

Is Family Caregiving the Next Public Health Crisis? *The 11th Annual National Conference of Caregiver Advocates*

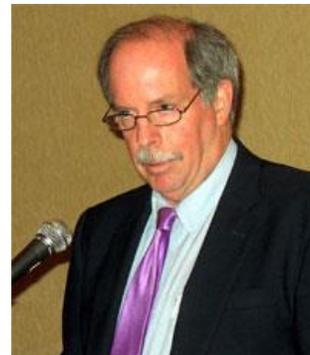
Tuesday, March 21, 2017 | Hyatt Regency Chicago



Speaker Bios

Bob Blancato, Honored Guest Speaker

Bob Blancato is President of Matz, Blancato, & Associates. Bob is the National Coordinator of the Elder Justice Coalition, a non-partisan, 680 member organization. From 2000-2006, Bob served as President of the National Committee for the Prevention of Elder Abuse. He currently serves as the Executive Director of NANASP, the National Association of Nutrition and Aging Services Programs. Bob is a former House of Representatives staff member and spent 17 years on the House Select Committee on Aging. He also served as Executive Director of the 1995 White House Conference on Aging (WHCOA) appointed by President Clinton. He was on the Policy Committee for the 2005 WHCOA appointed by Rep. Nancy Pelosi.



Bob most recently became Chairman of the Commonwealth Council on Aging in Virginia. He holds a Bachelor of Arts from Georgetown University and a Masters of Public Administration from American University.

Opening Remarks

Gail Gibson Hunt, National Alliance for Caregiving

Gail Hunt is President and Chief Executive Officer of the National Alliance for Caregiving, a non-profit coalition dedicated to conducting research and developing national programs for family caregivers and the professionals who serve them. Prior to heading NAC, Ms. Hunt was President of her own aging services consulting firm for 14 years. She conducted corporate eldercare research for the National Institute on Aging and the Social Security Administration, developed training for caregivers with AARP and the American Occupational Therapy Association, and designed a corporate eldercare program for EAPs with the Employee Assistance Professional Association.



Prior to having her own firm, she was Senior Manager in charge of human services for the Washington, DC, office of KPMG Peat Marwick. Ms. Hunt attended Vassar College and graduated from Columbia University.

NASEM Research Report: *Families Caring for An Aging America*

Richard Schulz, Ph.D., University of Pittsburg

Richard Schulz is Distinguished Service Professor of Psychiatry, Director of Gerontology, and Associate Director of the Aging Institute of UPMC Senior Services and the University of Pittsburgh. He earned his PhD in social psychology from Duke University.

Dr. Schulz has spent most of his career doing research and writing on adult development and aging. His work has focused on social-psychological aspects of aging, including the impact of disabling late life disease on patients and their families.

In the last decade, Dr. Schulz has become interested in supportive interventions, including technology-based approaches designed to enhance patient functioning and quality of life of both patients and their relatives.



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Policy Perspectives on Public Health and Family Caregiving

Lisa McGuire, Ph.D., National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion

Dr. Lisa McGuire is the Lead of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) Alzheimer's disease and Healthy Aging Program, which houses the congressionally-appropriated Healthy Brain Initiative. Dr. McGuire earned a Ph.D. in Lifespan Developmental Psychology from Bowling Green State University and completed a National Institute of Mental Health Postdoctoral Fellowship in the Gerontology Center at The Pennsylvania State University, where she worked on the Seattle Longitudinal Study. She joined CDC in 2004 and has published over 75 articles and book chapters on aspects of chronic health conditions, obesity, cognition and brain injury, disability, caregiving, and aging. Dr. McGuire is a member of the National Alzheimer's Project Act Federal Advisory Council, Board of Directors for the National Alliance for Caregiving, the Editorial Board of *The Gerontologist*, and Fellows of Division 20 of the American Psychological Association and the Gerontological Society of America.



Neelum T. Aggarwal, MD, American Medical Women's Association

Neelum T. Aggarwal, MD, is a cognitive neurologist, clinical trialist and researcher in the field of aging and dementia. She is Senior Neurologist for the Rush Alzheimer's Disease Center Clinical Core in Chicago; founder of the Cardiology Cognitive Clinic and Director of Research at the Rush Heart Center for Women, and an Associate Professor in the Department of Neurological Sciences and Rush Alzheimer's Disease Center at Rush University Medical Center. A long standing Steering Committee member and Site Principal Investigator for multiple NIA funded clinical trials on aging and Alzheimer's Disease her clinical and research activities have focused on the predictors and outcomes of cognitive decline, mild cognitive impairment and dementia in older adults, with a focus on underserved populations in Chicago. She is interested in identifying how social determinants of health, cardiovascular disease and other novel risk factors for cognitive impairment including sex and gender differences, may lead to strategies to prevent cognitive decline and dementia. For over 20 years she has served as the senior examining neurologist for community based observational studies, conducting over 2500 "in home" neurologic evaluations in Chicago's minority neighborhoods.



