



**Georgia Gerontology Society**  
**Annual Report 2015**



## 2015: A Year in Review

Georgia Gerontology Society has been busy on multiple fronts this year. Our successes as a Society and as a Board continue to prepare us to meet the opportunities of an aging population while we have tended to the business of the moment.

Over the past year, your Board has made great progress in developing a strategic plan to move GGS forward. The GGS Board met in January 2015 to develop a Mission, Vision and Objectives for GGS.

**Mission:** The Georgia Gerontology Society (GGS) is a statewide multidisciplinary professional network that educates, serves and advocates for older adults and their families.

**Vision:** By 2020, GGS will be the principal network of educators, professionals and businesses that serve older adults in Georgia.

### Objectives:

1. Education and Training: (By 12/31/2020), participation in the GGS conference, symposia and other programs will be an essential credential for individuals and enterprises serving elders in Georgia.
2. Visibility: (By 12/31/2020), GGS will implement an identity strategy that positions it to be inclusive, diverse, multidisciplinary and impactful.
3. Advocacy: (By 12/31/2020), GGS will have clearly defined approaches to and strategies for advocacy at the local, state, and national levels.
4. Work Force Development: (By 12/31/2020), GGS will partner with educators and providers to increase the number of qualified individuals working in the field of gerontology.
5. Membership: (By 12/31/2020), membership in GGS will be a valuable credential for individuals who work in the field of aging.
6. Organizational Capacity: (By 12/31/2020), GGS will have sufficient human, financial, technological and volunteer resources to implement this plan.
7. Board Development: (By 12/31/2020), the GGS board will represent the full range of professions, business enterprises, and consumers in the gerontology field.

These objectives were presented at the 2015 GGS Annual Conference and ranked in order of importance through input from attendees. Action Planning Sessions were held for Education/Training and Advocacy and Action Steps were developed for each priority.

In addition to the ongoing work of the GGS Strategic Plan, GGS celebrated its 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. The theme of the 2015 Annual Conference was “Celebrating Our Past, Envisioning Our Future”. Past Presidents of GGS were honored during the President’s Reception with Lifetime Memberships and conference attendees heard from past presidents Kenneth Jasnau (1966-1967 & 1973-1974), Cheryll Schramm (1976-1977), Pat Viles Freeman (1987-1988) and Kathryn Fowler (1992-1994) during a very special panel discussion during a conference luncheon.



GGS continued to develop and strengthen partnerships in 2015.

- GGS partnered with Eli Lilly, the Division of Aging Services and the Alzheimer's Association to host 3 Community Conversations on Alzheimer's. Expert speakers were brought in and an invitation only audience participated with a goal of advancing the Georgia Alzheimer's and Related Dementias State Plan. Stakeholders included: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Georgia State University, Emory's Fuqua Center for Late Life Depression, Rosalynn Carter Institute for Caregiving, Georgia Dept. Public Health, Georgia Council on Aging, Morehouse School of Medicine, Georgia Healthcare Association, State Long Term Care Ombudsman, Emory University, Georgia Dept. of Community Health and key legislators.
- GGS partnered with Georgia State University to provide 2 "Recruiting and Retaining Direct Care Workers" webinars.
- GGS partnered with the Fuqua Center for Late Life Depression and the Atlanta Regional Commission for a "Recognizing Mental Health Issues in Older Adults" webinar.
- 2015 White House Conference on Aging Viewing Session: GGS and AARP-GA partnered to offer a viewing session for the final White House Conference on Aging Regional Forum, which was held in Boston, MA. Recommendations were then submitted to the White House Conference on Aging allowing for Georgia to have a voice in the process.
- GGS partnered with Leading Age Georgia Institute of Technology for the 2015 Technology & Aging Summit. This session included an overview and pilot results from several Georgia provider organizations (including a CCRC, Home Care, Adult Day, HUD-Subsidized Retirement Community) for a Care Partner Team Application that develops an Individualized Care and Support Plan (ICSP) - LVHS Corp. (Health Empowerment Solutions) and an overview of OneCare. OneCare is positioned to be the glue that connects Healthcare Providers, Senior Housing and Home Care with a platform that can provide continuous, connected care management, with the remote dashboard tools to manage the lone workers and patients in their homes from a cloud based, web and mobile command center. Attendees also participated in Rapid Fire Breakout Sessions where they had the opportunity to identify current gaps in service delivery and propose solutions during the rapid fire breakout sessions. Attendees discussed the service delivery problems they discussed during the Rapid Fire Breakout Session and presented their proposed solutions to address the issue. Lastly, "Pitch-for-Pilots" will allowed local technology and aging entrepreneurs to highlight their ideas in hopes of winning the generous prize and making key connections in the process. James Cheng won with Home Based Options for Physical Therapy programs utilizing home based technology.

