



April 2025 Newsletter

Spring is here—and with it, the reminder that growth often begins quietly, with connection.

This month's newsletter is full of stories that reflect that spirit: from Petra Wannicke's heartfelt teaching journey in Germany to the powerful transformation of care in Slovakia. You'll also read about new AVOs joining our network, a successful global webinar, and the launch of our Spring Fundraiser—focused on honoring those we love by supporting those who care.



FAQ: What Makes Validation Education Unique?

By Vicki de Klerk-Rubin

There are many thoughtful approaches to person-centered care, but few go as deep—or transform as fully—as Validation. Rooted in empathy and emotional truth, Validation gives caregivers the tools to enter the inner world of older adults with cognitive decline... and connect.

Unlike other methods that redirect or distract, Validation empowers caregivers to listen with compassion, respond with emotional intelligence, and build trust even when words fade.

So what makes Validation education so different?

- It's built on adult learning principles
- It fosters deep emotional growth (not just skill-building)
- It prepares caregivers to connect one-on-one and in groups
- It works for both verbal and non-verbal elders

Validation isn't just a technique. It's a way of being—with those in their final stage of life, and with ourselves.

📖 [Read the full article here](#)

Save 10%

Purchase all 6 Blocks together and save 10%

[Get the special offer here](#)

Featured Course: Skill Building Blocks

Small Skills. Big Shifts.

Whether you're caring for a parent, working in elder care, or just want to connect more deeply with aging loved ones—these six short, on-demand lessons give you the tools to communicate with empathy and respect.

Each 30-minute block teaches a single, powerful skill—from using tone of voice to centering yourself before a conversation. Learn at your own pace, and put each technique to use right away.

- 📖 Designed for busy lives.
- 📖 Grounded in real-world application.
- 📖 Just 30 minutes per block—start with one or save 10% on all six.

📖 [Get started now →](#)



SPOTLIGHT

Petra Wannicke



Teacher Spotlight: Petra Wannicke (Germany)

This month, we're honored to feature Petra Wannicke, a Validation Teacher since 2017 who lives near Munich, Germany.

Petra brings over 30 years of nursing experience and now works as a psychotherapist, offering Validation both in private practice and in senior care

homes. She teaches courses and gives lectures to care professionals, assistants, and family members.

Petra describes the joy of bridging her hands-on work with her teaching:

“The connection between practical application and teaching is both wonderful and inspiring—for me and for others.”

Her work reminds us that the heart of Validation is more than a method—it’s a mission rooted in respect and humanity.

[Read Petra's full article here: English and German](#)



AVO Spotlight: Slovakia



AVO Spotlight: Slovakia

The Validation journey in Slovakia has been shaped by passionate educators, determined caregivers, and the power of real human connection. In her moving report, one Validation leader shares how the method brought dignity to a woman who had been turned away by three care centers for her aggression—until Validation helped her feel seen and understood.

Slovakia’s AVO is now training new generations of caregivers and advocates, hosting 30+ workshops per year, influencing policy, and mentoring future teachers across the Slovakia and beyond.

As one teacher put it:

“Naomi Feil passed the torch—and it burns in our hearts. Our job now is to keep it lit.”

[Read the full article here: English and Slovakian](#)

**VTI is proud to announce
two new training centers.**



New AVOs in Spain and Luxembourg!

VTI is proud to announce two new training centers.

Vincore is a new Spanish Authorized Validation Organization (AVO), headed by two certified Validation teachers and active throughout Spain. They work closely with our first Spanish AVO, Asociación Relay. Between them, they are spreading the Validation method among Spanish speakers. In fact, Asociación Relay recently supported the Argentina AVO and now they have a Level 4 Certified Teacher!

Contact: info@vincore.org

Servior is a senior living management company in Luxembourg that has 17 homes. They have prepared for this moment by training staff for the past 3 years, giving them 4 certified Validation Presenters who are ready to move on to becoming Level 4 Validation Teachers. They are poised to train every person who works at Servior, from the C-Suite to kitchen staff.

Contact: SM-VALIDATION-SERVIOR@servior.lu



ALZHEIMER'S ASSOCIATION
AAIC >25

TORONTO, CANADA, AND ONLINE
July 27-31, 2025

Webinar Recap: The Power of Basics

Last month's Validation Basics Webinar brought together 38 participants from 18 countries, showing the continued global demand for accessible, high-impact training.

Participants explored the foundational principles of Validation and got a preview of what's to come in our deeper sessions—like the one we're planning for the Alzheimer's Association International Conference this July in Toronto.

Stay tuned for more news on that event!



VTI's 3rd Annual Spring Fundraiser



Spring Fundraiser Begins May 10!

Mark your calendars—our 2025 Spring Fundraiser kicks off May 10–24!

This year, we're doing something different. Our goal is to welcome 1,000 first-time donors, each giving \$20.

Every gift helps someone learn how to connect with empathy and communicate with dignity. We'll share more soon—but for now, we ask:

Who will you give in honor of?

□ Upcoming Meetings – April & May 2025

April

- Teacher Meeting (Friday): April 11 at 10:00 AM CET / 11:00 AM Israel
- AVO Meeting (Friday): April 25 at 10:00 AM CET / 11:00 AM Israel

May

- German Teacher Meeting: May 6 at 6:00 PM CET / 7:00 PM Israel
- Teacher Meeting (Monday): May 12 at 10:00 AM Pacific / 1:00 PM Eastern
- French Teacher Meeting: May 27 at 7:00 PM CET / 8:00 PM Israel
- AVO Meeting (Monday): May 20 at 9:00 AM Pacific / 12:00 PM Eastern

[For more information or to register for the meetings- click here](#)

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