



AFA Partners in Care – Supporting Individuals Living with Dementia

Format: Recorded Asynchronous Distance

Detailed course description

Release June 21, 2015, this 5.5-hour training video “AFA Partners in Care: Supporting Individuals Living with Dementia” seeks to equip myriad health care professionals with the skills, knowledge, and confidence needed to work effectively with individuals living with dementia, their families, and colleagues.

This training program reflects a philosophy of care that the Alzheimer’s Foundation of America (AFA) strongly supports: that which is focused on relationship-building. This person-centered approach to care values and promotes the unique strengths, goals, and humanity of each individual, involves interdisciplinary collaboration among care providers, and places individuals with dementia and their families at the center of decision-making. Through encouraging viewers to reflect upon their experiences working with this population, professional strengths and areas for professional growth, the video seeks to foster mindfulness, introspection, and critical thinking.

The film features perspectives and insights from an interdisciplinary array of experts and professionals in the dementia field, individuals living with Alzheimer’s disease, and family members, providing viewers with a rich and dynamic educational experience.

Statement of educational goals of program

“AFA Partners in Care: Supporting Individuals Living with Dementia” training video seeks to:

- Provide a foundational knowledge of dementia;
- Convey the diversity in the dementia experience;
- Convey the humanity of people living with dementia;
- Convey that people living with dementia have the right to attain the highest quality of life possible, to be treated with respect and dignity, and to be given choice in how they live and die;

- Convey that relationships are at the core of dementia care; care partners should partner with people living with dementia, family members, and colleagues to support the person and promote quality of life;
- Convey that a relational model of dementia care relies on all parties in the relationship bringing strengths to the fore (rather than dwelling on deficiencies)
- Convey that working with people who are living with dementia can be rich and meaningful career path
- Develop viewer's capacity to reflect upon their experiences with dementia and dementia care and to convey that ongoing reflection is a core aspect of dementia care
- Provide practical and accessible strategies and techniques to promote and achieve the abovementioned, specifically in regards to:
 - i. Health
 - ii. Well being
 - iii. Communication
 - iv. Collaboration
 - v. Personal care
 - vi. Care transitions
 - vii. Safety and security
 - viii. End of life

From this workshop you will be able to:

1. Develop a foundational understanding of dementia-related illnesses
2. Build therapeutic relationships with those affected by dementia-related illnesses
3. Define the importance of facilitating meaningful life
4. Identify effective communication strategies
5. Apply appropriate strategies for responding to distressing behaviors
6. Explain the importance of self-care for professionals

Course Agenda:

Material is delivered through 9, topic-based modules:

- Module 1: Building relationships: 27:20
- Module 2: Understanding dementia: 53:16
- Module 3: Facilitating meaningful living: 56:11
- Module 4: Effective communication: 47:03
- Module 5: Facilitating personal care: 31:48
- Module 6: Promoting safety and security: 43:54
- Module 7: Facilitating care transitions: 29:03
- Module 8: Supporting through end of life: 21:09
- Module 9: Professional self-care: 21:51

Content Level: Beginner, Intermediate, Advanced

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.

Course Oversight, Planning and Ongoing Evaluation

AFA ensures all participants of this course are supported and their experience is valued. To achieve this, participants are encouraged to reach out with any questions or concerns while completing the course, and required to complete a course evaluation to offer the opportunity for participants to share their opinions, experience, and provide input. All evaluations are thoroughly reviewed and used to assess the need for revisions. The following AFA instructors are involved in this process:

Jennifer Reeder, LCSW

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 Masters 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.

The Creator of this Training

Molly Fogel, LCSW is the previous Director of Educational and Social Services at the Alzheimer's Foundation of America (AFA). In the field for 10 years, Molly has spent her career working to educate and improve best practices within organizations, focusing on improving clinical skills in all staff, despite their background, and ensuring the community served is provided the opportunity to improve overall health and wellness, emotionally, mentally, & physically. In her current position, Molly is able to work with a dynamic interdisciplinary team providing education, resources, and support to individuals living with dementia, their families and care professionals. Molly has had variety of clinical positions, starting her work in New York City on the Bowery serving the homeless then shifting to community health work focusing on substance use and mental health, ultimately finding a home in the on medical wellness and aging community. Molly received her bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice from American University in Washington DC, and went on for her Master's in Social Work from New York University. Molly finds her most rewarding work has been teaching professionals and paraprofessional staff clinical techniques to improve the quality of services being provided within the populations they serve.

Fee and Order Information: Cost is \$75 which offers 5.5 CE credits and certification as an AFA Dementia Care Partner, after completing the course evaluation and passing the course exam by 80%. This certification can be renewed annually. To order the DVD follow this link:

<https://shop.alzfdn.org/shop/afa-dvd/>.

If you are unsatisfied with this DVD based training please contact Jennifer Reeder to request a full refund within 30 days of the date you ordered. CE credits and certification will no longer be available upon refund.

Course Completion and CE Information

Course completion requirements:

- Upon retrieval of the purchased DVD, participants will also receive a “Welcome Letter” that includes a “Trainer ID” and links to both the course exam and course evaluation. When completing the course exam and course evaluation, via SurveyMonkey, the participant will use their “Trainer ID”. After completion of the evaluation and passing the exam by 80% (which can be taken as many times as needed to pass), the participant’s Certificate of Completion will be mailed within 10 business days which includes 5.5 CE credits and Certification as an AFA Dementia Care Partner.
 - A paper version of the course evaluation and course exam are available to be sent by mail at the participant’s request. A paper version of the Certificate of Completion can also be mailed at the participant’s request. All requests are to be sent to Jennifer Reeder at jreeder@alzfdn.org or call 866-232-8484.
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- Alzheimer’s Foundation of America, Inc. SW CPE is recognized by the New York State Education Department’s State Board for Social Work as an approved provider of continuing education for licensed social workers #0222.
 - AFA Partners In Care: Supporting Individuals Living with Dementia DVD-Based Training, Course #3660, is approved by the Association of Social Work Boards (ASWB) Approved Continuing Education (ACE) program to be offered by Alzheimer's Foundation of America as an individual course. Individual courses, not providers, are approved at the course level. State and provincial regulatory boards have the final authority to determine whether an individual course may be accepted for continuing education credit. ACE course approval period: 6/11/2021 – 6/11/2023. Social workers completing this course receive 5.5 General Social Work Practice continuing education credits.

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