Virtual Caregiver Conference 2021 - 2022 Series

Understanding Your Needs as a Caregiver

The 2021-2022 Virtual Caregiver Conference series kicks off with the theme *Understanding Your Needs as a Caregiver*. This online live/webinar event features six sessions presented by nationally known dementia care and training specialist, **Teepa Snow**.



Friday, Sept. 24 | 9am - 12pm, 1pm - 4pm

Conference Agenda:

9am - 9:50amWhy Do They Do That? Understanding Symptoms and Behaviors in Dementia

10am - 10:50amUnderstanding the Different Dementias

11am - 11:50amUnderstanding Yourself as a Caregiver and What You Need

12pm - 1pmLunch Break

1pm - 1:50pmPain and Dementia - How to Recognize and Intervene When Pain is a Possibility

2pm - 2:50pmLearning the Art of Being an Advocate and Partner

3pm - 3:50pmLearning the Difference Between Letting Go and Giving Up!

*Formerly known as WITC.





READY TO REGISTER?

Contact your local campus or register online:



ONLINE

bit.ly/VirtualCaregiverConfTeepaSnow



ΜΔΙΙ

Send registration & payment to your local campus



PHONE

VISA, MasterCard, Discover

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 715.682.4591 ext. 3050
 715.246.6561 ext. 4145
 715.234.7082 ext. 5045
 715.394.6677 ext. 6050

Are you a professional caregiver in need of **CEU hours**? We have a special presentation from Teepa just for you! *Using a Positive Approach to Care* will be **Thursday, Sept. 23, 9a - 12p**.

Visit bit.ly/CaregiverConfProfDev for details and how to register!

^{*}This interactive webinar is available for family caregivers to view live on Zoom or via recorded video link for 7 days following the live event.

^{*}The link for the Zoom presentation will be sent to your email address 2-3 days prior to the presentation.

VIRTUAL CAREGIVER CONFERENCE

Understanding Your Needs as a Caregiver with Teepa Snow



Teepa Snow is one of the world's leading advocates and educators for anyone living with dementia or other forms of brain change. Teepa is an Occupational Therapist with over forty years of rich and varied clinical and academic experience. Her philosophy is reflective of her education, work experience, medical research, and first-hand caregiving experiences. Her advocacy efforts led her to the development of the GEMS® State Model for understanding the progression of dementia and changes in abilities. She also created the Positive Approach to Care® training strategies, which are effective techniques for anyone seeking to optimize care and support for those living with brain change. Her user-friendly approaches provide guidance and leadership to national efforts to promote best practices in care. Teepa's company, Positive Approach to Care (PAC), was founded in 2006 and is now collaborating to improve dementia care in over thirty countries worldwide. PAC provides online and in-person services, training, and products to professionals, family members, the lay public, and people living with brain change.

Teepa presents with extraordinary expertise and humor to audiences large and small throughout the world. Please join in her mission to improve the culture of dementia care, one mind at a time.

Session Descriptions:

9am - 9:50am | Session 1: Why Do They Do That? Understanding Symptoms and Behaviors in Dementia

When we are in the midst of a devastating disease like Alzheimer's there is no outside standard for others in society to understand our loss. But, there are still lovely moments, laughs, touching, and the precious, fragile gift of time together. Join us as we discuss love, intimacy and Alzheimer's.

10am - 10:50am | Session 2: Understanding the Different Dementias

In recent years, significant progress has been made in differential diagnoses and in tailoring treatments and interventions to different types of dementia. Current understanding is that labeling someone as simply having "dementia" in the early stages of the condition is inadequate for best quality care management. This session is designed to provide information about the various forms of dementia. It highlights the importance of noticing early signs of changes in cognition and behavior that are not consistent with normal aging. Depression, delirium, and dementia are discussed, and differences and connections are presented. The session provides specific and distinguishing characteristics of some of the more common forms of dementia including Alzheimer's disease, vascular dementia, Lewy body dementia, and fronto-temporal dementias. Part of the session also focuses on how care and expectations may need to be changed for each condition as well as for those individuals with mixed picture dementia. Finally, the session will provide support for those providing care to be better advocates and partners for those living with dementia.

11am - 11:50am | Session 3: Understanding Yourself as a Caregiver and What You Need

This session is designed to help caregivers recognize and appreciate their role, as well as understanding what is needed for them to maintain this role. Emphasis will be placed on developing an awareness of the importance the caregiver's attitude and behavior play in determining the reactions and behaviors of the person for whom they are providing care. Self-awareness and self-assessment will be used to help caregivers acknowledge their own status and emotional state. There will also be a discussion of the importance of recognizing 'burn out' and stress to determine if the caregiver is able, at this time, to find or create moments of joy or may need respite and time away or additional assistance and support to re-establish relationships. Techniques for stress reduction for caregivers will also be discussed.

1pm - 1:50pm | Session 4: Pain and Dementia-How to Recognize and Intervene When Pain is a Possibility

This session is designed to help provide more effective and accurate assessments of pain status and possible medical emergencies when dementia is present. It is well known that people with dementia have difficulty communicating their needs and distress in a clear and understandable way as the disease progresses. The focus of this session will be to help use preserved abilities, observable behaviors and signs, and their knowledge of what is 'usual' and 'normal' for the individual to help screen for changes that should be investigated. Emphasis will be placed on distinguishing among changes that typically signal a worsening of dementia, an acute medical condition or emergency, medication side-effects that are significant, a 'bad day,' depression, and pain or discomfort that deserves attention and intervention.

2pm - 2:50pm | Session 5: Learning the Art of Being an Advocate and Partner

This session will help learners better understand what is happening when someone has dementia, including important changes in abilities throughout the progression of the condition. It will also focus on how the condition changes relationships and interactions. This session will highlight the importance of maintaining a balance of engagement activities for the person with dementia and also for the care partner in order to make the journey possible and less stressful for both. It will emphasize the value of knowing the person and their level of dementia in creating daily schedules and programming that meet their needs and encourages interaction. The session will also address the most effective methods for advocating for the person living with dementia and what is best for them. The goal for the session is to help learners recognize the need to change expectations, care, and plans as the condition progresses without becoming a negative or hopeless entity.

3pm - 3:50pm | Session 6: Learning the Difference Between Letting Go and Giving Up!

This session is designed to help caregivers and family members develop the knowledge and skills they will need to be effective and 'on target' when providing help to someone living with some form of dementia. Emphasis will be on providing attendees with strategies and techniques that are effective in responding to typical symptoms and behaviors of people with dementia as the disease progresses. The session will also focus on how to learn to recognize and accept the changes that are part of this disease's progression without losing control, giving up on the person or on care provision, or becoming overwhelmed.



REGISTRATION FORM

for Continuing Education (non-credit) Courses

LOCATION	

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 $^{^*}$ For registration questions, please visit bit.ly/VirtualCaregiverConfTeepaSnow or contact Melissa Buxton at Melissa.Buxton@witc.edu



Northwood Technical College 1900 College Drive Rice Lake, WI 54868



Friday, Sept. 24, 2021

Don't miss this exciting and educational virtual conference for family caregivers and professionals!

Virtual Caregiver Conference | Friday, Sept. 24, 2021

Understanding Your Needs as a Caregiver with featured speaker Teepa Snow

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