Dementia Care International®

Bringing *heart* to mind

Spark of Life Rehabilitative Program: Certified Facilitator Course

For Allied Health Professionals, Nurses and Personal Care Assistants

Live via Zoom 2027

March 15th to 18th

May 10th to 13th

November 15th to 18th

Gain the skills and knowledge to implement and run the *Spark of Life* Rehabilitative Program

What Is the *Spark of Life* Rehabilitative Program?

The heart-centred, best practice *Spark of Life* Rehabilitative Program – now our signature program – benefits people with all levels of dementia.

The program delivers what the name promises, to facilitate improvement in cognition, communication, and social skills with unprecedented increase in overall well-being and performance.

The program can be successfully implemented in any care setting whether residential or community, and within any culture. It is often the first step for a new health care organisation to introduce the *Spark of Life* Philosophy into their service.





From non-communicative to full participation in just 2 sessions

What Makes this Program Best Practice?

With a demonstrated history spanning more than 30 years, the *Spark of Life* Rehabilitative Program is in every possible way an expression of best practice with its authentic, holistic, functional cognitive* approach.

In addition, through experience, research, and field testing across diverse health services and cultures on 5 continents, the program has proven to facilitate improvement in cognition, communication, and social skills with remarkable increase in health outcomes and participation.

**Functional cognition is the dynamic, observable interconnectedness between an individual's cognitive abilities and their functional independence.*

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> 'The Rehabilitative Program was the first *Spark of Life* Programme we introduced at Adriel as it was practical and staff and residents could see results and improvements in resident's communication almost instantly. Due to the improvements noted from the Rehabilitative Programme, we received our first Continuous improvement from the New Zealand Ministry of Health external auditors. Continuous improvement is the highest attainable acknowledgment in a New Zealand audit.'
>
> *Mischeal McCormick,*
> *Owner and Manager,*
> *Amberley, New Zealand*



> 'This program is culture-building, and I am inspired to apply what I have learnt consistently to enhance residents' engagement, boost self-esteem , and improve the overall quality of care across all homes.'
>
> *Mikaela Shannon,*
> *Clinical Director,*
> *Enliven New Zealand*



Outcomes for People with Dementia

Through participating in the *Spark of Life* Rehabilitative Program, people with dementia can expect to experience:

- Increase in overall well-being and functional abilities resulting in enhanced independence.
- Improvement in cognition, communication, and memory.
- Boosted self-esteem, resilience and the will to live.
- Expanded companionship and close emotional connections, counteracting loneliness, and depression.
- Absence of angry outburst.
- Reduction in falls.

Who is the Course For?

The course is designed specifically for Allied Health Professionals, Nurses, and Personal Care Assistants. There is a 2-day Managers' option – please contact us on +61 (0) 3 9727 2744 or email us at: info@dmentiacareinternational.com for information on this option.

4-day Certified Course on the *Spark of Life* Rehabilitative Program

As a participant, the education will give you in-depth knowledge and skills on how to set up and run this life-changing program. You will experience how to engage even people with advanced dementia and people who are bedridden in meaningful activities designed to facilitate increased overall well-being and performance. You will learn to optimise independence, boost self-esteem, and resilience.

You will also become equipped with diverse skills to meet the very different needs of people who have dementia depending on whether they have early, moderate, or late dementia. So many expressions of unmet needs (behaviours of concern) can be prevented in the everyday care, simply from having this knowledge.

In addition, all skills learnt are transferable to any one-on-one interaction with people who have dementia.

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'The outcomes for each participant in the *Spark of Life* Rehabilitative Program are amazing. We have seen dynamic decreases in falls and disruptive and challenging behaviours. We have seen complete engagement and restoration of dormant language skills. We have seen Re-mentia in action!'

Karen Leimberer,
Corporate Director of
Life Enrichment Chicago,
Illinois, USA



"

'It is priceless to see a person who has not been able to communicate suddenly talking with you - and you know this has happened just because of your new learnt ways of connecting and communicating.'

Helen Forrest,
Spark of Life Facilitator



Highlights of What Is Covered in the 4-day Education

Day 1 – Knowledge and Skills Context

- The *Spark of Life* Philosophy that underpins the Rehabilitative Program and the way the facilitators engage with their participants who have dementia.
- New findings in neuroscience, including how the brain changes in response to internal and external influences, and how these findings are implemented in the *Spark of Life* Rehabilitative Program.

Day 2 – Program Format

- Introduction to the rehabilitative program with the 3-part key that ensures successful implementation.
- The broad application of the program format
- The *Spark of Life* Descriptive Appreciation as Ending Ritual

Day 3 - Therapeutic Skills & Evaluation Tool

- Identifying the most beneficial club level for each participant ensuring the program is individualised.
- The *Spark of Life* Method that facilitates spontaneous recovery of functional cognition.
- Specific evaluation tool for continuous improvement

Day 4 – Implementation

- Learning to develop one's own themed activities that follow the specific criteria for facilitating improvement in cognition, communication, and social skills
- How to get started
- Planning and preparation

Live via Zoom - Best Practice Education

The *Spark of Life* Rehabilitative Program Course is facilitated live via Zoom for a small select group of up to 12 participants.

