

MAINE COUNCIL ON AGING PRESENTS



AGING WELL THROUGH COVID:
SUPPORTING RESILIENCY & GROWTH IN THE MIDST OF A PANDEMIC

SEPTEMBER 16 - 23, 2020

WELCOME TO THE SUMMIT!

On behalf of the Board of Directors and members of the Maine Council on Aging, it is my great pleasure to welcome you to the seventh annual, and first ever virtual, Maine Wisdom Summit. There's never been a more important time for us to come together to learn, share and connect, to be inspired and motivated, and to begin to understand how the events of 2020 will change the path of our work of building a Maine where we can all live healthy, engaged, and safe lives as we age in our homes and community settings.

At the root of wisdom is knowledge, experience, understanding and insight. It's knowing what needs to be done and having the ability to do it. For most of us, 2020 has meant cultivating the ability to navigate constant change, to be comfortable in the face of uncertainty, and to hold our hearts open to the pain and loss around us. It has meant gaining new skills and learning through new experience.

With each new challenge presented by COVID-19, we've also witnessed great wisdom emerge through the actions of our Governor, state leaders and lawmakers, healthcare and social service providers, municipal officials, and community members all across our state. It has been inspiring to see each person do their part to make sure we stay healthy and get the information, supports, and services we need.

This Summit has been designed to help us take stock in what we've learned so far, to understand emerging trends, and to build momentum as we prepare for what's next. We will hear from state policy leaders, talk about our budget, economy and workforce, and learn how to address ageism and build our resiliency skills.

Each year, the Summit is a conversation that leads to action, and this year is no different. The ideas generated from the Summit drive the MCOA's policy efforts into the future, and we will be listening – even if it's only through the chat function! Our members help move our policy efforts along through various committees and working groups. We invite you to visit our website at www.mainecouncilonaging.org to learn more about us and how to help us in our efforts.

Finally, we thank our presenters, planners, sponsors, and exhibitors for supporting our re-tooled virtual Summit. Special thanks go to *Androscoggin Home Healthcare + Hospice* for supporting our Premier Keynote Speaker, Kathy Greenlee. As you may recall, Kathy had to withdraw as our Keynote Speaker at the last minute last year when her father needed open heart surgery on the very day of our 2019 Summit. He came through just fine and Kathy has made good on her promise participate this year. Little did we know how much we would need her wisdom in 2020!

Thank you for lending us your wisdom and enjoy the event.

Jess Maurer
Executive Director, Maine Council on Aging

PLANNING COMMITTEE & GRATITUDE

Heartfelt thanks to the members of the Planning Committee who made this event possible:

Don Harden
Elizabeth Gattine
Leah Graham
Mary Jane Richards
Maureen O'Connor
Judy Rawlings
Ted Rooney
Jessica Reed
James Moorhead

MCOA Staff and Consultants: Jess Maurer, Krista George, Effie Rorke, Ashley Mills

Praise for "Team MCOA" During COVID-19

The world turned upside down for all of us in March of 2020. As it became apparent that the MCOA would need to become a conduit for information, resources, coordination, and advocacy during the pandemic, our entire team shifted nearly 100% of their efforts to this endeavor.

Our Operations Director, Krista George, became a full-time employee and managed every part of our COVID-19 response even as she became a full-time teacher and principal for her young son. Krista, who was already terrific, became a superstar during this time, making our critical work appear seamless and effortless.

Our Development Consultant, Ashley Mills, offered us more hours of her time and willingly shifted to supporting information development and our social media presence, while continuing to juggle grants and development efforts.

Effie Rorke joined the team in July, to help advocate for direct care workers, and quickly stepped up to become our communications lead, helping us effectively communicate with lawmakers and the press.

Ashley and Effie's contributions over the last few months have been invaluable.

I hope you will join me in thanking our team for their tireless efforts on behalf of older Mainers and our members during COVID-19.

- Jess Maurer, MCOA Executive Director

SEPTEMBER 10, 2020 - 9:00AM-11:00AM

PRE-SUMMIT EVENT: "TELE-EVERYTHING" ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION

Join MCOA Members to discuss how providers across all settings have overcome barriers to use technology to successfully deliver services and care in new ways during COVID-19. While some members will be asked to share their stories, this is an open discussion and is intended to help providers share information, forge new partnerships, and learn about available resources

SEPTEMBER 16, 2020: SESSION ONE

Sponsored by: Androscoggin Home Healthcare + Hospice

8:45 Participants Join

9:00 Welcome and Opening Remarks

Jess Maurer, Executive Director, Maine Council in Aging

Ken Albert, CEO Androscoggin Home Healthcare + Hospice

9:15 Re-thinking Everything – Aging Policy Reform in the Time of COVID

Premier Keynote Speaker: Kathy Greenlee, Former Assistant Secretary of Aging

It is astounding the degree to which COVID-19 has changed everything. However, in the midst of the chaos spawned by the virus, it is easy to spot aging-related policies that must be changed and improved. Our collective goal as people who care about aging and old people is to discern the chaos and recognize the challenges that demand attention. There are many. In this session we will focus on rethinking data, rethinking social isolation, rethinking long-term care, and rethinking technology. There are barriers and opportunities before us.

10:00 Wellness Break: Skills for Staying Well in a Zoom World

Presented and Sponsored by: SeniorsPlus

10:20 Preparing for the Future: A Conversation with State Leaders

Ken Albert, CEO, Androscoggin Home Healthcare +Hospice (Moderator)

William Montejo, Director, DHHS Division of Licensing & Certification

Michelle Probert, Director, DHHS Office of MaineCare Services

Paul Saucier, Director, DHHS Office of Aging & Disability Services

Nirav Shah, MD, JD, Director, DHHS Center for Disease Control

11:20 Voices from the Field: Meals on Wheels

Betsy Sawyer-Manter, CEO, SeniorsPlus

Representative Jessica Fay, Maine Legislator, Meals on Wheels Volunteer

11:30 Award Recognition: Lasting Legacy Award & Closing Remarks

Don Harden, Lasting Legacy Awardee

11:45 Visit our Live Virtual Exhibitors and Check the Exhibitor Hall for Giveaways!

