

June 2024 Newsletter



## President's Report, May 2024

Frances Bulloff, President, VTI

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Like many people, I wear an activity tracker wristwatch. I really only use it to tell time and to count my steps daily. Checking time is important because I like to know not only what time of day it is, but also whether I have used the day to complete tasks including exercise. The step count is a basic but largely inaccurate way to know whether I am moving enough. We all know that following the recommended 10,000 daily steps for fitness is an illusion since it does not take into account intensity. Does shuffling my feet around my apartment really equate to walking briskly? Of course not. The VTI board serves as a kind of activity tracker for our organization. Are we moving enough or standing still? Are we just going through the usual motions or moving with intention and motivation? Are we content to just roll out material from the past or do we look for ways to repackage and rethink content to target new markets? How fit are we to carry out our mission?

I like the way we formulate a strategic plan so that our actions are purposeful and directed at definable goals. We are extremely fortunate to have Rudolf and Mariska (Rudolf Rodenburg and Mariska Praktiek are on the VTI Board of Trustees) to guide us through the process when we meet in July, but we should be analyzing and tracking all the time. What is working and what is not? How can we use our talents, resources, and energy to their fullest extent? How can we continue to drive Validation in an impactful way without the personal dynamism of Naomi Feil? Rather than merely counting our steps, let's make our steps count!

- Frances Bulloff, President, VTI.



### Teacher Feature: Lori M. Hasty RN, GCNS-BC, CADDCT, CVP

Lori M. Hasty is a Geriatric Nurse Specialist, Certified Dementia Care Trainer, and Level 3 Validation Presenter with over 40 years of experience. Her career spans working with disoriented older adults in various settings including homes, acute care, rehabilitation, assisted living, and nursing homes. Lori has initiated several Alzheimer's and caregiver support groups and served on the boards of the Alzheimer's Association of Hampton Roads and Senior Services of Southeastern Virginia.

Trained in Validation under Naomi Feil over 20 years ago, Lori continues to use this method, finding it the most compassionate and effective way to communicate with disoriented older adults. Inspired by Naomi's belief that people flourish in nurturing environments, Lori hopes her monthly contributions to the Validation Training Institute help provide such environments. Read the full article <u>here</u>.



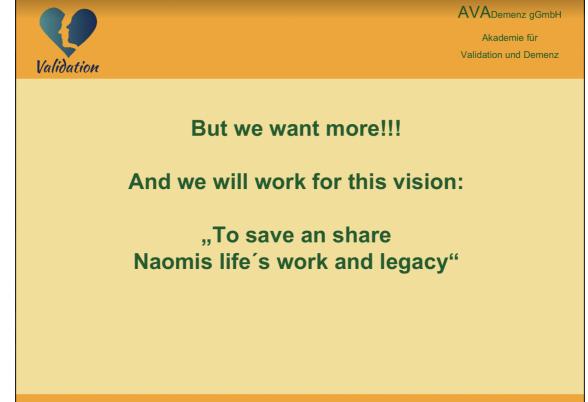


#### Letters to Naomi Feil from German Validation Practitioners

In these heartfelt letters, German practitioners express their deep gratitude to Naomi Feil for her invaluable contributions to the field of Validation.

They celebrate her lasting impact on the care of disoriented individuals and reflect on the profound influence her teachings have had on their professional lives and personal approaches to human dignity in every stage of life. Through their words, they honor Naomi's dedication, charisma, and the enduring legacy she has built.

- Click here to read the letters in German: <u>Hier klicken, um die Briefe auf</u> <u>Deutsch zu lesen</u>
- <u>Click here to read the letters in English</u>



AVA Demenz gGmbH – Akademie für Validation und Demenz, www.ava-demenz.de, info@ava-demenz.de

We're thrilled to share the latest updates from AVA Demenz gGmbH in their Annual Report 2023. Since becoming an AVO on March 1st, they have conducted over 110 days of Validation events, reaching more than 1,000 participants! Highlights include numerous courses, workshops, and exchange meetings, plus a new map feature connecting presenters and teachers across Germany. With ambitious goals for 2024/2025, including new courses and collaborations, AVA Demenz gGmbH is dedicated to preserving and expanding Naomi Feil's legacy.

Read <u>the full report</u> to learn more about their inspiring work and future plans!



### Having difficulty communicating with your aging parents? We have some solutions.

We've created a tips sheet which includes simple but impactful things you can do to help. These are made available for contributors to VTI. Video demonstrations of the tips are included, plus monthly reminders to practice each tip in the form of cartoons that illustrate and compliment each tip.

These beautifully crafted cartoons bring to life essential techniques for effectively connecting with and supporting disoriented individuals.

Your support helps us continue providing these valuable resources. Donate here: <u>https://www.zeffy.com/donation...</u>

Stay tuned for more insights and enjoy a sneak peek of our cartoon above!



# Der Mensch hinter der Diagnose

Am 24. Dezember 2023 ist Naomi Feil, die Begründerin der Validationsmethode, verstorben. Durch sie hat diese auf Empathie und Vorurteilsfreiheit beruhende Kommunikationsmethode weltweit Einzug in die Begleitung von Menschen mit Demenz gefunden.

**20** 05.2024

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### Article for our German speaking community

On December 24, 2023, Naomi Feil, the founder of the Validation method, died. Through her, this method of communication based on empathy and freedom from judgment has found its way worldwide into the care of people with dementia. It is written by Validation Master, Hedwig Neu.

(erschienen in der Altenpflege 05/24, Vincentz Network, Hannover)

Lesen Sie hier den ganzen Artikel



VTI is proud to be accepted to the following conferences:

Alzheimer's Association International Date: 28 July-1 August Location: Philadelphia, PA Type: Virtual

Dementia World Conference (already in Google drive)

Symposium zum Thema Validation im Haus Dobling Date: 20 September Location: Vienna Type: In-Person

Namaste Care International Conference

Alzheimer's Europe

Date: 8-10 October Location: Geneva, Switzerland Type: In-Person

Center for Innovation Date: 11-13 November Location: Grand Rapids, MI Type: In-Person

International Conference on Active Aging Date: 19-21 November Location: Raleigh, NC Type: In-Person

Gerontological Society of America Date: 13-16 November Location: Seattle, WA Type: In-Person

Stay tuned for more conference action in autumn!

### Free Support Groups

JUNE 27	VALIDATION TALK & TECHNIQUES 5:00PM U.S. Mountain Time 6:00PM U.S. Central Time 7:00PM U.S. Eastern Time
JULY 12	ENGLISH TEACHER MEETING Fridays at 11am Israel, 5pm Japan 10am CET, 4pm China,
JULY 19	AVO MEETINGS Fridays at 11am Israel, 10am CET, 4pm China,
AUGUST 12	ENGLISH TEACHER MEETING <b>Mondays</b> at 1pm Eastern, 8pm Israel 10am Pacific, 7pm CET,

Make a Connection!



#### Validation Training Institute

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