The best practice *Spark of Life* Education is provided through an effective accelerated learning model that is unique to Dementia CARE International and benefits participants from anywhere in the world. The education is delivered in an active, student-centred environment where each person's well-being is nurtured.

In addition, the Education is authentic, providing real, rich, and original ideas, models, and methods that are shared in purposeful context.

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> 'I was particularly interested in the neuroscience and how this perfectly explains why people show such improvement in their cognitive and language abilities, as well as their well-being- this information is absolute GOLD for my scientific brain!'
>
> *Tania Hammond,*
> *Nurse Practitioner (Aged Care),*
> *South Australia*



> 'I have learned so much and never has a seminar captured my attention like this one. My attention has been there 100% the whole time even through zoom and participating in the course during nighttime.'
>
> *Nanna Margrét Guðmundsdóttir,*
> *Occupational Therapist,*
> *Reykjavik, Iceland*



The Certified *Spark of Life* Rehabilitative Program Course Facts and Information

Dates and Application Due Dates

3 certified courses are provided in 2027.

March 15th to 18th – application due date 19th February

May 10th to 13th – application due date 16th April

November 15th – 18th – application due date 22nd October

All applications must be received with full payment before the due date as listed above.

A package containing your educational materials will be sent to you prior to the course commencing. To allow for any postal or customs delays, the early registration is essential.

Times

Each day is 7.5 hours.

Certification

Certification is on the basis that;

1. The 4 day course has been attended in full with participation in every session.
2. All written and practical assessments have been successfully passed.

Number of Participants

A small select group of up to 12 participants, which enables close engagement with each individual. Please note that the course is for one participant to attend all 4 days and cannot be shared.

Course Investment

AU$ 3,500

How to Apply

There is a formal application process.
To apply, please fill in all parts of the *Spark of Life* Rehabilitative Program Course Application Form and remember to reply to the 4 questions that you can find at the end of the application form.

Further Information

Dementia Care International ABN 57 062 386 216

Phone +61 (0)3 9727 2744

Email: info@dementiacareinternational.com

www.dementiacareinternational. com

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What Is Included in the Course?

Included in the course is the comprehensive *Spark of Life* Facilitation Resource Kit (Value AU$1,650) for reference after the course and as a learning resource for co-facilitators.

In addition, each participant will receive:

- 4 days education on the best practice *Spark of Life* Rehabilitative Program.
- Education directly from the Founder of the *Spark of Life* Philosophy and the Rehabilitative Program.
- A small group learning environment of maximum 12 participants.
- The knowledge and specialised skillset to implement and practise the *Spark of Life* Rehabilitative Program both as the full program and in any one-on-one engagement with a person who has dementia.
- Extra learning resources for each day of the course.

> ‘The Aged Care Standards and Accreditation Agency auditors who have visited the home twice since the commencement of implementing the *Spark of Life* Rehabilitative Program informed us that they are very impressed with the positive outcomes for residents and other stakeholders.’
>
> *Jan Clark,*
> *Executive Care Manager,*
> *Perth, Western Australia*



Learning directly from the Founder of the *Spark of Life* Rehabilitative Program

Jane Verity

Jane Verity is Founder and CEO of Dementia CARE International and has developed the *Spark of Life* Philosophy and the life-enriching Rehabilitative Program.

Jane's background is in Occupational Therapy, Family Therapy specialising in Advanced Systems Theory, and Neuro Linguistic Programming (NLP). In addition, she has earned the highest international accreditation as professional speaker.

Her professional career has spanned leadership roles in geriatric psychiatry and aged care always with the particular focus on humanising care and facilitating rehabilitation for people who have dementia.

The Rehabilitative Program was developed in practice, in close partnership with the facilitators and the participants of the program – people with all levels of dementia.

Jane continues to work closely with *Spark of Life* Facilitators implementing this program around the world pursuing further developments to ensure the program stays relevant and culturally attuned to the needs of all involved.

Dementia CARE International

Dementia CARE International is the independent organisation behind the *Spark of Life* Philosophy, Rehabilitative Program, Education, and Model of Care and is a subsidiary of Spark of Life International.

At Dementia CARE International we have developed a profoundly empathetic and compassionate approach to dementia care that enriches the quality of the everyday care – hence our name Dementia **CARE** International.

Our history started in the early 1990 where people with advanced dementia were often the forgotten and overlooked. There was no expectation that those who were in the later stages of dementia could experience rehabilitation, and the assumption was that for people with advanced dementia, improvement was not possible.

Seeing the need for a different approach to dementia, in 1993, Dementia CARE International was founded with a clear and unconventional purpose to humanise dementia care and bring forth the highest level of quality care.

To achieve such a profound culture shift in the field of dementia care, the *Spark of Life* Rehabilitative Program – now our signature program – was developed for people with all levels of dementia.

Our programs also include a suite of innovative best practice education topics focused on the psychosocial aspects of care and a 3-mondule Master Leadership Program for services that wish to embrace our *Spark of Life* Philosophy and become self sufficient in its implementation.

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Jane Verity

> 'It is the absence of genuine attention, respect, and love, which at the end of the day is deeply damaging for the person.
>
> The only solution that is within reach, is at the most basic, honest, humanitarian level through kindness, understanding, and love.'
>
> *Jane Verity,*
> *Founder and CEO*
> *of Dementia Care International*



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