A Walk in Their Shoes: An Interactive Dementia Training Experience

Wednesday, April 22, 4:00–8:00 PM

Carrie Chiusano, CADDCT, CDP
Brittney Sarnese, CTRS, CDP

(.4 CEUs, NCTRC Job analysis code: FKW, IMP, ASP)

A workshop focused on immersing the participant into the world of someone living with Dementia. In these sessions, one will learn about all aspects of the disease from experts in the field, followed by an interactive simulation. The simulation gives participants greater awareness and understanding of the obstacles affecting those living with dementia. After the session, participants will receive the opportunity to discuss their experience in the empowerment debrief, and dive deeper into more dementia care-related topics.

Seminar Outline
- Introduction to Dementia: Diagnosis, Prognosis and Treatment
- Depression and Repetitive Behaviors
- Delusions, Hallucinations
- Other Behaviors, Aggression, Catastrophic Reactions
- Personal Care: Pain, Nutrition, Bathing, Dressing, Toileting, Falls and Sleep Disturbances
- Environment

Carrie Chiusano has 30 plus years of long-term care experience, 15 of which were spent helping to shape and implement the Woodside Place philosophy of specialty care for persons living with Alzheimer’s disease and other related dementia. Prior to being appointed Executive Director, Carrie served for five years as the Administrator for Woodside Place of Oakmont, and was one of the nation’s first dementia-specific residential community specifically designed to meet the holistic needs of older adults living with Alzheimer’s and related dementia. As Executive Director, Carrie is responsible for the integration of dementia care services across the various settings.

Brittney Sarnese - Brittney Sarnese studied recreational therapy, exercise science, and psychology. In 2016 she received her CTRS Certification and has been a practicing Certified Therapeutic Recreation Specialist for 3 years. At Woodside, she earned her Dementia Practitioner Certification and was promoted to Coordinator of Wellness and Dementia of the Willows. Brittney currently manages the Lifestyle Engagement team for the Willows.