GGS also supported the 2015 CO-AGE Priorities. Through the work of many advocates, 2015 saw many legislative successes:

- \$1.7 Million for In-Home Services
- \$1.6 Million for 8 GBI Agents to focus on Elder Abuse
- \$107,594 for coordinating the Alzheimer's State Plan
- \$126,904 for technology and training for the Long Term Care Ombudsmen



## About the Georgia Gerontology Society

GGS is the largest state organization of multidisciplinary professionals in the field of aging.

- GGS enhances public awareness of the needs, rights and continuing contributions of older persons.
- GGS promotes efforts to meet the needs of older persons through innovative and state of the art approaches to service.
- GGS provides student scholarships and promotes career development in gerontology.
- GGS collaborates with other organizations in expanding services, programs, education and research in aging.
- GGS serves as the focal point for Senior Advocacy relating to public and social policy within the State of Georgia.

<b>STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS</b>	
<i>For Year Ended December 31, 2015</i>	
<b>BEGINNING BALANCES:</b>	
Checking Account	\$84,609.13
The Community Foundation	\$293,507.70
<b>INCOME:</b>	
Annual Conference	\$64,745.87
Memberships	\$9,693.51
Scholarship Fund	\$2,670.12
Miscellaneous Income	\$1,657.51
<b>TOTAL INCOME:</b>	\$78,767.01
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES:</b>	\$82,358.74
<b>ENDING BALANCES:</b>	
Checking Account	\$81,296.72
The Community Foundation	\$289,118.85



## GGG Awards

The Georgia Gerontology Society annually acknowledges the outstanding achievements of individuals in the field of Gerontology through the presentations of awards during its annual meeting and conference. The Georgia Gerontology Society established an early tradition of recognizing significant achievement and contributions to the field of aging. Since 1966, the Annual Meeting and Conference has included an Awards Ceremony as a particular highlight. During the first years, awards were given in a variety of categories - Individual, Professional, Distinguished Service, and area of service. With the passage of time, the number and type of awards have become more established. Several awards have been named for individuals who have been significant to the Georgia Gerontology Society and to gerontology in the state of Georgia - John Tyler Mauldin, Elsie Alvis, Louis Newmark, Robert P. Wray, Marietta Suhart, Dan Hickman and most recently David Levine.

The **Elsie Alvis Award** (Formally the Professional Award) is given to the outstanding professional in gerontology with a minimum of 15 years of service. The Award was first given in 1970 as a Professional Award and was named in honor of Elsie Alvis in 1980. This designation honors an early GGS member who received the Individual Award in 1966, the first year Awards were made. She served as the Director of the Governor's Commission on Aging, later the State Commission on Aging, beginning in 1960. She served well past the age of 70 and directed statewide study to develop Georgia's Story of Her Aging, published as the official Georgia report to the 1961 White House Conference on Aging.

**2015 Recipient: Maureen Kelly, Atlanta Regional Commission**

The **John Tyler Mauldin Award** is given to an older individual in Georgia who exemplifies a positive role model of outstanding Achievement in the field of Aging. First given to Dr. Mauldin in 1967 as the First Annual Outstanding Achievement Award, it was named for the first recipient the next year. Dr. Mauldin, a prominent Atlanta surgeon and also an early GGS activist, was appointed in 1959 to Chair the newly established Governor's Commission on Aging, later the State Commission. He directed the planning of Georgia's participation in the 1961 White House Conference on Aging.

**2015 Recipient: Arnisha Norman, Atlanta Regional Commission**

The **Louis Newmark Award** is presented to an individual providing at least 10 years of service to aging, with particular attention to the Georgia Gerontology Society. The Award was first given in 1982 to Louis Newmark, the Society's first President, in recognition for his nearly three decades of service to gerontology in Georgia and to the Society. Louis Newmark also won several GGS Awards for his social service and service to the Society and was the Society's historian for the first three decades of its existence. He was also a founder of the Georgia Conference on Social Welfare.