Androscoggin Home Healthcare + Hospice

M4A (Maine Association of Area Agencies on Aging)

UnitedHealthcare

Senscio Systems

GT Independence

AGENDA

SEPTEMBER 16, 2020: SESSION TWO

Sponsored by: GT Independence

12:45 **Participants Join**

1:00 **Welcome & Opening Remarks**

*Jess Maurer, Executive Director, Maine Council on Aging
Sharlene Adams, Director State Services, GT Independence*

1:15 **Future of Maine's Economy, Workforce & Aging Services in the Era of COVID**

Keynote Speaker: Garrett Martin, Executive Director, Maine Center for Economic Policy

2:00 **Wellness Break: Skills for Staying Well in a Zoom World**

*Presented by: Southern Maine Agency on Aging
Sponsored by: Town & Country Federal Credit Union*

2:20 **Care Workforce Roundtable Discussion**

*Joy Gould, Manager of Healthcare Workforce Development, DHHS
Don Harden, Director of Aging Services, Catholic Charities Maine (Moderator)
Kimberley Moore, Director, Bureau of Employment Services, Maine DOL
Mary Jane Richards, Chief Operating Officer, North Country Associates
Mike Stair, President & Chief Operating Officer, Care & Comfort*

3:20 **Voices from the Field: Direct Care Workers**

Katie Sappington, Home Health Nurse, Androscoggin Home Health Care + Hospice

3:30 **Award Recognition: Legislator of the Year Award & Closing Remarks**

Representative Chloe Maxmin, Legislator of Year Awardee

3:45 **Visit our Live Virtual Exhibitors and Check the Exhibitor Hall for Giveaways!**

Androscoggin Home Healthcare + Hospice
M4A (Maine Association of Area Agencies on Aging)
UnitedHealthcare
Senscio Systems
GT Independence



SEPTEMBER 23, 2020: SESSION ONE

Sponsored by: UnitedHealthcare

8:45 **Participants Join**

9:00 **Welcome & Opening Remarks**

Jess Maurer, Executive Director, Maine Council on Aging

Gabe Martinez, Director, FQHC Champion & Community Engagement UnitedHealthcare

9:15 **Reframing Aging and COVID-19 for Better Health**

Keynote Speaker: Patricia D'Antonio, Vice President, Professional Affairs, The Gerontological Society of America, Program Director, Reframing Aging Initiative

What we say and how we say it has an impact on the people who hear our words. Groundbreaking work by the FrameWorks Institute can help us all understand how to effectively communicate about issues related to aging, older people, and our changing demographics, particularly in light of COVID-19 and the impact systemic ageism has on the health of older people. Participate in this session to learn ways to navigate challenging conversations to help people hear your important message.

10:00 **Wellness Break: Skills for Staying Well in a Zoom World**

Presented by: Southern Maine Agency on Aging

Sponsored by: Maine Community Foundation

10:20 **Roundtable Discussion on Ageism, Equity & Inclusion**

Leana Amaez, Manager of Diversity, Equity & Inclusion, Maine DHHS

John Hennessy, Board Member, EqualityMaine

Fatuma Hussein, Executive Director, Immigrant Resource Center of Maine

Ruta Kadonoff, Director of Programs, Maine Health Access Foundation (Facilitator)

Laura Lee, Director of Grantmaking, Maine Community Foundation

Claudette Ndayininahaze, Executive Director, In Her Presence

Panelists will talk about how we can address systemic ageism in Maine, include older people when we have conversations about diversity, equity and inclusion, and, as aging services providers, make sure our services are intentionally available to all older people – people of color, LGBTQ people, people living with disabilities, indigenous people, and more.

11:20 **Pecha Kutcha: Maine's COVID Response**

Marilyn Gugliucci, Professor & Director, Geriatrics, University of New England

11:30 **Award Recognition: Business Excellence Award & Closing Remarks**

The Green Ladle, Business Excellence Awardee

11:45 **Visit our Live Virtual Exhibitors and Check the Exhibitor Hall for Giveaways!**

Androscoggin Home Healthcare + Hospice

M4A (Maine Association of Area Agencies on Aging)

UnitedHealthcare

Senscio Systems

GT Independence

AGENDA

SEPTEMBER 23, 2020: SESSION TWO

Sponsored by: Senscio Systems

12:45 Participants Join

1:00 Welcome & Opening Remarks

*Jess Maurer, Executive Director, Maine Council on Aging
Piali De, PhD, Co-founder and CEO, Senscio Systems*

1:15 Disaster Resiliency & Recovery: Lessons from Katrina

Keynote Speaker: Susan Wehry, MD, Chief of Geriatrics, University of New England PI/Director, AgingME: Geriatrics Workforce Enhancement Program (GWEP)
COVID-19 has taken a toll on our collective emotional well-being. This segment will help us understand the usual cycle of disaster recovery, and how we can regain and retain our confidence, balance, and self-efficacy in the face of the on-going grief, uncertainty, and anxiety brought on by the events of COVID-19.

2:00 Wellness Break: Skills for Staying Well in a Zoom World

*Presented by: Southern Maine Agency on Aging
Sponsored by: Volunteers of America Northern New England*

2:20 Roundtable Discussion on Combatting Isolation & Loneliness

*Katlyn Blackstone, Chief Program Officer, Southern Maine Agency on Aging
Gia Drew, Program Director, EqualityMaine
Marilyn Gugliucci, Professor & Director, Geriatrics, University of New England (Facilitator)
Nancy Rankin, Senior Lecturer, University of New England
Catherine Ryder, Tri-County Mental Health
Danielle Watford, Director of Quality & Regulatory Affairs, Maine Health Care Association*
Panelists will discuss the ways that volunteers and organizations have kept people connected and well during the COVID-19 pandemic, and the ways we need to expand these efforts to ensure older people remain connected as they continue to stay physically distant.

3:20 Voices from the Field: Age Friendly Community

Anne Schroth, Program Coordinator, Healthy Peninsula

3:30 Award Recognition: Trailblazing Advocate Award & Closing Remarks

*Surry Hardcastle, Trailblazing Advocate Awardee
Lynn Steed, Trailblazing Advocate Awardee*

3:45 Visit our Live Virtual Exhibitors and Check the Exhibitor Hall for Giveaways!

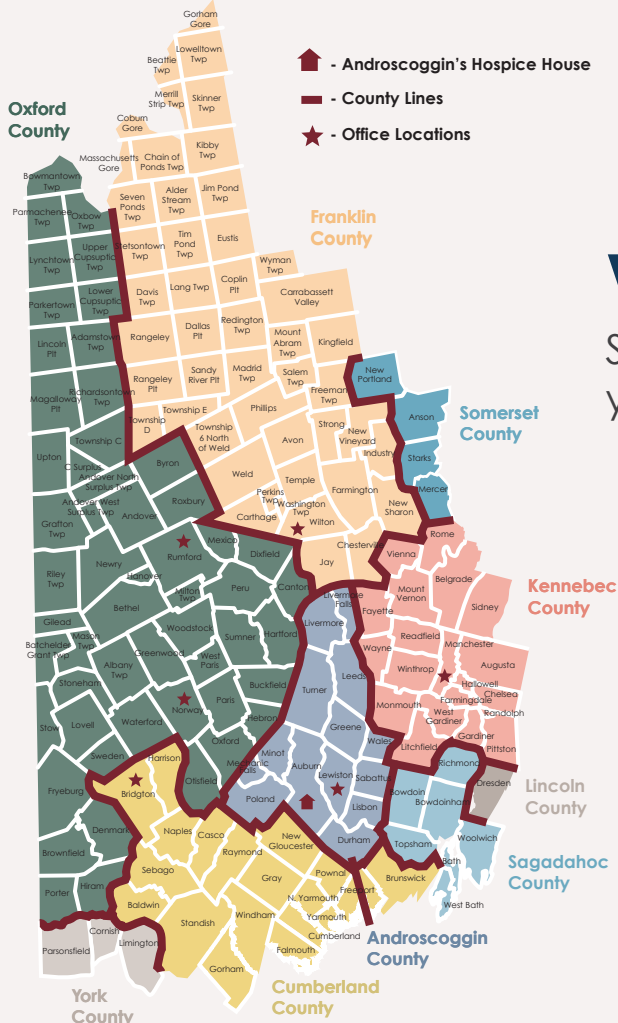
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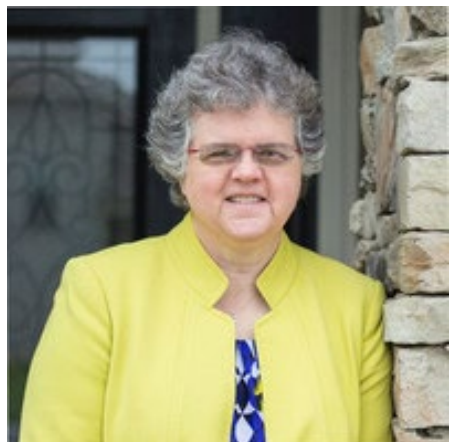
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PREMIER KEYNOTE SPEAKER

RE-THINKING EVERYTHING: AGING POLICY REFORM IN THE TIME OF COVID

September 16, 2020 at 9:15AM



KATHY GREENLEE

Our Premier Keynote Speaker, sponsored by Androscoggin Home Healthcare + Hospice, former Assistant Secretary for Aging, Kathy Greenlee, has a deep expertise in the areas of aging, long-term care, disability, elder abuse, health care, and community service innovation. She will offer participants a national perspective on health and community reform efforts and partnerships that are working to increase the health and well-being of older people.

We are thrilled to have her join us virtually for the 7th Annual Maine Wisdom Summit!

ABOUT KATHY

Kathy Greenlee is a visionary thought leader and innovator with three decades of state, federal, and international executive experience. She is a nationally recognized leader in aging and longterm care. From 2009 to 2016, Kathy served as the Assistant Secretary for Aging at the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services (HHS). Simultaneously, Kathy created the Administration for Community Living and was its first Administrator. Through legislative and administrative management, Kathy has supported significant growth in various organizations. Kathy also has served as the Kansas Secretary for Aging, Chief of Staff, and Chief of Operations for then-Governor Kathleen Sebelius, and general counsel for the Kansas Insurance Department. Since returning from Washington in 2016, Kathy has been a Senior Health Policy Advisor for the Kansas-City-based Center for Practical Bioethics and an adjunct faculty member at the University of Missouri-Kansas City School of Law. Kathy received her Bachelor of Science Administration from the University of Kansas School of Business and Juris Doctor from the University of Kansas School of Law. She is involved in professional organizations that include the National Academy of Social Insurance, the National Council on Aging, the American Bar Association, National Academies of Medicine, and Center for Practical Bioethics, among others.

SPEAKER BIOS

Sharlene Adams, LSW, CBIST, is the Director State Services for GT Independence. She has over 30 years' experience in various roles in the healthcare field. Sharlene has worked in long-term care, residential care, day services, and case management. In addition to her work with GT Independence, Sharlene is a CARF surveyor with experience in outpatient rehab, residential care, case management and home and community based services.

Kenneth Albert joined Androscoggin in June 2016 after spending several years in state government. He served as the Director and Chief Operating Officer of the Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention, and the Director of the Division of Licensing and Regulatory Services within the Maine Department of Health and Human Services. Prior to joining the department, Ken practiced health, professional licensing, and regulatory compliance law for several years in Lewiston, Maine. A Maine native, Ken's background is rich in medical experience, including 17 years of clinical practice in emergency and intensive care settings. He served as Director of Emergency Services at Central Maine Medical Center (CMMC), as the Administrator of the Occupational Health Center affiliated with CMMC, and as the Lewiston Site Manager for LifeFlight of Maine. For five years, he traveled across the United States providing critical care nursing in metropolitan, rural and tribal communities. He also taught Legal Issues in Health Care Administration as an adjunct faculty member at New England College. Ken is a graduate of the CMMC School of Nursing and earned a Bachelor of Science in Nursing from the University of Southern Maine, Magna Cum Laude, and a degree of Juris Doctor from the University of Maine School of Law with honors in health law.

Leana Amaez, Manager of Diversity, Equity & Inclusion, Maine DHHS. Prior to joining Maine DHHS in December 2019, Amaez played a leading role in diversity and inclusion efforts at Bowdoin College and served as the director of pro bono services at Pine Tree Legal Assistance. Her tenure at Bowdoin saw the creation of the Religious and Spiritual Life and the Multicultural Life centers and positions, the merging of the Women's Resource Center and the Center for Sexual and Gender Diversity into the SWAG and the addition of "Perspectives" and "More Than Meets the Eye" to the list of mandatory orientation programming for new students.

Don't miss a visit to the [exhibitor hall](#) to win an iPad, gift card, and more exciting giveaways from our sponsors!
See page 27 for details!

SPEAKER BIOS

Katlyn Blackstone, MS, LSW is the Chief program Officer at the Southern Maine Agency on Aging, and has been working in the field of aging for over 20 years. In this position she is responsible for providing oversight and leadership to the system-wide delivery of educational programs, classes and supportive services to address the myriad needs of older adults and their carepartners. Katlyn oversees grant initiatives, service delivery and strategic planning around future goals and continuous quality improvement. Katlyn earned her Master's degree in Education with a concentration in Gerontology from the University of Southern Maine and is a Licensed Social Worker. In addition to her leadership role she has extensive experience with social work intervention in working with older adults.

Patricia M. "Trish" D'Antonio, BSP Pharm, MS, MBA, BCGP, is GSA's vice president of professional affairs. In this role, she is responsible for managing the Society's relationships with other organizations in the aging arena, leading major Society programs and projects, and developing a strategy for future growth of the National Academy on an Aging Society (GSA's nonpartisan public policy institute). She is also the project director for the Reframing Aging Initiative, a long-term social change endeavor designed to improve the public's understanding of what aging means and the many ways that older people contribute to our society. She previously served as the executive director of the DC Board of Pharmacy and program manager for the Pharmaceutical Control Division, where she was responsible for the regulatory and policy development for the practice of pharmacy in the District, inspection and investigation of regulated facilities, and served as liaison to the FDA, DEA, and other federal and state organizations that promote safe handling of medications. She served on the Board of Directors of the National Association of State Controlled Substance Authorities, a non-profit organization that works to provide a continuing mechanism through which state and federal agencies and stakeholders can work to increase the effectiveness and efficiency of state and national efforts to prevent and control drug diversion and abuse. Prior to working with the DC Department of Health, D'Antonio served as director of professional and educational affairs with the American Society of Consultant Pharmacists, a professional membership association representing pharmacists who practice in geriatrics. While there she was responsible for advancing initiatives to educate pharmacists and other healthcare professionals in geriatric pharmacotherapy and the unique medication-related needs of the older adult. D'Antonio received her Bachelor of Science in pharmacy from Duquesne University in Pittsburgh, and received her Master of Science in health finance and Master in Business Administration with a concentration in health care from Temple University in Philadelphia. She completed a residency in administration and finance at The Philadelphia Geriatric Center and is a board certified geriatric pharmacist.

Piali De is the co-inventor of Sencio's patented Scio™ framework, the artificially intelligent inference engine that contextualizes data in any domain into actionable intelligence. Built upon Scio, Sencio Systems' Ibis Health Program is a complex chronic care management system designed to improve self-management for patients with complex chronic conditions designed to enable coordination with multiple care team members resulting in early intervention to avoid complications. It provides the perfect balance between technology and the right touch for individuals with complex health needs, resulting in fewer avoidable hospital admissions and improved health outcomes. Piali De is the author of many publications, three patents, and one pending patent. She is a member of Phi Beta Kappa, Sigma Xi and Sigma Pi Sigma honor societies and is the recipient of the National Women of Color's 2009 Technology Innovation award. In 2005, Piali received the Raytheon CEO Award, Raytheon IDS President's Award and Raytheon Business Development Excellence Award, for her work on profiling Marine Corps missions. A recognized thought leader in digital health innovation, Piali is a frequent and eloquent speaker and guest lecturer at digital health summits and health care conferences, including HFMA, HIMSS, The MIT Enterprise Forum of Cambridge, Medical Development Group, MedSpeaks, and Health Innovators. Prior to Sencio Systems, Piali De was an Engineering Fellow at Raytheon's Integrated Defense Systems. At Raytheon, she developed a system called Confluence™, designed to deliver knowledge-based decision support for public safety missions, pandemic crisis, natural disaster responses, military missions, and situations that require multiple organizations to analyze data simultaneously and respond in immediate unison. Piali grew up in Calcutta, India. In 1982, she graduated Summa Cum Laude, from Hunter College of the City University of New York, with Bachelors and Masters degrees in Physics. In 1987, Piali completed the doctoral program in Physics at Brown University. She and her husband Hugh Stoddart have two sons: Keiron and Brenton; all four share a passion for traveling.

Gia Drew, Program Director, EqualityMaine. Gia joined the staff of EqualityMaine in 2014 after being a volunteer for several years. As program director, Gia oversees all our education, rural outreach, and youth programming, as well as supporting our advocacy work. While originally from Boston, Gia has called Maine home for nearly 18 years. After earning degrees from Syracuse University and Savannah College of Art and Design, Gia was a high school teacher and coach for twenty years, working in Vermont, New Hampshire, Connecticut, Maryland, and Maine. In that time she became one of Maine's first OUT transgender teachers and one of the first transgender coaches in the country. Outside of EqualityMaine Gia loves spending time in nature, especially hiking, snowshoeing, and ocean swimming.

SPEAKER BIOS

Joy Gould, Manager of Healthcare Workforce Development, DHHS. Joy has spent her career in workforce development, most recently joining Maine DHHS in a newly created role to create and deploy a strategic workforce plan to address the shortage of qualified healthcare workers and implement statewide and community-based initiatives to improve the recruitment and retention of health care professionals. Prior to joining DHHS, Joy served as the Workforce Training Project Director with Community Concepts. Joy has a B.A. in Public Relations and Business from Mount Saint Mary College.

Marilyn Gugliucci, MA, PhD, is a Professor and the Director of Geriatrics Research at the University of New England College of Osteopathic Medicine. She is the Founding Director of U-ExCEL (UNE~Exercise and Conditioning for Easier Living) Fitness/Wellness Program for older adults. Her unique Learning by Living Research Projects offer two tracks: The Nursing Home Immersion that "admits" medical students into nursing homes to live the life of an elder resident for 2-weeks; and The 48 Hour Hospice Home Immersion that immerses pairs of medical students into an 18-bed inpatient acute care hospice home for 48 hours to conduct patient care, family support, and post-mortem care. She also conducts research on older adult falls prevention.

Marilyn is a Fellow of four National Associations. She serves on national and state boards and committees, and is the former president for the Association for Gerontology in Higher Education. Although not a nurse, she was a mentor for the International Honor Society of Nurses/Hartford Foundation Geriatrics Nursing Leadership Academy. Marilyn has been recognized with a number of state and national awards. She lectures nationally and internationally and has multiple publications in the field of aging.



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Tom Meuser, PhD, Director tmeuser@une.edu
Regi Robnett, PhD, Associate Director, rrobnett@une.edu

Don Harden is Director of Services for Older Adults at Catholic Charities Maine, where he has worked in various capacities for thirty-five years. In his current role, Don has administrative responsibility for home- and community-based long-term care and behavioral health programming including the State Homemaker Program. In addition to previously serving as the Co-Chair of the Maine Council on Aging, he is Co-Convener of the Aging Initiative's Workforce and Employment Workgroup focusing on creation of aging friendly workplaces, recruitment and retention of the older worker, and workforce development for the long term care sector. He holds a MS in Counseling from USM.

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SPEAKER BIOS

John Hennessy, Board Member, EqualityMaine. John has successfully advocated for issues of social justice and poverty, behavioral health, aging, long term care, early care and education, disabilities, poverty, HIV/AIDS, civil rights and primary health care providers. John is the co-founder of the Maine Council on Aging. His clients in the aging network have included the Maine Association of Area Agencies on Aging, Maine Long Term Care Ombudsman Program, and AARP. John is a founding member of SAGE Maine in 2011. While working at AARP, John convened a diverse group of stakeholders and community members to determine the viability of a SAGE affiliate in our state. The group developed and executed a statewide needs assessment and regional focus groups asking LGBT older adults about health care, personal safety, social services and overall well-being. This comprehensive model was held up as an example to replicate for other groups exploring a SAGE affiliate in their state. He is a former member of the Vestry of the Cathedral Church of St. Luke and a former board member of the Religious Coalition Against Discrimination. Prior volunteer work includes EqualityMaine, Dirigo Alliance Board, the campaign to defeat TABOR, and on the steering committee for No on 1. John is a native New Yorker who lives in Portland with his husband, Peter Callnan, and their three spirited Cavalier King Charles Spaniels.

Fatuma Hussein, Executive Director, Immigrant Resource Center of Maine. As a refugee without a choice in her relocation, Fatuma Hussein knew she had to find a better place for her growing family and their future. Along with 11 other Somalis, Maine was considered a mecca because it exemplified the idealistic American life sought after by the Somali community. Fatuma took a chance on this dream and arrived in Portland, ME on February 4, 2001 in search of a better place to live. On a snowy day, she was greeted with an even warmer welcome and a new reality in Maine. Fatuma was hired to present crucial information about the Somali community to Maine officials. She began working for an advocacy organization soon after where her colleague asked her to envision her dream. After some deep visualization and careful thought, Fatuma realized she wanted to create an immigrant women's center where vital skills, like English, could be taught to Lewiston's growing Somali community. She began reaching out to community and mosque leaders for help and access to the new community. Outreach was a language she became fluent in after meeting with many families. In a friend's living room, Fatuma met with 35 female community leaders and elders. These women were considered the gatekeepers for the Somali community at a crucial time in the community's advent. The group of women came together to pick Fatuma and four other women as leaders in charge of determining the upcoming organization's name, mission, vision, and other logistics. The group agreed upon the name the United Somali Women of Maine. The variety of the organization's work and clients led to a major name change that reflects its evolving client base -- the Immigrant Resource Center of Maine.

SPEAKER BIOS

Ruta Kadonoff, Director of Programs, Maine Health Access Foundation. Prior to joining the Maine Health Access Foundation, Ruta served as the Executive Director of Pioneer Network, a national not-for-profit organization dedicated to creating a culture of aging that is life-affirming, satisfying, humane and meaningful. Previously, Ms. Kadonoff was Vice President of Quality and Regulatory Affairs with the American Health Care Association. She also specialized in long-term care policy issues with the US Department of Health and Human Services and served as Deputy Director for The Green House Project, a national program to spread a transformational model of person-centered long-term care. She has worked in diverse organizations across the aging services field over the past 20 years in policy, research and practice, including Leading Age, the Alzheimer's Association and Abt Associates. Ms. Kadonoff holds a Master of Arts degree in the Management of Aging Services from the Erickson School of Aging Studies at UMBC and a Masters of Health Science degree in Health Policy from Johns Hopkins University.

Laura Lee is the Director of Grantmaking at Maine Community Foundation, coordinating the foundation's competitive grant programs. In addition to working with donors and nonprofits, she leads the foundation's strategic goal work on aging. Prior to joining MaineCF in 2015, Lee held positions at Bowdoin College, including assistant dean of student affairs. Lee earned a B.A. in history from Oberlin College and a master's and Ph.D. in U.S. history from UCLA. She lives with her family in Brunswick.

Garrett Martin is the Executive Director of the Maine Center for Economic Policy. Garrett provides oversight and guidance for MECEP's policy development, research methodologies, and analytical techniques, forming conclusions and determining policy solutions. Garrett has extensive experience in economic research, policy development, community economic development, and philanthropic fund management. He holds a master's degree in public affairs from Princeton University with a concentration in economics and public policy analysis.



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SPEAKER BIOS

Gabriel J. Martinez, Director, FQHC Champion Program and Community Engagement, UnitedHealthcare, Medicare Health Plan. Gabriel (Gabe) Martinez is UnitedHealthcare's Director of the FQHC Champion Program and Community Engagement for the New England Medicare Health Plan. In this role, Gabe is responsible to support the success and issue resolution among the Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs) that are in UnitedHealthcare's Medicare Network. Gabe works to ensure that the FQHCs in New England are able to find success within UnitedHealthcare's Medicare Incentive Programs which are based on STAR and Risk Adjustment performance. Gabe also assumes the role of Community Engagement Leader in New England. In this role, Gabe works to partner UnitedHealthcare and the many Community Based Organizations, such as MCOA, that jointly support the aging population in our communities. UnitedHealthcare strives to actively engage within the community and provide support through relationship development and collaboration. Gabe currently has 10 years of experience within the healthcare field first beginning with direct patient care while working in both a Transitional Living Center as well as Community Support Services for a community mental health center in New Mexico. He then relocated to New Hampshire in 2012 where he gained further direct care experience working for Greater Nashua Mental Health Center. From there Gabe entered the health insurance industry beginning in Network Management for a behavioral health benefit vendor serving NH's Medicaid population and later joined UnitedHealthcare in 2017 as a Provider Advocate. In 2019 he piloted the FQHC Champion Program in Northern New England. This successful program was then expanded to all 6 New England states after joining the Medicare Health Plan team in April of 2020.

Jess Maurer is the Executive Director of the Maine Council on Aging. Jess leads and manages a broad, multidisciplinary network of more than 100 organizations, businesses, municipalities and community members working to ensure we can all live healthy, engaged and secure lives as we age in our homes and in community settings. In this role, she advances statewide public policy initiatives, provides leadership within Maine's aging network, and supports Maine's Legislative Caucus on Aging. Her areas of specific focus include housing, transportation, workforce, "aging in place," and care across all settings. She leads the Maine Healthy Aging Initiative (Maine Data Across Sectors for Health) and the Tri-State Learning Collaborative on Aging, a regional learning collaborative aimed at increasing the collective impact of community-driven aging initiatives. She annually organizes statewide and regional events that advance aging policy, including the Maine Wisdom Summit. She co-authored *Building a Collaborative Community Response to Aging in Place* and Maine's *Blueprint for Action on Healthy Aging*. A licensed Maine attorney, Jess worked for 17 years in the Maine Office of the Attorney General. She graduated from the University of Maine School of Law and the University of Massachusetts at Amherst.

SPEAKER BIOS

Kimberley Moore, Director, Bureau of Employment Services, Maine DOL is a confident, proactive, and innovative professional manager/program facilitator with an abundance of experience in the university, corporate, and public sectors of workforce development and training. Prior to joining the Maine Department of Labor, Kim served as the Project Director for the Greater Portland Workforce Initiative with United Way of Greater Portland, and as a Business Services Representative with Goodwill Industries of Northern New England.

William Montejo, RN, Director, DHHS Division of Licensing & Certification. Bill Montejo has a diverse background in public safety and regulatory compliance. Bill has been a paramedic/fire fighter for many years, has worked in regulatory compliance as a State licensing Agent for Emergency Medical Services. In 2004 Bill obtained a nursing degree and became a registered Nurse working as an Emergency Department nurse for several Maine hospitals. In 2008 Bill joined the Maine Division of Licensing and regulatory Services as a long-Term care Surveyor and has obtained a degree in Health Acre Administration while continuing his career at Licensing becoming a supervisor/manager for Long Term Care, then the Acute Care Team, the Medical Facilities program Manager and now the Director. Bill has participated as one of several state subject matter experts in the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services development of the nursing home survey processes.



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SPEAKER BIOS

Claudette Ndayininahaze, acts as the executive director of In Her Presence and works full-time as the Intercultural Program Manager at Center for Grieving Children. She has developed an effective network of resources that provides needed support for the immigrant, asylee, and refugee communities on a grassroots level. She is a leader in the Portland immigrant community, encourages individuals and communities to help themselves, but have never lost sight of the importance of compassion, gratitude, and modesty, which allows others to feel comfortable coming to her for assistance. A native of Burundi, Claudette has a bachelor's degree in administration/management from the University of Burundi and was a National Sales Manager for a beverage brewery whose majority stockholder was Heineken. Claudette has served on the boards of different community organizations: Hope Acts, First Parish Unitarian Universalist (FPUU), Youth Family Outreach (YFO), Vice president of Burundi Community Association of Maine (B CAM), Furniture Friends (FF), Welcoming Immigrants Network (WIN) and Financial Stability Expert Panel with United Way.

Nancy Rankin has been an educator, counselor, and group facilitator for the past 40 years. A retired professor from the University of New England, Nancy particularly enjoys using the creative process to explore themes and issues important to one's development and health. Most recently, she facilitated a Creativity Circle for the Unlonely Project which is part of the Foundation for Art and Healing.

Mary Jane Richards is the Chief Operating Officer at North Country Associates—the largest provider of Long Term Care Services in the state of Maine. She has worked at North Country for the past 24 years. She is a Multi-Level Administrator, Board member and recent past chair for Maine Health Care Association, a member of the Maine Council on Aging, Multidisciplinary Task Forces in the state and a member of the Maine Council of Elder Abuse Prevention. Her knowledge of care and services across the continuum of care assists legislators to fully understand the impact their decisions make on the elders and caregivers of Maine.

Catherine Ryder, LCPC, ACS, serves as the Chief Executive officer for Tri-County Mental Health Services (TCMHS) where she has been employed for 28 years. She believes in developing models that align with the principles of healthcare reform and is passionate about ensuring access, bending the cost curve, and reducing stigma associated with behavioral health. She believes integration is critical and that we must develop clinical and fiscal models that are fully sustainable. Catherine is proud to represent an agency noted for its trauma-informed, recovery-based approach to services. TCMHS has been deeply committed to promoting whole health and wellness through collaboration and coordination with other key providers and resources across their service communities. Catherine is a Licensed Clinical Professional Counselor with a MS in Counselor Education, a Nationally Certified Counselor, and an Approved Clinical Supervisor. She has completed the certificate program in Primary Care Behavioral Health from University of MA and is a graduate of the Hanley Leadership Development program for healthcare leaders in Maine. Catherine currently serves as Past President for the Alliance of Addictions & Mental Health Services, Vice-President for the Mental Health Risk Retention Group, Vice President for the Maine Health Access Foundation, and is a board member for The Daniel Hanley Center for Health Leadership as well as Mental Health Corporations of America. Catherine also serves as the Governor's appointee to the Maine Military Leadership Council, representing behavioral health.

Michelle Probert is the Director at DHHS Office of MaineCare Services. Michelle Probert joined Maine's Department of Health and Human Services in February 2011 and in her previous role she served as the Director of Strategic Initiatives for MaineCare, Maine's Medicaid Program. In that position, Michelle led the Department's Value-Based Purchasing Strategy as well as its effort to restructure the MaineCare Non-Emergency Transportation system. In Massachusetts, Michelle led cross-Secretariat teams to define services and reform reimbursement and contracting for over \$700 million in human services as Purchase of Service Policy and Pricing Manager for Massachusetts' Executive Office of Health & Human Services. At the Massachusetts WIC Nutrition Program, Michelle coordinated a statewide re-procurement and managed the refinement of WIC funding, needs assessment, and caseload allocation methodologies. Michelle began her career as a family advocate for homeless women and children. She has a Master's in Public Policy from UC Berkeley.

SPEAKER BIOS

Paul Saucier, MA, is the Director of the Maine DHHS Office of Aging and Disability Services (OADS). OADS administers Older Americans Act programs, long-term services and supports programs for adults of all ages and types of disabilities, and Maine's Adult Protective Services Program. Prior to arriving at OADS, Paul was a Senior Director at IBM Watson Health, where he specialized in integrated care models for older persons and persons with disabilities, including those with both Medicaid and Medicare coverage (dually eligible beneficiaries). In that role, he consulted with Federal and State clients, including the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, the HHS Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation, the Pennsylvania Office of Long Term Living and the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services. Paul has also held positions at the USM Muskie School of Public Service, the National Academy for State Health Policy and the Maine Legislature's non-partisan Office of Policy and Legal Analysis. He is a member of the National Academy of Social Insurance.

Nirav Shah, MD, JD. In June 2019, Nirav Shah, MD, JD, was appointed as the Director of the Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention (Maine CDC). He brings broad experience in public health to Maine serving most recently as the director of the Illinois Department of Public Health. While in Illinois, he implemented key initiatives to address the State's opioid crisis, reduce maternal and infant mortality, and reduce childhood lead poisoning. In addition to being a physician, Dr. Shah is also an attorney and public health economist. He has advised professionals and governments around the nation and globe on improving the delivery of health care. Earlier in his career, he worked for the Ministry of Health Cambodia, where his work included investigating and managing disease outbreaks as an epidemiologist. Shah received both medical and law degrees from the University of Chicago. He also studied economics at Oxford University.

Danielle Watford, MSIO, MS, CMQ-OE, has dedicated her career to the improvement and sustainability of Maine long term care providers. Currently serving as the Director of Quality Improvement and Regulatory Affairs for Maine Health Care Association, she has committed to serving as a resource for providers with an expertise in quality improvement, regulatory application, and advocacy. She holds a master's degree in both clinical psychology and industrial organizational psychology and has sixteen years' experience in long term care quality with an expertise in QAPI implementation, LTC quality measures, and an overwhelming and somewhat twisted love of data and data reporting strategies. She is LEAN SIX SIGMA green belted and is certified as a Manager of Quality in the category of Organizational Excellence.

SPEAKER BIOS

Susan Wehry, M.D., Chief of Geriatrics, University of New England College of Osteopathic Medicine, is a geriatric psychiatrist with over 30 years of experience as a physician leader and educator. During her career she has worked with policy makers, health and human service professionals, older adults and family caregivers throughout the United States. In 2002 and 2007, she helped the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) develop national programming on mental health and individualized care planning in nursing homes. In 2009, she authored Oasis, an interdisciplinary person-centered curriculum that has helped transform dementia care, support mental health recovery and reduce inappropriate antipsychotic use and has actively partnered with CMS in the national initiative to improve dementia care. During her tenure as Commissioner, the Department of Disabilities, Aging and Independent Living expanded home and community based services—including the award-winning SASH program—and Vermont rose to number one in national AHRQ senior health rankings. She was honored to represent Vermont at the 2015 White House Conference on Aging.



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MCOA AWARD RECIPIENTS

For many years, the Maine Council on Aging (MCOA) has honored the outstanding work of aging services leaders, legislators and advocates with a series of annual awards. This year, we felt compelled to re-imagine most, but not all, of our awards to match the times we're experiencing. 2020 has been a year that has challenged us all to be our best selves, to be agile, compassionate, and resilient. During this year of unrelenting change, we have watched and been so inspired by so many Mainers who have risen to the challenge with innovative spirits and genuine kindness. Except for our Lasting Legacy Award, this year, we've chosen to honor leaders who stepped up in remarkable ways to ensure older adults in their communities were able to access the things they needed while they were staying safe at home. Without question, our Lasting Legacy Award honoree also was inspiring in his response to COVID-19, but we wish to honor him for his impressive sustained leadership rather than to focus on his work this year. Please join us in honoring these wonderful Mainers.

The **MCOA's Lasting Legacy Award** recognizes and celebrates the sustained leadership of people whose commitment, ideals, and actions throughout their careers have brought about lasting and positive change to the lives of older Mainers.

Don Harden has been a devoted and tenacious advocate for more than 40 years as a leader with Catholic Charities Maine. After serving in the Army, he earned his Master's Degree and embarked on a career-long journey to improve the lives of Mainers. Serving first in the child care sector, Don became the Director of what is now known as Support and Recovery Services. In 2005, Don expanded his role to take on multiple programs serving older people, including Independent Support Services, known as the Homemaker Program, growing it quickly into a statewide program that helps older Mainers age well at home. Knowing this is what older Mainers want, Don tirelessly advocated for quality home care services and care workers, and his efforts have made it possible for us all to age well at home with the supports we need. He has not been deterred by staffing shortages and budget cuts, nor given up in the face of incremental gains, of which there have been many. Don is an icon in the human services world, a true collaborator who brings a quiet confidence to his advocacy that makes legislators want to listen. One peer wrote, "Don is the EF Hutton of aging; when he talks, we all listen to his sage wisdom." He is generous with his time to help others learn and values the strength of many voices. Don is a founding member of the MCOA and serves on the Board of Directors. For his unfailing pursuit of quality services for older Mainers and living wages for direct care workers, and his mentorship of others working in aging services, the Maine Council on Aging is proud to present Don with the 2020 Lasting Legacy Award.

