

## Deborah Ferris, CDP, CADDCT, CMDCP, VDT-CT



Deborah is the Founder & CEO of Thriving4Life<sup>®</sup>, Inc. Her work in health and elder care is impassioned by her mother's 16-year Alzheimer's journey. As the key management leader of Thriving4Life, Inc., a nonprofit organization, Deborah is responsible for overseeing the administration, programs and strategic plan of the organization. Other key duties include fundraising, marketing, information technology and community outreach.

She is a Certified Alzheimer's Disease and Dementia Care Trainer and Certified Dementia Practitioner<sup>®</sup> licensed through the National Council of Certified Dementia Practitioners<sup>®</sup>.

Deborah is a Certified Montessori Dementia Care Professional<sup>®</sup> licensed through the International Council of Certified Dementia Practitioners<sup>®</sup> as well as a Second Wind Dreams<sup>®</sup> Virtual Dementia Tour<sup>®</sup> Certified Trainer.

Deborah spent six years managing 9 states as the Music & Memory<sup>®</sup> Southeastern U.S. Regional Director promoting awareness of the therapeutic impact of personalized music. She created the foundation for the Music & Memory program's preparation and implementation training and guides, resources provided in program certification training and implementation, web-based trainings, an extensive Power Point slide library, and more. Her manualized program implementation steps helped facilitate a grant award by the National Institutes of Health.

Deborah acted as a consultant for corporate and state-wide grant initiatives for broad-based funding and Music & Memory program roll-out. Her work engaging and supporting health care professionals, community organizations, Alzheimer's support entities, and at-home family caregivers in providing a personalized music program to the individuals they serve has yielded positive results, benefits and improved outcomes for countless individuals, family members and caregivers.

Her career has also included Non-Profit Organizations, Elder Care Environments, and the following Corporate Environments: Manufacturing, Consumer Products, Sales & Marketing, Human Resources, Insurance, Accounting, Brokerage and the Commodity Market.

Learn more about Deborah's inspiration and passion for serving others in health and elder care. Go to the "Thriving4Life Story" page of our website. Everyone has a story. We hope you'll be inspired to share yours.