

Love is Listening:
Healing the *Dis*-ease of Dementia through Empathetic Communication
with Michael Verde

Thursday, September 18, 2014 9am - 4:30pm
Golden Gate Club in the Presidio, San Francisco

Training of caregivers of people with dementia typically concerns the meeting of their functional needs—the “activities of daily living.” Often overlooked in traditional approaches to giving care is how much of the quality of our lives, while grounded in functional needs, depends finally upon the meeting of our relational needs. We care to function because we long to participate in emotionally meaningful relationships. And despite what is widely assumed to the contrary, there is nothing about dementia that diminishes our fundamental human need to feel that we belong.

This one-day workshop teaches the fundamentals of empathetic communication for the purpose of healing the unnecessary emotional, social, and existential suffering of people with dementia. Participants in this workshop will never see or hear people with dementia in the same way again.

The 6-hour workshop will be organized around four, 90-minute presentations on the following themes:

- I. Caring as a Being Verb
- II. Theories of Empathetic Communication
- III. The Social Structure of Existential Suffering
- IV. The Fundamentals of Empathetic Communication: Letting Go, Letting In, and Letting Be

Cost: \$75 6 CEU credits are available for this course.



MICHAEL VERDE

Michael Verde is the founder of Memory Bridge (memorybridge.org), an internationally recognized NGO dedicated to educating empathy while diminishing the emotional isolation of people with dementia. Michael has a M.A. in theology, a M.A. in literary studies, and is currently earning a PhD at Indiana University in the area of empathetic communication. Michael speaks across the country on the subjects of literature, world religion, and communicating with people with dementia. His clients include Northern Trust Bank, Chevron, US Trust, and the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago.

www.memorybridge.org

40th International Conference for Attitudinal Healing - September 19 - 21, 2014



Visit www.ahinternational.org for more information on the conference and to register.