

A POSITIVE APPROACH TO DEMENTIA CARE

2-DAY VIRTUAL CONFERENCE PRESENTED BY:
**THE PIEDMONT DEMENTIA
EDUCATION COMMITTEE**
OCTOBER 12 & 13, 2021



SPEAKERS



SARA AMOS

Sara Amos is the Director of the new Culpeper Adult Day Center. She is a Certified Therapeutic Recreation Specialist with a background in activity programming for individuals living with dementia and other age-related disabilities. After receiving her Master's in Recreation Therapy from Indiana University, Sara took on the task of developing a caregiver ministry in Warrenton, VA and is now leading the opening of the Adult Day Center in Culpeper, VA. She is passionate about using her recreation therapy knowledge to create programs that purposefully engage senior adults of all ability levels and provide them a sense of value.



KENDALL BARRETT

Kendall is a graduate student in the Department of Social Work at George Mason University. Her interest focuses on the quality of older adults' lives and their family relationships. Kendall hopes to have a career combining her love of creativity and connecting with people living with dementia through non-pharmacologic methods.



MELANIE BUNN

Our Keynote Speaker is a Speaker and Mentor with Teepa Snow's Positive Approach to Care®. She received her undergraduate degree in nursing from the University of North Carolina - Chapel Hill, her Master's Degree in Family Health Nursing from Clemson University, and a Post-Master's Gerontological Nurse Practitioner Certificate from Duke University. She is a skilled and experienced advanced practice nurse and nurse educator, conducting over 200 presentations and trainings annually to health professionals, community organizations, first responders, families and others. She enjoys improving the lives of people living with dementia, their families, and other care partners.



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LAURA DANIEL

Laura Daniel has a BIS with a focus on Psychology, Education, and Non-Profit Management. Ms. Daniel served as a medic in the military and has 10+ years in the healthcare field. She has been with Rappahannock Rapidan Community Services (RRCS) since the implantation of the Care Transitions Program at RRCS in 2017. Ms. Daniel works as a Health Coach with the Care Transitions Program and Care Coordinator in another project at RRCS.



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POPPY FODDRELL

Poppy started her career in Human Services in 2003 at Prince William County DSS as an Eligibility Worker. After 3 years she moved to Warrenton, VA and began work at Fauquier Department of Social Services. During that time her primary case load involved assisting adults with benefits. It was there that she was introduced to Long Term Care Medicaid and Medicare.

Through her DSS experiences Poppy has helped countless older adults, especially those who are economically and physically challenged, work through the complexity of the insurance process. After 5 years with Fauquier County DSS she was offered the position of “Senior Advocate” at Rappahannock Rapidan Community Services (RRCS) and the Area Agency on Aging. As part of her duties she trained for and became the coordinator for the regional VICAP program (Virginia Insurance Counseling and Assistance Program).



EMILY IHARA

Emily S. Ihara, PhD, MSW, FGSA, is Chair and Associate Professor in the Department of Social Work at George Mason University. Her research focuses on interventions, policies, and system changes necessary to eliminate health inequities and improve quality of life for older adults and marginalized populations. Current research projects examine the effectiveness of community-based and creative arts interventions on mood, agitation, and behavioral difficulties among individuals living with dementia, the social environmental factors that prevent underserved populations from achieving optimal health outcomes, and the complexity of dementia caregiving.



AMY KAVEL

Amy Kavel, OTR/L, graduated from Eastern Michigan University with a Bachelor’s of Science degree in Occupational Therapy and a Family & Children Specialty Certificate in 1989. She is currently the Rehab Clinical Leader at The Culpeper (Continuing Care Facility) and has worked there for 10 years. The majority of her career has been spent with the geriatric population in Home Health, nursing homes and assisted living environments.



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VIRGINIA STANLEY

Virginia is a native of Orange County. After several years of finding it more and more difficult to do the analytical part of his work, and to participate in the activities he loved, her husband Peter was diagnosed with Parkinson's Disease in 1997 at the age of 59. With the help of neurologists who understood the disease and attendance at various support groups they both learned what adjustments were needed to maintain quality of life. Peter died in 2012 after a fairly slow progression of the disease. A couple years later Virginia was asked to start a Parkinson's support group in Orange and in doing so has been able to keep involved with the Parkinson's community which has been a source of both joy, and continuing education.



CATHY TOMPKINS

Cathy Tompkins, PhD, MSW, is Associate Dean for Faculty Affairs at George Mason University. She has extensive experience leading community-based projects related to older adults and their caregivers, and has been an established researcher at George Mason University for eighteen years. The projects she has worked on have utilized both qualitative and quantitative methods. Her expertise is in areas related to non-pharmacological interventions with older adults, dementia caregiving, and intergenerational relationships. She has implemented virtual trainings and has a certificate in tele-behavioral health. She is a trained grounded theorist and has two published theories related to kinship care. She is a John A. Hartford Geriatric Scholar in Social Work which allows her to be among a strong group of national gerontological social work researchers.



ALAN RASMUSSEN

Alan is currently the Prevention Manager for Rappahannock Rapidan Community Services (RRCS) and has been with the organization since 2003. In that capacity he has focused on suicide and substance abuse prevention. He is a professor for the Bachelor of Interdisciplinary Studies Program at the University of Virginia since 2002, and teaches three courses entitled Good Cop/Bad Cop; An Examination of the Criminal Justice System; and Mental Health Disorders in Modern Society. He has been the Community Counselor for the National Counseling Group since 2018.