Meredith Ponder Whitmire, JD, Matz, Blancato and Associates

Meredith Ponder Whitmire is the Senior Associate at Matz, Blancato and Associates. She is the Federal Policy and Advocacy Manager for the National Association of Nutrition and Aging Services Programs (NANASP) and the Federal Policy and Media Coordinator for the Elder Justice Coalition. She also directs policy for a senior malnutrition coalition, Defeat Malnutrition Today. In these roles, she provides policy analysis and direction for and advocates on behalf of a wide variety of aging topics, including nutrition, elder justice, and community-based services. Previously, Meredith worked for the National Council on Aging as a legal fellow and a summer associate. She has also worked for other non-profit organizations and on Capitol Hill. She holds a JD from Georgetown University Law Center and a BA from Georgetown University.



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Senses of Caregiving & National Center for Creative Aging

Dr. Warren Winkelman, Nestle Skin Health SHIELD

Dr. Warren Winkelman is Senior Medical Director and Head of Medical Innovation for SHIELD (Nestlé Skin Health Investigation, Education, Longevity Development). He is a board-certified dermatologist with more than 25 years' experience in innovation science, patient care, medical education, clinical and qualitative research, and medical affairs. Prior to joining SHIELD, Warren served in medical leadership positions for Schering-Plough, Merck, Janssen, and Galderma. He holds a PhD in eHealth Innovation and Health Policy, Management, and Evaluation from University of Toronto, an MBA in healthcare management from Binghamton University, an MD from SUNY-Buffalo School of Medicine and is a proud graduate of the Sophie Davis School of Biomedical Education at CCNY.



Jennie Smith-Peers, National Center for Creative Aging

Jennie Smith-Peers is Executive Director of National Center for Creative Aging, leading the nation in supporting capacity building, cutting-edge research, and public policies for older adults in the arts. Prior to her tenure at NCCA, Jennie served as Executive Director of Elders Share the Arts, a pioneering arts and aging organization headquartered in Brooklyn, NY. Under her leadership, ESTA became an active advocate for older adults within the New York City cultural field, and developed an innovative cross-sector training program with the State Office on Aging and the Arts of Pennsylvania, now one of ESTA's signature trainings.



Jennie holds a BFA from Emerson College; is a graduate of Antonio Fava's Stage Internazionale di Commedia dell'Arte in Reggio-Emilia, Italy; and is currently finishing her graduate degree in Drama Therapy from NYU, focusing on ways reminiscence can support the long-term remission of late-life depression.

Demography of Public Health and Family Caregiving

Pamela D. Price, The Balm in Gilead, Inc.; National Brain Health Center for African Americans

Pamela D. Price is the Deputy Director for The Balm in Gilead where she manages and oversees the multi-faceted health initiatives of the organization. Prior to her joining The Balm in Gilead, she worked for the Virginia Department of Health supervising the HIV/STI Prevention Programs for the City of Richmond. She has been working in the Public Health field for over 10 years. She joined the U.S. Army in 1998, where she served here in the United States and overseas as a member of the Army Nurse Corp. Price passionately strives to eliminate health disparities and preventable illnesses in the African-American community. Born and raised in Texas, Price has experienced firsthand the hardships and life-ending consequences of poor health. Her experience in public health, epidemiology, and project management allow her to develop and implement successful programs to address a multitude of health issues.



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Elena Rios, MD, MSPH, National Hispanic Medical Association

Dr. Rios serves as President & CEO of the National Hispanic Medical Association, (NHMA), representing 50,000 Hispanic physicians in the United States. The mission of the organization is to improve the health of Hispanics. Dr. Rios also serves as President of NHMA's National Hispanic Health Foundation affiliated with the Robert F. Wagner Graduate School of Public Service, New York University, to direct educational and research activities.

Dr. Rios earned her BA in Human Biology/Public Administration at Stanford University in 1977, MSPH at the UCLA School of Public Health in 1980, MD at the UCLA School of Medicine in 1987, and completed her Internal Medicine residency at the Santa Clara Valley Medical Center in San Jose and the White Memorial Medical Center in East Los Angeles in 1990, and her NRSA Primary Care Research Fellowship at UCLA Division of General Internal Medicine in 1992.



Darby J. Morhardt, PH.D., LCSW, Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine

Darby Morhardt, PhD, LCSW is Associate Professor for the Cognitive Neurology and Alzheimer's Disease Center (CNADC) and Department of Preventive Medicine, Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine. She leads the CNADC's Outreach, Recruitment and Education Core along with the Miller Alzheimer Family Support Program. Dr. Morhardt holds a PhD in social work from Loyola University Chicago and completed postgraduate work in family therapy at University of Illinois Chicago. Dr. Morhardt has over 30 years of clinical experience with cognitively impaired individuals and their families.

