



Sandra Stimson

Pathways to the Past



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<http://www.activitytherapy.com>
<http://www.nccdp.org/index.htm>

NEW CERTIFICATION FOR DEMENTIA UNIT MANAGERS!

National Council of Certified Dementia Practitioners announces a new certification for Dementia Unit Managers, Certified Dementia Care Manager CDCM. The new certification is for Dementia Unit Managers / Supervisors / Directors who provide direct supervision to a dementia unit / special care unit.

One of the requirements to qualify for CDCM is to complete a two - day CDCM training with the NCCDP. The first day, the training consists of 8 - hour Train the Trainer Alzheimer's's dementia comprehensive curriculum. The 2nd day the seminar consists of Best Practices for dementia units, policy and procedures for dementia units and job description recommendation for Dementia Unit Managers.

Golden Living Corporation recently certified over 100 dementia unit managers. "The Certified Dementia Care Manager (CDCM) certification is considered the highest standard of Alzheimer's's and dementia care within the health care industry. The program is designed to strengthen the supervisory responsibilities within these specialized units, while also enhancing the use of new methods, theories and tools related to Alzheimer's's dementia Care practices. The impact of this advanced training is significant because of the number of lives our staff members impact on a daily basis." Ed McMahon National Director of Alzheimer's's Care and Quality of Life for Golden Living.

Across America, the states have different regulations for dementia units for nursing homes and assisted living. Some states may have no regulations that address dementia units, especially in the case of assisted living, There are no federal regulations governing dementia units, as all state and federal regulations apply to all residents regardless of the special unit they may reside on. For the states that do have regulations specific for dementia units, those states may or may not require dementia unit managers. Where it is required, there is great range in requirements. Some states require that the dementia manager only be a high school graduate with one year health care experience. While another state may have extensive regulations and qualifications such as college degree and several years supervisory experience.

With in the health care corporations there is also a wide range in qualifications and responsibilities. Some corporations require a dementia unit manager to provide extensive supervisory responsibilities while others may only want the manager involved with the activity program. Some corporations have full time dementia unit managers. Others may have a department manager who also provides oversight for the dementia unit.

Many managers report very little training to prepare them for the role of dementia unit manager. As this is a relatively new field, there is very little information tailored specifically to the Dementia Unit Manager job function. The dementia unit has unique concerns and dementia unit managers do not have a network in which to seek advice and best practice information from.

Because of this, the NCCDP set forth the recommended standards, qualifications and certification in long term care for dementia managers and has developed a course and certification tailored specifically for Dementia Unit Managers.

The course includes: Power point disk comprehensive Alzheimer's's / dementia curriculum, master hand out notebook, tests, text books, DVD, dementia unit policy and procedures, dementia unit Best Practices and job description for Dementia Unit Managers. Upon completion of the two day course the dementia unit manager will be an approved NCCDP Alzheimer's's dementia trainer, Certified Dementia Practitioner and Certified Dementia Care Manager.

The requirements for the dementia care manager to pursue certification are:

- Completion of the two - day NCCDP CDCM Seminar.
- A Bachelors degree from a 4 year accredited college / university or LPN / RN.
- 1 Year supervisory experience in health care setting.
- 1 Year providing training or in-services in a health care setting.
- 3 Years experience working in a health care setting.
- Current license or certification in a health care profession.
- Qualify for Certified Dementia Practitioner and meet the requirements of the NCCDP.
- Qualify for Train the Trainer and meet the requirements of NCCDP.

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.



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- Qualify for CDCM and meet the requirements of NCCDP.

NCCDP began sending out evaluations to all applicants. NCCDP asked many questions on the evaluations to determine the quality of the seminar and materials provided. If you did not receive an evaluation and would like to tell the NCCDP of your experience, please visit the web site at <http://www.nccdp.org/seminarevaluation.htm>. The feed back has been overwhelmingly positive with fantastic scores and excellent comments. Please see the testimonial page for a sampling of the excellent comments coming in from around the country.



Great dementia links:

Timeslips

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

Vintage Classic Collection

http://www.oldpixels.com/vint_classics/index.html

Puzzles

http://www.puzzleartonline.com/special_needs_puzzles.html

See great downloads for running group programs at

<http://www.bestfriendsapproach.com/downloads.html>

Famous Couples activity

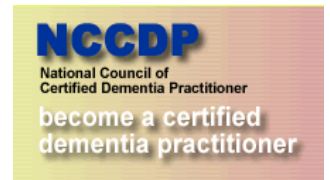
<http://www.ec-online.net/community/activists/dementiaactivities.html>

Almost Home

http://www.almosthomedoc.org/changing/dementia_activities_essay.cfm

Barton House Resident Craft Projects

<http://uncommoncare.com/daily/art.html>



THE ACTIVITY DIRECTOR
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in Long Term Care Settings*
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