, Morris and Somerset counties, as well as across the United States. For more information, call 908-273-5550 or visit www.sageeldercare.org.

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