



The 2021 Conference on
**Engaging Family and
Other Unpaid
Caregivers of Persons
with Dementia in
Healthcare Delivery**

Speaker Booklet

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**Weill Cornell
Medicine**
Geriatrics &
Palliative Medicine





Donna Benton, Ph.D. is a research associate professor of gerontology, director of the USC Family Caregiver Support Center/LA Caregiver Resource Center, and assistant Dean for Diversity Equity and Inclusion at USC Leonard Davis School of Gerontology. She was co-chair for the California Taskforce on Family Caregiving, which led to a report outlining recommendations for supporting family caregivers throughout the diverse communities in CA. She served on the stakeholders advisory committee for the CA Master Plan on Aging which led to recommendations that will guide CA approach to aging for all for the next 10 years.



Kristen Clifford, MBA. is chief program officer at the Alzheimer's Association, overseeing the organization's efforts in care, support and risk reduction for the millions affected by Alzheimer's and other dementia. Clifford leads care and support services offered across the organization to those affected by the disease; health system outreach and quality improvement initiatives; long-term care initiatives focused on person-centered care delivery models; and growth strategies for reaching more individuals through quality improvement, education, and supportive programs and services. Clifford holds a master's of business administration from Texas State University and a bachelor's degree in business administration from the University of Central Florida.



Sara J. Czaja, Ph.D. is a Professor of Gerontology and the Director of the Center on Aging and Behavioral Research at Weill Cornell College of Medicine. She is also the Director of the Center on Research and Education for Aging and Technology Enhancement (CREATE), which focuses on the interface between older adults and technology systems. Dr. Czaja has extensive experience in aging research and a long commitment to developing strategies to improve the quality of life for older adults.



Richard H. Fortinsky, Ph.D. is a professor at the University of Connecticut (UConn) School of Medicine, where he is a core faculty member at the UConn Center on Aging and holds the Health Net, Inc. Endowed Chair in Geriatrics and Gerontology. Dr. Fortinsky works with colleagues from a wide range of scientific and clinical disciplines, and with healthcare delivery partners, to design and carry out studies intended to improve care and optimize health-related outcomes for older adults and their families. He has published extensively in the field of family caregiving for older adults living with Alzheimer's disease and related dementia (ADRD). Dr. Fortinsky presently serves as principal investigator for clinical trials and cohort studies funded by the National Institute on Aging (NIA) and the Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute designed to improve outcomes for older adults with ADRD and their family caregivers.



Joseph Gaugler, Ph.D. is the Robert L. Kane Endowed Chair in Long-Term Care & Aging in the Division of Health Policy and Management and School of Public Health at The University of Minnesota. He also directs the Center for Healthy Aging and Innovation in the School of Public Health at the University of Minnesota and the CDC-funded Public Health Center of Excellence on Dementia Caregiving. An applied gerontologist, his interests include Alzheimer's disease and long-term care, the longitudinal ramifications of family care for persons with dementia and other chronic conditions, and the effectiveness of community-based and psychosocial services for older adults with dementia and their caregiving families. He is also a Fellow of the Gerontological Society of America and the American Psychological Association.



Andrea Gilmore-Bykovskyi, Ph.D, RN. is an Assistant Professor at the University of Wisconsin-Madison (UW) School of Nursing, Deputy Director of the UW Center for Health Disparities Research, and Informatics Lead of the UW Alzheimer's Disease Research Center (ADRC) Care Research Core. Dr. Gilmore-Bykovskyi leads a program of research focused on promoting effective and equitable care and research for persons living with, and at risk for Alzheimer's disease and related dementias, particularly among vulnerable and high-risk groups. She has served on regional and national initiatives to address complex care needs of persons living with dementia, and frequently partnered directly with people with dementia and caregivers to fully integrate their perspectives into the research process and results.



Laura N. Gitlin, Ph.D. an applied research sociologist, is the dean of the College of Nursing and Health Professions at Drexel University. Gitlin is nationally and internationally recognized for her research on developing, evaluating and implementing novel home and community-based interventions that: improve quality of life of for people living with dementia and caregivers, enhance daily function and health outcomes of older adults with functional challenges and address mental health disparities for Black/African American older adults. She is a well-funded researcher, having received continuous research and training grants from federal agencies and private foundations for over 35 years. In all of her research, she applies a social ecological perspective and person—family-directed and centered-approach to understand, intervene and support individuals within their living contexts. Her efforts involve collaborating with community organizations, health and human service professionals and other stakeholders to maximize relevance and impact of such interventions.



Joan M. Griffin, Ph.D. is a Professor of Health Services Research at Mayo Clinic's College of Medicine In the Division of Health Care Delivery Research. She is also a scientist in Mayo Clinic's Robert D. and Patricia E. Kern Center for the Science of Health Care Delivery. Dr. Griffin studies the health effects of family caregiving on both caregiver and care recipient health. Her work has focused on the impact of caring for people with Alzheimer's disease, traumatic brain injury, cancer and heart failure. Using both qualitative and quantitative methods, she studies how to engage caregivers in the care recipient's health care in order to improve transitions in care, assure care recipient's safety, health outcomes and quality of life, all while reducing the physical and mental health risks associated with caregiving.

Ladson Hinton, M.D. is a clinician-scientist with formal research training in both medical anthropology and health services research who has conducted interdisciplinary research (both observational and interventions) with a major focus on family caregiving, dementia, and diverse populations over the past 25 years. He was a member of the National Academies of Science, Engineering and Medicine ad hoc Committee on Family Caregiving (Report title: Families Caring for an Aging America) and presenter at the 2021 and is a member of the Health Equity Team for the NIA funded Impact Collaboratory. His current work includes NIA funded research to advance family dementia caregiving interventions in Vietnam and participation in several projects to address disparities in ADRD research for AAPI and other underserved communities in the US.



Margaret (Meg) Kabat, LCSW. is a licensed clinical social worker with more than 25 years supporting America's service members, veterans, and their families. Ms. Kabat currently serves as the Senior Advisor for Families, Caregivers, and Survivors in the Office of the Secretary at the US Department of Veterans Affairs. Previously, Ms. Kabat was a Senior Director at Atlas Research, supporting the US Department of Defense (DOD) Sexual Assault Prevention Office (SAPRO) as well as facilitating the COVID Nursing Home Commission in collaboration with the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid (CMS). From 2011 through 2019, Ms. Kabat served in various leadership roles in the US Department of Veterans Affairs' (VA) Caregiver Support Program.





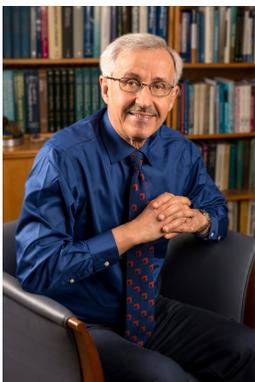
Shari Ling, M.D. is the Deputy Chief Medical Officer for the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). Her focus is on the achievement of meaningful health outcomes for beneficiaries through the delivery of high quality, person-centered care across all care settings. of the CMS response to the COVID-19 public health emergency. She currently leads CMS's efforts to address the nation's opioid and substance use disorders (SUD) crisis as leader of its Opioid and SUD Steering Committee. She is also appointed to the HHS Advisory Council on Alzheimer's Research Care and Services and co-leads its clinical services subcommittee. Dr. Ling supports CMS's efforts to reduce administrative burden on clinicians and health care providers through analysis of special topics such improving understanding of barriers faced by beneficiaries with pain, and nursing home residents.



Susan Reinhard, RN, Ph.D, FAAN, SVP at AARP, directs its Public Policy Institute, the focal point for state, federal and international policy research. Susan oversees PPI teams working on health security, financial security, and family, home, and community issues, and from that vantage point serves as editor-in-chief of Policy Plus Action: The AARP Public Policy Institute Newsletter. She also serves as Chief Strategist for the Center to Champion Nursing in America. She is a nationally recognized expert in health and long-term care, with extensive experience in conducting, directing and translating research to promote policy change. Her research and policy expertise includes health care workforce, caregiving, consumer choice, community care options, and quality.



Catherine Riffin, Ph.D. is an Assistant Professor of Psychology in Medicine in the Division of Geriatrics and Palliative Medicine at Weill Cornell Medical College. Dr. Riffin's research focuses on understanding how families manage chronic illness, with a specific focus on enhancing family engagement in health care settings. In her current work, she is designing a system for primary care that will help health care providers to identify caregivers' unmet needs and provide tailored support.