**2015 Recipient: Jami Harper, SOWEGA Council on Aging**



The **Marietta Suhart Award**, established in 1993 shortly after Marietta's death, is given to the individual with demonstrated ability to educate para-professionals, professionals and other persons working with older adults; proven leadership and vision in gerontology by development/expansion of educational programs and services; and recognized ability to touch as well as to teach learners. A long-time GGS Board member, hardworking committee member, and enthusiastic educator who fit the description of the Award established in her name, Marietta Suhart was the Gerontology Specialist with the University of Georgia Continuing Education program.

**2015 Recipient: Dr. Eugene Sherman, Jr, SOWEGA Council on Aging**

The **Dan Hickman Award** is presented to the person who has shown excellence in the profession of Care/Case Management and who exhibits leadership in the profession by providing exceptional direct services, training fellow Care Managers, and/ or advocating for improvements in care management. The Award was established in 1998 and first presented in 1999 in memory of Dan, who was the Community Care Services Program Manager with the Georgia Division of Aging Services. He helped to define case management as a profession in Georgia, and he exhibited great spirit, zest, and integrity in support of the profession.

**2015 Recipient: Deanna Mosley, Division of Aging Services**

The **David L. Levine Legislative Award**, established in 1993 as the Legislative Award, is given to the legislator who has sponsored or co-sponsored legislation that would improve the quality of life for older adults; has consistently supported aging issues; and has been willing to listen to the concerns of Georgia's elderly. This award has now been named to honor Dr. David L. Levine, who devoted his adult life advocating for those who could not advocate for themselves.

**2015 Recipient: Representative Wendell Willard, R-51**

**Certificates of Merit** may also be chosen and presented, by the Awards Committee, to special individuals who deserve recognition because of achievement, service, exemplary living, and/or commitment to aging.

**2015 Recipients: Amanda 'Jo' Ellis, Spalding County Parks & Recreation; Catherine Lynette Cross, SOWEGA Council on Aging**



## GGS Scholarships

The Georgia Gerontology Society provides scholarship opportunities to outstanding graduate and undergraduate students who are committed to pursuing a career in the field of aging.

Two scholarships are awarded each year. The Robert P. Wray Scholarship of \$2,000 is awarded to one undergraduate student, and the Virginia M. Smyth Scholarship of \$3,000 is awarded to one graduate student to promote students' interest in age-related issues and to promote professional development in gerontology.

### ROBERT P. WRAY UNDERGRADUATE SCHOLARSHIP

**Recipient:** Marlena Collins

**College/University:** Georgia State University, Gerontology Institute

#### A little more about Marlena:

- She hopes to manage a large scale continuing care retirement community (CCRC) and is committed to improving the way in which her future employees view aging.
- Marlena is a firm believer in the Green House Project.
- She is the youngest certified member of the Georgia Alzheimer's Speakers Bureau and has lobbied alongside the Alzheimer's Association at the Georgia State Capitol.