MCOA AWARD RECIPIENTS

The 2020 **MCOA Legislator of the Year Award** recognizes and celebrates the sustained efforts of a legislative leader who worked through the COVID-19 crisis collaboratively with communities, institutions, governments, and businesses to develop and implement solutions that have improved the health and safety of older Mainers.

Representative Chloe Maxmin may be a new face in the Maine legislature, but she is already a strong voice for Maine's older adults. As soon as the COVID-19 pandemic hit, she enlisted more than 200 volunteers to contact and triage the needs of more than 3,000 older residents living in her district. The more than 12,000 calls made by Chloe and her volunteers resulted in groceries and prescriptions being delivered, rides to doctor appointments being arranged, and masks and social support being made available. One of the volunteers involved said that Chloe is the type of person we need in office, "one who has the compassion and empathy to reach out to her constituents." Aside from her immediate and impressive response to the COVID-19 pandemic, she also sponsored a key bill regarding transportation for older people in the legislature, and has continued to make older people a primary focus of her work as a lawmaker. The Maine Council on Aging is proud to honor Representative Maxmin as the 2020 Legislator of the Year.

The 2020 **MCOA Trailblazing Award** recognizes and celebrates the contributions of community members who, in the face of COVID-19, have responded through actions and/or advocacy in incredible and innovative ways to make Maine a safer place for us all to age with dignity, health, purpose and security. *This year's Trailblazing Award honors two recipients.*

Surrey Hardcastle has an impressive reputation as a champion for older people. For four years, she has been the chair of the Food Team of Harpswell Aging at Home, a grassroots volunteer organization that helps make Harpswell a community for a lifetime. When COVID-19 hit, Surrey had been leading the Lunch With Friends (LWF) Program, a wildly successful free weekly lunch program that serves thousands of volunteer cooked meals each year. Undeterred by the threat of COVID, she and her team, following all CDC coronavirus protocols for sanitizing, re-packing, and delivering, quickly shifted gears to a take-out lunch format called Meals-To-Go. Every Tuesday from mid-March through the end of June, volunteers prepared hundreds of meals that were dropped off at a central location and then picked up by LWF regulars or distributed to homebound people. During this time, Surrey and 100 volunteers prepared and distributed 5,555 meals to 2,208 people, remarkable in a town of 5000. Her work inspired volunteers to buy lobsters, not only to help local fisherman, but also to make lobster mac 'n cheese lunches! Her innovative

MCOA AWARD RECIPIENTS

thinking and warm enthusiasm was the catalyst for a town-wide effort that benefited hundreds of families, both those receiving the food and those volunteering their time, skill and resources. Because of her immediate and inspiring response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Maine Council on Aging is honored to present Surrey with the 2020 Trailblazing Award.

Lynn Steed is a member of Age Friendly Saco and a volunteer with the Saco Food Pantry. When COVID hit and many older people did not feel comfortable going out to get groceries, Lynn developed a network of volunteers to deliver food. She went to the pantry many times to fulfill food requests for others, and was able to serve hundreds of older people seeking food assistance from a pantry for the first time. Not content to serve just those in her own community, Lynn reached out to serve the needs of older people in neighboring communities as well, often involving the local police department to assist in a food delivery for a family in need. Because Lynn worked tirelessly to address increased food insecurity brought on by the pandemic, the Maine Council on Aging is honored to present her with the 2020 Trailblazing Award.

The 2020 **MCOA Business Excellence Award** recognizes and celebrates the efforts of Maine employers that pivoted to implement creative and strategic practices during the COVID-19 public health crisis that supported the health and social health needs of older Mainers and/or the providers who serve them.

The Green Ladle is a restaurant that offers a well-rounded culinary education to juniors and seniors from high schools in the Lewiston area. In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, students and instructors opted to utilize the tips they'd been saving as a group to provide meals for 500 older adults, veterans, and first responders rather than to provide themselves with a senior trip. Students prepared the meals and organized volunteers to deliver it, with local restaurants donating the food. Because of their generosity, the Maine Council on Aging is honored to present The Green Ladle with the 2020 Business Excellence Award.

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The Maine Health Access Foundation has long been a supporter of older people in Maine, most recently with our Thriving in Place initiative.

We invite all attendees to take a moment to review our 2020 **Thriving in Place Follow-Up Study** that can be [found here on the MeHAF website.](#)

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About

- Mission is to ensure we can live healthy, engaged, and secure lives with opportunity and choice as we age in our homes and in community settings
- 100+ diverse members from municipalities, finance, law, health care, behavioral health, higher ed, housing, transportation, technology, and aging services along the continuum
- Collaborative partnerships with federal, state, municipal, foundation, and regional leaders
- Convene for informed action
- Highly effective leadership and board governance

Benefits

- Shape aging policy
- Legislative and policy updates
- Technical assistance & guidance on aging issues
- Training & Educational offerings
- State House advocacy
- Annual Wisdom Summit
- Networking opportunities with key partners
- Marketing of your organization

Current Priorities

- Guided by our 2018 [Blueprint for Action on Healthy Aging](#)
- Lead the [Tri-State Learning Collaborative on Aging](#) (TSLCA)
- Collaborating with DHHS on [Long Term Supports & Services reform](#) & Long Term Supports & Services integration with medical & behavioral care
- Collaborating with health care leaders and HealthInfoNet on strengthening information exchange & connection to community-based organizations
- Collaborating with Maine Municipal Association, leading the [Task Force for Healthy Aging in Communities](#): municipal and state leaders planning to support healthy aging
- Collaborating with MaineHousing, working to build a statewide vision for home repair and modification services and [new models of housing](#), developed at the local level
- Collaborating with Maine DOT to increase “last mile” transit options and assisting to build a statewide mobility network called Moving Maine
- Staffing the Legislative Caucus on Aging & the [Commission to Study Long Term Care Workforce Issues](#)
- Pursuing [significant legislative agenda](#)

Engagement Opportunities

- Weekly legislative calls
- Quarterly membership meetings
- Monthly TSLCA webinars
- Annual Maine Wisdom Summit
- Board & working group membership
- Periodic regional networking events

More information found on our website at www.maineCouncilonaging.org
Contact: Executive Director, Jess Maurer at jmaurer@mainecouncilonaging.org or 2078-592-9972