Her research interests include the experience of families living with Alzheimer's disease and related dementias such as frontotemporal dementia and primary progressive aphasia, the process of tailoring care to needs and symptoms; in addition to the development and evaluation of quality of life programs, support groups and other therapeutic interventions. Dr. Morhardt participates on national, state and local advisory boards charged with developing dementia specific clinical curriculum, including leadership in the development of the Illinois Cognitive Resources Network. She also partners with underrepresented communities to raise dementia awareness, identify service and education needs, and promote research participation. Dr. Morhardt's publications focus on the impact of cognitive impairment on the individual, family and society.



Family Caregiving Fireside Chat

Susan Reinhard, RN, Ph.D., AARP

Susan C. Reinhard is a senior vice president at AARP, directing its Public Policy Institute, the focal point for public policy research and analysis at the state, federal, and international levels. She also serves as the chief strategist for the Center to Champion Nursing in America, a national resource center created to ensure that America has the highly skilled nurses it needs to provide care in the future.

Susan is a nationally recognized expert in health and long-term care policy, with extensive experience in conducting, directing, and translating research into action to promote policy change. Previously, she served as professor and codirector of Rutgers Center for State Health Policy, where she directed several national initiatives with states to help people of all ages with disabilities live in their communities.



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Advocacy on the Hill and in the States: What to Do Now

Sita Diehl, MA, MSSW, National Alliance on Mental Illness

Sita Diehl is the Director of Policy and State Outreach for NAMI, the National Alliance on Mental Illness.

In the course of her work at NAMI Ms. Diehl has co-authored reports on state mental health parity, mental health legislation, caregiver needs, employment and mental illness, the state mental health budget crisis, military and veterans' mental health needs and Medicaid expansion. She served as the Executive Director for NAMI Tennessee prior to joining the national staff. Over the course of her career, Ms. Diehl has developed a range of mental health curricula for individuals living with mental illness, family caregivers, mental health care providers and criminal justice personnel. Her research experience includes a two state comparison of the effect of public managed behavioral health care on women and children, a multi-site study of consumer-operated services, a longitudinal study of mental health services in Tennessee county jails, an annual environmental scan of state mental health legislation, a survey of the needs of caregivers of adults with mental illness, and a survey of the health coverage experience of individuals and families living with mental health conditions.

She is a Licensed Advanced Practice Social Worker with an MSSW from the University of Tennessee and an MA in Community Psychology from Antioch University.



Robyn Grant, MSW, The National Consumer Voice for Quality Long-Term Care

Robyn Grant is the Director of Public Policy and Advocacy at the National Consumer Voice for Quality Long-Term Care. In this capacity, she is responsible for leading the development and implementation of the Consumer Voice's public policy agenda and growing and mobilizing the grassroots network to support the organization's policy work. Prior to assuming this role, Robyn was the Director of Advocacy and Outreach. Before joining the Consumer Voice, she served as the Long Term Care Policy Director at United Senior Action, an Indiana senior advocacy organization, and a consultant with the National Long-Term Care Ombudsman Resource Center. She has a Master's in Social Work with a specialization in aging. She was the Indiana State Long-Term Care Ombudsman for eight years and president of the National Association of State Long-Term Care Ombudsman Programs for two terms. Robyn has also served on the Consumer Voice Board of Directors.



Melissa Lorenzo Williams, MPH, National Patient Advocate Foundation

Melissa Williams serves as the Manager of Healthcare Policy and Advocacy with the National Patient Advocate Foundation. In this capacity, she is responsible for advancing policy solutions that specifically address affordability and quality health care at both the state and federal level. Previously, Ms. Williams was the Coordinator of State Government Relations and also served as a volunteer prior to joining NPAF. Ms. Williams is a graduate of the College of William and Mary where she received her Bachelor of Science degree in Biology and Eastern Virginia Medical School where she received her Master of Public Health degree in Health Management and Policy.



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Judith S. Rocha, LCSW, University of Illinois at Chicago

Judith S. Rocha is a licensed clinical social worker (LCSW) and a 4th year PhD Candidate at the University of Illinois at Chicago, Jane Addams College of Social Work. As a Latina born in Chicago and raised in the Little Village neighborhood (a Chicago low-income ethnic enclave), by a hard-working single mother and loving older siblings, all Mexican-born; Judith has always been interested in helping Latina/o families negotiate the complexities of their transnational lives successfully. Research interests include Latina/o-relevant social issues with a focus on family caregiving of older Latinas/os with Alzheimer's disease or related dementia (ADRD). Her work in the past has included various social services and support for Latino children and families in the near south and south side of Chicago where resources are often times scarce and opportunities for a higher quality of life can be inaccessible. Based on the extensive work carried out in and for the Latino community as well as personal experiences, she has first-hand knowledge of the effect local, national and international policy have on areas of labor, education and health in immigrant communities. Through her dissertation, she plans to develop and pilot-test a culturally responsive health education intervention program for Latinas that are caring for a family member/loved one with ADRD as an attempt to help inform future research addressing health disparities that exist within this population. As a caregiver herself, there is a personal passion and commitment for seeking positive outcomes in this area.