### VIRGINIA M. SMYTH GRADUATE SCHOLARSHIP

**Recipient:** Mariya Kovaleva

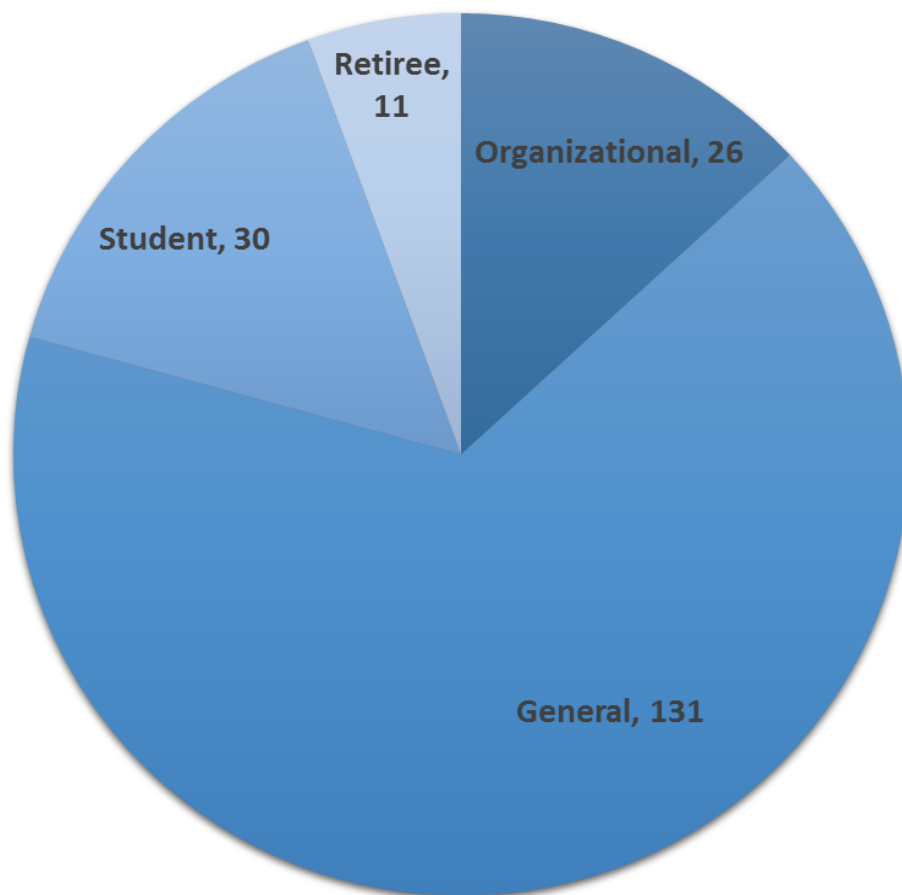
**College/University:** Emory University

#### A little more about Mariya:

- Older adults-their health and position in society-have been her passion since her early years.
- She began her studies in the PhD program in Nursing at Emory University in the Fall of 2014. As part of her doctoral studies, she will complete coursework for the Adult Gerontological Nurse Practitioner.
- Her research interest is the promotion of the psychological well-being of caregivers of persons with Alzheimer's Disease or another dementia by means of telehealth and innovative models of primary care.



## GGG 2015 Membership



**Total Memberships: 198**





## **GGS Board of Directors**

### **Officers:**

President: Eve Anthony, Athens Community Council on Aging  
Vice President: Joy Shirley, Three Rivers Area Agency on Aging  
Secretary: Karen Cooper, AARP Georgia  
Treasurer: Lois Ricci, Educator  
Immediate Past President: Wallace White, CSRA AAA

### **Board Members Term Ending 2015:**

Jennifer Beamer, Atlanta Regional Commission AAA  
Allison Bernal, Division of Aging Services  
MaryLea Boatwright Quinn, Georgia Council on Aging  
Liang-Lin Chao, Office of the State Long Term Care Ombudsman  
Karen Cooper, AARP Georgia  
Scott Courson, Southern AAA  
Jennie Deese, Athens Community Council on Aging  
Valerie Duke, Consultant  
Jami Harper, SOWEGA AAA  
Lori Ann Walden, Golden Gourmet, LLC

### **Board Members Term Ending 2016:**

Eve Anthony, Athens Community Council on Aging  
Sue Burgess, Atlanta Regional Commission AAA  
Jamie Cramer, Gwinnett County Senior Services  
Ellyn Jeager, Mental Health Association of Georgia  
Dionne Lovett, Coastal AAA  
Matthew Malok, Retired  
Melany Sattler, SimpleC  
Donald Strong, Sabea Care, LLC  
Gail Thompson, Heart of Georgia AAA  
Ann Williams, Retired



### **Board Members Term Ending 2017**

Amanda Carter, Division of Aging Services

Arlene Fitts Winfrey, Retired

Babs Hall, SOWEGA AAA

Ilona Preattle, River Valley AAA

Jamell Hamm, Georgia Public Defenders' Standard Council

Dr. Jennifer Craft Morgan, Georgia State University

Kay Hind, SOWEGA AAA

Lisa Howard, Legacy Link AAA

Michele Kelley, NE Georgia AAA

Sharon Henderson, Kaiser Permanente

### **Administrative Director:**

Abby Cox