



Validation Newsletter
Training Institute

VALIDATION TRAINING INSTITUTE

April Newsletter

This month we honor National Volunteer Week, share a powerful podcast conversation, open a new course cohort, preview our Spring Fundraiser, and spotlight a three-decade Validation legacy in France.

APRIL 19–25

Honoring National Volunteer Week

This week (April 19–25) is National Volunteer Week—and we're thinking about the volunteers who show up for older adults every day. The daughter who drives across town every Sunday. The retiree who reads aloud at the memory care unit. The neighbor who sits with someone while their spouse runs errands. The teenager earning service hours who ends up forming a real bond with a senior.

These are the people who fill the gaps our systems can't. And most of them have never been trained in how to communicate with someone living with cognitive change.

Here lies the need for Validation. Whether you're a family caregiver, a volunteer, or a professional—learning to meet people where they are, emotionally, changes everything about the visit.

To every volunteer reading this: thank you. The work you do matters more than you know.



Heart2Heart Podcast

Featuring Nancy Brown, Director of Communications for Validation Training Institute
- Hosted by Paul Falkowski - Now streaming



PODCAST FEATURE

Nancy Brown on Heart2Heart: Beyond Words

Nancy Brown, Certified Validation Teacher, recently joined Paul Falkowski on the Heart2Heart Podcast by our partners at the National Association of Long-Term Care Volunteers (NALTCV) for an episode called *“Beyond Words: Creating Meaningful Connections Through Validation.”*

Nancy and Paul dig into why communication shifts when cognition shifts, and what caregivers—professional and family alike—can do to meet people where they are.

Whether you spend your days on a memory care floor or your Sunday afternoons visiting mom, this episode shows how Validation works for everyone who cares for an older adult.

[Listen to the Episode →](#)



Validation
Training Institute



NCCAP[®]
NATIONAL CERTIFICATION COUNCIL
FOR ACTIVITY PROFESSIONALS



vfvalidation.org

NOW ENROLLING

New Cohort: Validation for Activity Professionals

Registration is open for our next Validation for Activity Professionals course, starting May 26.

This is an 11-week online program built specifically for people who spend their days planning engagement for older adults—Activity Directors, Activity Assistants, Life Enrichment staff, and aspiring Activity Professionals.

This cohort is co-led by Nancy Brown, Certified Validation Teacher with 20+ years in dementia and memory care, and Brenda Deckman, NCCAP-certified Activity Director with 20+ years in Memory Care and a Certified Validation Worker. Together they bring real-world application of Validation straight into the classroom—with six live interactive webinars, practical communication strategies, and examples pulled directly from day-to-day practice.

Classroom opens: May 26

Webinars: June 9 – August 18

Final assessment due: September 1

Includes: Validation Gateway Certificate



AVO SPOTLIGHT

Institut M&R: Building Validation in the French-Speaking World

For more than three decades, Validation in the French-speaking world has grown under the leadership of Kathia Munsch, Validation Master, and the team at AVO Institut M&R.

The story starts in 1991, when Kathia first met Naomi Feil in France. At the time, care for older adults living with cognitive impairment was largely task-focused—often missing the emotional reality of the people being cared for. Validation offered something different: an approach rooted in empathy, respect, and meeting people where they are.

Formally established as an Authorized Validation Organization in 2004, Institut M&R has trained several thousand professionals across France—nurses, psychologists, care assistants, social workers, and managers. The team has also supported the growth of new AVOs across Europe, including Plateforme Romande (Switzerland), Relay and Vincore (Spain), and Servior (Luxembourg).

Merci, Kathia, and the entire team at Institut M&R. Your

work makes Validation stronger everywhere.

[Read the Full Story →](#)

Coming Soon

VALIDATION TRAINING INSTITUTE

COMING SOON

Coming Soon: Our Spring Fundraiser

This May, we're launching our Spring Fundraiser—and this year, it's a little different.

For the first time, we're combining the fundraiser with the launch of our new VTI Sponsorship Program. Every dollar you give goes directly toward putting Validation training into the hands of caregivers who want it but can't afford it—family members, volunteers, activity staff, first responders, and more.

Save the dates: May 11–25

Our goal: 50 new donors or \$1,200 each to support caregivers across our community

More details coming your way in the next few weeks—including the full Sponsorship Program, stories from real caregivers, and ways you can help beyond a donation.

[Preview the Sponsorship Program →](#)

VTI Is Open for New Partnerships

Whether you're a senior care provider, educational institution, health system, or community organization, we'd love to explore how Validation training can support your teams and the families you serve.

[Get in Touch →](#)

Upcoming Meetings

MAY

5 MON Teacher Meeting

10am PT / 1pm ET / 7pm CET

26 TUE AVO Meeting

9am PT / 12pm ET / 6pm CET

JUNE

No meetings scheduled this month.

[Visit Our Community Page →](#)

Make a Connection!

[!\[\]\(104fbf564e2e5a8fbd84f31656d114c7_img.jpg\) Visit us on Facebook](#)

[!\[\]\(aab88c0d099e5d18d6533a97b13ec28d_img.jpg\) Connect with us on LinkedIn](#)

[!\[\]\(b538fe54c1f3a7343e37e85cc2d00497_img.jpg\) Visit our Website](#)

[!\[\]\(5abce1a84a655b073239ab33e1199487_img.jpg\) Read our Blog](#)



Validation Training Institute

P.O. Box 871, Pleasant Hill
OR 97455 United States

You received this email because you signed up on our website or made a purchase from us.

[Unsubscribe](#)

