



## **Gaining a Deeper Understanding of Dementia and Substance Misuse to Eliminate Stigma**

### **Clinical Course**

**2 CE credits**

Date: November 14, 2022

Time: 1:00 pm – 3:15 pm CST

Location: Faulkner University

5345 Atlanta Highway

Montgomery, AL 36109

**Course Description:** In American society, often times individuals with substance use are highly stigmatized and this can have a major impact on health and wellness. In this live interactive workshop, we will be taking a deep look into the relationship between dementia and substance use. We will discuss Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder as well the impacts stress can have on our brains, and how this can be exacerbated due to substance use. We will additionally learn about how different substances like alcohol, marijuana and opioids impact different parts of our brain and in turn how that relates to dementia and brain health. Our goal for this presentation is to be able to create effective, meaningful ways to treat individuals who use substance or may be impacted by dementia. This means being able to have knowledge on screening and treatment tools as well as understanding the significant barriers individuals who use substances may face. As a particularly vulnerable population in society, who may feel internal and external stigma, it is vital to understand how we as a community can connect with them to improve well-being. Lastly, we will be discussing how to incorporate the family and support systems into recovery to ensure we are focusing on holistic health. We hope this presentation will help to show professionals how to alleviate stigma among individuals with substance use and dementia, treat patients with dignity and compassion, illustrate to individuals that changes in the brain are influenced by several varying factors and continue to guide treatment plans with knowledge at the forefront.

### **From this workshop you will learn to:**

1. Define addiction and different forms of substance use
2. Identify the relationship between substance use and dementia
3. Describe stigma and understand substance-use and dementia-related stigma
4. Assess different barriers to access and meaningful treatments for intervention
5. Apply effective strategies to reduce stigma and in turn increase the health and well-being of individuals with substance use

**Course Agenda:**

1:00 pm – 1:15pm – Sign in and complete pre-test.

1:15 pm-1:45 pm – Gain a foundational understanding of dementia and substance misuse.

1:45 pm-2:15 pm – Explore the different types of substances typically misused by older adults.

2:15 pm-2:45 pm – Identify barriers to treatment for older adults.

2:45 pm-3:15 pm – Learn about effective strategies to eliminate identified barriers and stigma to improve interventions for older adults with dementia who misuse substances.

3:15 pm – Complete course evaluation and post-test.

**Program Goals and Target Audience:** To educate CCM board-certified case managers, social workers, paraprofessionals, and health care professionals of all levels about dementia care and supporting those affected by dementia-related illnesses.

**Content Level:** Beginner, Intermediate, Advanced

**Presenter Bio: Jennifer Reeder, LCSW, SIFI**

Jennifer Reeder is the Director of Education and Social Services for the Alzheimer's Foundation of America. This includes overseeing AFA's National Toll-Free Helpline staffed by licensed social workers, and community class programs all instructed by various therapists and educators. Ms. Reeder graduated in 2011 from Temple University with a Master's of Social Work, and entered the not-for-profit sector providing in-home therapy to families in the Philadelphia area for over 9 years. She is proud to now be supporting individuals and families affected by Alzheimer's and dementia-related illnesses while providing clinical guidance to the licensed social workers of AFA. She encourages engagement and peer support from attendees, while drawing from real life situations to enhance the learning process.

**Fee and Registration Information:** Cost is FREE. To register follow this link: [Alzheimer's Foundation of America | In-Person Dementia Education Workshops Registration form \(alzfdn.org\)](https://www.alzfdn.org/registration)

**Course Completion and CE Information**

Course completion requirements:

- To receive CE credits and a certificate of completion, attendees must attend the entire course and complete a course evaluation which will be provided at the end of the workshop.
- Certificates of completion will be emailed within 10 business days of course completion.



- This program has been pre-approved by The Commission for Case Manager Certification to provide continuing education credit to CCM® board certified case managers. The course is approved for 2 CE contact hours. Activity code: S00050047 Approval Number: 220000893.
- With the approval of the Alabama Board of Examiners of Nursing Home Administrators
- With the approval of the Alabama State Board of Social Work Examiners
- Recognized by the Alabama Board of Nursing
- Pending approval by the Alabama Board of Assisted Living Administrators

**For questions, concerns, or to request special accommodations, please call: 866-232-8484 or email Jennifer Reeder – [jreeder@alzfdn.org](mailto:jreeder@alzfdn.org).**