



The ALTERNATIVE SOLUTIONS PAGE



By Sandra Stimson ADC, CALA, CDP
Executive Director, [Alternative Solutions in Long Term Care](#)

Music: "Peg of My Heart" furnished by [Heart and Soul Music](#) "Providing Quality Music for Nursing Homes"

Activity Professionals Week January 21-26 2007

Now is the time to order your promotional items either to honor your staff and / or your Activity director. The Activity Director should plan some special ways to honor the activity staff. The Executive Director should also plan something special to recognize all that the Activity Director does for the community and residents. The following are some suggestions for celebrating this very special week.

First Day: Balloons and Banners Up
Word Search Puzzles with words that describe the activity department placed around facility.

Second Day: Coffee / Tea and Breakfast Items for the Activity Staff.

Third Day: Lunch out with the Executive Director is always appreciated!

Fourth Day: Resident party and entertainment. Department heads serve food items.

Fifth Day: Activity staff provided with promotional items, such as pins, calculators, bags. These items are available through www.positivepromotions.com

At www.activitytherapy.com we have a special tribute poem for activity professionals that you could print out on pretty paper and read during your resident / facility party.

The Executive Director could purchase one item off of the Activity Department wish list as there are always items the director would like to purchase for the residents, such as overhead projector, pop corn machine, DVD players, sensory equipment, gift cards to video stores and craft stores, etc. Activity Director's like to receive books and there are many books on our web site that you could purchase. One valuable tool is the Care Plan Cook Book.

The best gift of all is education. Why not send your Activity Director and are staff to some seminars or if she is not certified, to the 90 hour activity courses. You can find an instructor at www.nccap.org. For NJ classes begin in February and will be held evenings 5:30 to 9:00 at Daughters of Miriam in Clifton NJ. See www.activitytherapy.com for details.

Another idea is to pay for membership in state or local activity associations.

ABOUT SANDRA

Sandra Stimson has experience as a corporate consultant, Corporate Trainer and National Speaker. Her experience is in long term care, as Activity Director, Director of Alzheimer's Units and Assistant Administrator of a 550 bed long term care county home. She is Co-founder of Pet Express Pet Therapy Club, is a Life Replay Specialist. Sandra implements dementia units nationwide. Sandra has written several books, Volunteer Management Essentials for Long Term Care and Pet Express Pet Therapy Program. Sandra has been a facilitator for Alzheimer's support groups and is the Awards Chair for the NJ Association of Activity Professionals. Sandra is the Executive Director of **National Council of Certified Dementia Practitioners**

<http://www.nccdp.org>.

[Alternative Solutions in Long Term Care](#) offers resources for health care professionals in many areas of dementia care, care plans, Snoezelen products, dementia activity calendars, adult day care calendars, sensory calendars, reminisce videos for dementia, activity books, and dates to remember, party supplies, resources and links.



THE ACTIVITY DIRECTOR'S OFFICE

Providing Internet Resources
for Activity Professionals
in Long Term Care Settings
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