Richard Schulz, M.D. is Distinguished Service Professor of Psychiatry and Director of Gerontology at the University of Pittsburgh He has been funded by the National Institutes of Health for more than three decades to conduct descriptive longitudinal and intervention research on diverse older populations. Dr. Schulz has been a leading contributor to the literature on the health effects of caregiving, Alzheimer's disease caregiving, and intervention studies for caregivers of persons with Alzheimer's disease, reflected in more than 350 journal publications, numerous books, and more than 70000 Google citations. He chaired the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine committee which produced the report, Families Caring for an Aging America.



Steve Schwab serves as CEO of the Elizabeth Dole Foundation, where he spearheads the nation's preeminent organization empowering, supporting, and honoring America's military and veteran caregivers and their families. He has closely advised senior leaders in every sector, addressed audiences across the country, and testified before Congress about the challenges faced by America's military families and advocated for legislative and regulatory solutions to support them. Under his leadership, the Foundation recently launched a no-cost national respite program for military caregivers and successfully championed the expansion of the VA's Program of Comprehensive Assistance for Family Caregivers. He also chairs the Board of Directors of PsychArmor and is an Executive Producer of Sky Blossom.



Rani E. Snyder, MPA. is Vice President, Program at The John A. Hartford Foundation, where she coordinates initiatives that foster collaboration among academic institutions, hospitals and health care providers to build Age-Friendly Health Systems, support family caregivers, and improve serious illness and end-of-life care. She is also chair of the board for Grantmakers in Aging, a membership organization comprised of philanthropies with a common dedication to improving the experience of aging, a board member for the American Society on Aging, a fellow of the New York Academy of Medicine, and previously served as a Volunteer Long-Term Care Ombudsman for the State of Nevada Aging and Disability Services Division.



Courtney Van Houtven, Ph.D, MSc. is a Research Career Scientist at the Center of Innovation to Accelerate Discovery and Practice Transformation (ADAPT), Durham Veterans Affairs Health Care System and Professor of Medicine in the Department of Population Health Science at Duke University School of Medicine. Her aging and economics research interests encompass how family caregiving affects economic, health and health care outcomes of care recipients and caregivers; she is also interested in understanding how to best to support family caregivers and in evaluating effectiveness of home and community based services and caregiver support policies.



Loretta Woodward Veney is an inspirational speaker who has delivered more than 300 speeches and presentations on dementia and caregiving since 2014. Loretta is the author of *Being My Mom's Mom*, *Refreshment for the Caregiver's Spirit*, and *Colors Flowing from My Mind*. In 2006 after her beloved mother Doris was diagnosed with dementia, Loretta learned everything she could about the disease, becoming a fierce advocate for her Mom. Loretta and her Mom have been featured in articles in the *Wall Street Journal*, *Psychology Today*, *The Washington Post*, *The NY Times*, *AARP Caregiver Stories*, as well as a PBS special. In 2019, Loretta was selected as Trailblazer of the Year by Johns Hopkins Medicine. Loretta and her Mom have been selected as one of Robin Roberts *Thriver Thursdays* profiles for 2021.



Martha Villanigro-Santiago has taken the challenge of caregiving and made it her life's passion. In 2013 Martha seized the opportunity to care for her mother diagnosed with Alzheimer's. Martha is a tireless champion and collaborator for identifying and advancing improvements to Alzheimer's and dementia care for Latinos.



Jennifer Wolff, Ph.D, MHS. is the Eugene and Mildred Lipitz Professor in the Department of Health Policy and Management and Director of the Roger C. Lipitz Center for Integrated Health Care at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health and holds a joint appointment in the Division of Geriatric Medicine and Gerontology at the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine. Dr. Wolff's research focuses on the care of persons with complex health needs and disabilities and applied studies and initiatives directed at better supporting them and their family caregivers within systems of care delivery. She has authored more than 150 peer-review papers, and 20 book chapters or reports on topics related to family caregiving and care delivery. Her research has been continuously funded by the National Institute of Health and other federal agencies and private foundations.



Steven H. Zarit, Ph.D. is Distinguished Professor Emeritus of Human Development and Family Studies at the Pennsylvania State University, and Adjunct Professor at the Institute of Gerontology, Jönköping University, Jönköping, Sweden. He has conducted pioneering research on caregiver burden and stress, including development of research measures and conducting studies that examined the effects of programs to lower stress among caregivers. His most recent research used novel methods for measuring biological markers of stress to demonstrate the benefits of use of adult day care on the health and well-being of family caregivers of persons with dementia.