

2023 Aging Symposium Schedule

Friday, May 19, 2023 | 9:00am - 4:00pm

West Chester University

Sciences & Engineering Center and Commons, Room 108

155 University Ave, West Chester, PA 19383

9:00am to 9:30am **Check in - Coffee/Continental Breakfast**

9:30am to 10:00am **Welcome and Introductions**

10:00am to 11:00am **Workshop #1 (1 CEU)**

Racial Inequity in Geriatric and Social Work Practice: The Importance of Closing the Gaps

Presenter: Dr. Karen Bullock, LCSW, Boston College School of Social Work

11:00am to 11:15am **Break**

11:15am to 12:15pm **Workshop #2 (1 CEU)**

COVID and the Ongoing Mental Health Needs of Long-Term Care Residents

Presenter: Jessica Hartfield, MSW, Center for Advocacy of the Rights and Interests of Elders

12:15pm to 1:00pm **Break & Boxed Lunch Distribution**

1:00pm to 1:30pm **Remarks from Acting Pennsylvania Secretary of Aging**

Developing Pennsylvania's Master Plan on Aging & Disabilities: How this Living Plan Impacts All Communities

Presenter: Acting Secretary of Aging Jason Kavulich, Pennsylvania Department of Aging

1:30pm to 2:30pm **Workshop #3 (1 CEU)**

Navigating Grief and Growth in Later Life

Presenters: Nicole McGovern, LCSW, FT & Lisa Couser, LCSW, FT, Penn Medicine Home Care and Hospice

2:30pm to 2:45pm **Break**

2:45pm to 3:45pm **Workshop #4: Panel Discussion (1 Ethics CEU)**

Ethical Issues Confronting Interprofessional Teams

Panelists: Dr. Karen Bullock, LCSW, Boston College; Acting PA Secretary of Aging Jason Kavulich; Attorney Chari Alson, JD, MPH, CELA, Anderson Elder Law; Jean Herb, MSN, RN, Penn Medicine, University of Pennsylvania Health System (and other guests)

Moderator: Moderator: Angela Lavery, PhD, LCSW, FT, West Chester University

3:45pm to 4:00pm **Closing Remarks & Thank You – Evaluations, etc.**

Workshop Descriptions

Workshop #1:

Racial Inequity in Geriatric and Social Work Practice: The Importance of Closing the Gaps

Presenter: Dr. Karen Bullock, LCSW, Boston College School of Social Work

(1 CEU)

Long-standing structural and systemic health and social inequities put many Black and Brown people at risk of higher morbidity and mortality exposure than White people, during the COVID-19 pandemic. Research shows that older adults of racial and ethnic diversity are at greater risk of health care disparities specifically when faced with serious illness and end-of-life care. Social Workers are uniquely prepared to provide leadership on Geriatric interdisciplinary teams that centers equity, justice and the inclusion of a more diverse workforce. Such actions require a critical self-assessment that frames cultural competence as a standard of practice in accordance with the NASW Code of Ethics.

Learning Outcomes:

1. Identify barriers and mediating factors influencing disparities in palliative care and geriatric social work practice.
2. Discuss the importance of dismantling structural and systemic racism in serious illness care.
3. Describe a framework for critical self-assessment in geriatric social work that makes a shift towards promoting cultural competence.

Workshop #2:

COVID and the Ongoing Mental Health Needs of Long-Term Care Residents

Presenter: Jessica Hartfield, MSW, Center for Advocacy of the Rights and Interests of Elders

(1 CEU)

One of the many tragedies of the COVID-19 pandemic has been the exacerbated psychosocial consequences disproportionately experienced by older persons, particularly those living in long-term care (LTC) facilities. This workshop will provide the learner with a foundational understanding of the impact of COVID on older adult long-term care residents as well as the longer term affects. This workshop will also take an in-depth look into the mental health needs of individuals within long-term care facilities and identify solutions for improving the quality of mental health services provided in these settings.

Learning Outcomes:

1. Identify and understand the physical and mental health impacts of COVID.
2. Learn about a crisis within a crisis and the history of mental health challenges in long-term care settings.
3. Understand the psychological consequences and longer-term implications of COVID-19 on long-term care residents.
4. Identify policy responses to COVID-19 to promote mental health recovery.
5. Learn how to help long-term care residents now.

Workshop #3:

Navigating Grief and Growth in Later Life

Presenters: Nicole McGovern, LCSW, FT & Lisa Couser, LCSW, FT, Penn Medicine Home Care and Hospice
(1 CEU)

This presentation will provide the learner with a foundational understanding of grief and bereavement in older adults. We will define grief, mourning, and bereavement and how they present in older populations. Attention will be given to the role of loneliness and the influence of Covid in older grievers. We will also identify types of loss specific to this population and strategies for working with older adults.

Learning Objectives:

1. Define and distinguish grief, mourning, and bereavement.
2. Develop an understanding of five losses experienced by older adults.
3. Identify strategies for assisting with grief and growth in older adults.

Workshop #4: Panel Discussion

Ethical Issues Confronting Interprofessional Teams

Panelists:

- Karen Bullock, PhD, LCSW, Boston College
- Jason Kavulich, Acting Secretary of Aging, PA Department of Aging
- Chari Alson, JD, MPH, CELA, Senior Associate, Anderson Elder Law
- Jean Herb, RN, MSN, Senior HealthLink Nurse, Penn Medicine, University of Pennsylvania Health System

Moderator: Angela Lavery, PhD, LCSW, FT, Associate Professor and Gerontology Graduate Certificate Coordinator, Department of Graduate Social Work, West Chester University
(1 Ethics CEU)

The aim of this panel discussion will be to increase awareness about a variety of ethical considerations interprofessional teams may encounter while providing care and support to older adults and their caregivers. At the conclusion of this panel, participants will be able to identify challenges that may occur. Discussion will also include ways team members can work together and continue to support older adults and their families during ethical dilemmas.

Learning Objectives:

1. Identify challenges that occur due to ethical dilemmas.
2. List ways interprofessional team members can work together to meet the needs of older adults, their family members and caregivers when ethical dilemmas occur.
3. Discuss ways to support empowerment and quality of life of older adults and their caregivers in a culturally responsive way during ethical dilemmas.

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