The impact of In-home sensitivity training, empathy enhancement, improve and technology skills training for youth and adolescents resulting in more effective and meaningful communication among the young caregiver and Dementia sufferer

Catherine Braxton
Generations of Care, USA

Caring for a person suffering from a form of dementia affects the entire family and requires an entire family to make it work. Adolescents and children are aware of their family dynamic whether the dementia sufferer lives with them or is demanding more attention from their parents outside of the home. The focus of this specialized training is to enhance effective communication and create meaningful moments with the dementia sufferer. Identified the most effective caregiver style as supporters, who adapt to the patients level of functioning, creating a safe environment and minimizing frustration for the patient. In-home sensitivity training, empathy enhancement, effective communication strategies and reminiscing skills can empower this population to become supporters within the caregiving environment. They can become an integral role in the caretaking process. Enlightened behavior, namely empathy can replace the guilt of a caregiver. Caregivers who learn about the disease can then learn to empathize with the patients providing an enhanced quality of life. This awareness coupled with the research that indicates that interactions between caregiver and patients impact patient behavior clearly demonstrate that the young population require special attention in order to positively enhance interactions. A personally tailored, fun approach to in-home sensitivity training as well as skill training on effective communication techniques, empathy enhancement exposure and reminiscing through technology will empower this young generation to feel adequate to interact with a dementia sufferer and effectively provide meaningful moments.

Biography
Catherine Braxton is working in the field of Alzheimer’s and related dementias for almost 20 years. She received her BA from the University of Illinois and completed all Master level course work at National Louis University. She has worked with patients and families in a consultative, supportive and educational capacity in health care facilities, where she started the first support groups at multiple senior facilities. She created tailored educational techniques that will empower the entire family and presents her sensitivity training to health care facilities including local hospitals. She was a guest speaker at the Alzheimer’s Association Family Forum in the spring of 2014.

catherine.braxton@lssi.org

Notes: