



For the first time in 65 years, GGS will not hold an in-person annual conference. We are sad that we cannot celebrate with all of you in person but the safety of our attendees, exhibitors, presenters, and the older adults they serve are our priority. GGS has had to adapt throughout our history and 2020 is no different. We are pleased to continue our tradition of providing quality education to the aging network by continuing our conference in a virtual platform.

The theme for the 65th Annual GGS Conference is *Elect to Age Your Way: From Vision to Action*. Every Tuesday and Thursday from August 4th – October 1st, we will provide timely, innovative, and informative presentations to leave you inspired to improve the lives of older adults.

Registration

GGS would not have made it 65 years without the support of our members. As a thank you for your continued support, we are offering our virtual conference for free to members. Your dedication to improving the lives of older Georgians and those that care for them has never been so evident.

If you are not a member, we highly encourage you to join today! Not only will you gain access to our virtual conference but all of our other membership benefits as well, including, but not limited to:

- Access to the GGS Membership Directory
- Member Discounts for GGS Educational Events throughout the year
- Access to Previous GGS Webinars
- Access to the GGS Mentorship Program
- Access to GGS Scholarships
- Monthly GGS Connector Newsletter
- Networking Opportunities
- Guest Blogs on GGS Website
- Advocacy Updates
- Ability to Nominate Individuals for Awards and GGS Board Positions
- Voting Privileges

Membership Pricing:

- General Membership – \$60/year; \$160/3 years
- Retiree – \$25/year; \$65/3 years
- Student – \$25/year
- Organization (Non-Profit: includes 5 participants with eligible benefits) – \$200/year
- Organization (For-Profit: includes 5 participants with eligible benefits) – \$300/year

You can apply for membership [here](#).

Virtual Conference Registration Fees:

- GGS Member: Free
- Non-Member: \$75
- Student/Retiree/Virtual Conference Presenter: \$30

We are dedicated to making this virtual event affordable as we understand that many organizations have taken a financial hit and may not have funds for education right now. We are offering a limited number of scholarship registrations for those who are unable to afford to register but would benefit from attending. We ask that you reserve these registrations for those in need and purchase a registration if you are able. One-half of all registration funds collected for our scholarship fund to enhance our ability to support our older adult and student scholarship winners in future years. You will also have an opportunity to make a separate donation to this fund if you so choose. We appreciate your support in place of our annual silent auction.

Your registration includes live access to 18 presentations. We understand that you may not be able to attend each session live so you will also have access to the recording of each presentation for future viewing at your convenience. In addition, we will be hosting a virtual awards ceremony and a virtual annual meeting that will be free to all.

You can register [here](#). You will receive separate instructions to register for each live webinar after your conference registration is confirmed.

CEUs:

This activity/program is pending approval from the National Association of Social Workers- Georgia Chapter for 3 Related Hours (Opening and Closing Keynote Sessions). There will be a \$10 processing fee for all attendees requesting CEUs. CEUs will only be provided for the live broadcast and not the recordings. If the CEUs are not approved, this fee will be refunded.

Conference Sponsors

We would like to thank AARP Georgia for their Gold Level Sponsorship. We would also like to thank the Georgia State University Gerontology Institute and the Culture Change Network of Georgia for sponsoring our opening and closing keynote speakers.



GERONTOLOGY
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CULTURE CHANGE
Network of Georgia

Conference Tracks

Organizational Excellence: This track focuses on best practices to strengthen business operations and build professional capacity.

Medical/Mental Health: This track focuses on tools and resources for those who serve older adults in an outpatient or long-term care setting and highlights the challenges, resources, and innovative practices addressing the mental health needs of older adults.

Living with Dementia: This track focuses on empowering people living with dementia and their care partners to live more fully.

Advocacy and Ageism: This track focuses on approaches, innovations, and opportunities to combat ageism and advance advocacy.

Well-Being & Meaningful Engagement: This track focuses on best practices and programs being implemented to improve well-being and quality of life of older adults and caregivers/care partners.

Virtual Conference Outline

August 4, 2020	11:30 AM – 1:00 PM	Vision without Action is Only a Dream <i>Walter O. Coffey & G. David Sprowl</i>
August 6, 2020	11:30 AM – 12:30 PM	Keys to Community Engagement – What Happens When It's No Longer Safe to Drive? <i>Thom Snyder, Elizabeth Head & Cheryl Herrington</i>
August 11, 2020	11:30 AM – 12:30 PM	Intimate Connection & Sexuality in the Context of Dementia Disorders: Benefits, Risks, and the Role our Own Values Play <i>Dr. Regina Koepf</i>
August 13, 2020	11:30 AM – 12:30 PM	The Peach State's Dementia Plan: What's on Georgia's Mind? <i>Miles Hurley</i>
August 18, 2020	11:30 AM – 12:30 PM	Wisdom Project 2030 – Promoting Meaningful Engagement and Well-Being <i>Dr. Pamela Elfenbein, Carol Hanlon, Susan Cook Lahey & Jerry L. Butler</i>
August 20, 2020	11:30 AM – 12:30 PM	Building Resources for Person-Centered Care in Georgia's Nursing Homes <i>Dr. Jennifer Craft Morgan, Dr. Elisabeth Burgess, Kim McRae, Walter Coffey, Rose Marie Fagan</i>
August 25, 2020	11:30 AM – 12:30 PM	Why Evaluate? The Importance of Evaluation and Using Data to Tell Your Story <i>Alice Prendergast & Kristi Fuller</i>
August 27, 2020	11:30 AM – 12:30 PM	How to Be a Super Ager <i>Sharon A. Matthew</i>
September 1, 2020	11:30 AM – 12:30 PM	Lifelong Neuroplasticity: As Simple as Child's Play <i>Dr. Jaami Rutledge & Sandy Bramlett</i>
September 3, 2020	11:30 AM – 12:30 PM	Developing Age-Friendly Healthcare Providers to Optimize Health Outcomes for Older Adults <i>Dr. Susan W. Miller & Dr. Leslie Taylor</i>
September 8, 2020	11:30 AM – 12:30 PM	Your Piece of the Puzzle – Person-Centered Planning for Persons Living with Dementia <i>Aline Stone, Thom Snyder & Rebekah Davis</i>
September 10, 2020	11:30 AM – 12:30 PM	Learning by Listening: Service-Learning in Medical Education to Assess Community Needs <i>Eve Anthony, Julie K. Gaines, Megan Chesne & Lauren Slarks</i>
September 15, 2020	11:30 AM – 12:30 PM	Supported Decision Making: Autonomy for All <i>Dana Lloyd, Devon Orland & Becky Kurtz</i>

September 17, 2020	11:30 AM – 12:30 PM	Supporting Struggling Caregivers who are Caring for Family Members who have been Toxic or Abusive <i>Dr. Wendy Haus Hanevold</i>
September 22, 2020	11:30 AM – 12:30 PM	Technology in Aging: Combined Session <i>Brad Culp, John Butler & Jeffrey Hill</i>
September 24, 2020	11:30 AM – 12:30 PM	Nebraska: How to Have “The Good Life” with Dementia <i>Kelley Napier</i>
September 29, 2020	11:30 AM – 12:30 PM	Providing Care for the Dyad: MCI or Early-Stage Alzheimer’s Patients and their Care Partners <i>Mary Caldwell & Bailey Collette</i>
October 1, 2020	11:30 AM – 1:00 PM	Alzheimer’s Up Close and Personal: Alzheimer’s and Other Dementias from the Care Partner Perspective <i>Brian LeBlanc</i>

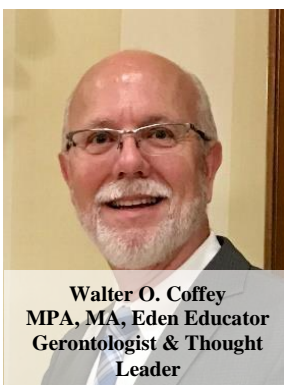
Session Descriptions

Opening Keynote

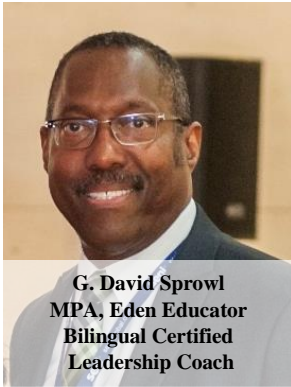
August 4, 2020

11:30 AM – 1:00 PM

Walter O. Coffey & G. David Sprowl, WD International Consulting



Walter and David are passionate about supporting and facilitating the growth and development of individuals, teams, and organizations through coaching, mentoring, and professional development. Building on knowledge and experiences gained through various senior management positions in almost every setting in our field, they utilize a variety of tools, materials, and resources to support individuals and organizations in addressing staff development and retention. They have spent their careers working in organizations and with people (staff and boards) who often propose to focus on excellence, however, have not been intentional in making the changes needed to achieve positive results. With over thirteen years’ experience in developing and facilitating a statewide leadership academy as well as certifying over 800 new Eden Alternative Associates, they are aware of the gaps in individual development and the implementation of new practices. This is especially true when tied to an organization’s ability to embrace person-centered, innovative transformation.



Keynote – Vision without Action is Only a Dream

Walter and David will share how they have elected to age their own way. They created a vision for their personal and professional lives and then set about putting it into action. Intentionality has been a driving force in guiding their actions toward successfully reaching their goals. One of the aspects of their vision was to pursue their passion for working in the field of aging. It propelled them to excel at improving the lives of older adults and those working with them.

Along the journey, they discovered meaningful opportunities to grow through the works of such thought leaders as the pioneers who created Pioneer Network, Jim Collins in Good to Great, Daniel Goleman in Emotional Intelligence, Marshall Goldsmith in What Got you Here Wont' Get you There, Stephen Covey in See-Do-Get, and many others. Ultimately, without action, vision really does remain a dream. We must have a vision of what is possible – then actively bring our best selves forward to make it a reality.

Learning Objectives:

1. Attendees will be able to identify personal strategies in creating a vision for their careers.
2. Attendees will understand how to incorporate wisdom from thought leaders into fulfilling their visions.
3. Attendees will be able to identify approaches and resources that organizations can use to support staff development.

Keys to Community Engagement - What Happens When It's No Longer Safe to Drive?

August 6, 2020

11:30 AM – 12:30 PM

Thom Snyder, GA DHS Division of Aging Services
Elizabeth Head, GA DPH Injury Prevention Section
Cheryl Herrington, GA Department of Human Services

Medical/Mental Health Track

By 2025, motor vehicle crashes will account for the second leading cause of unintentional injury deaths among older adults in Georgia. This presentation will discuss the implications for older adults when driving is no longer safe and resources to support their continued engagement in the community.

Learning Objectives:

1. Attendees will be able to describe the connection between driving, independence, and health.
2. Attendees will be able to identify resources available to help identify safety issues related to older drivers.
3. Attendees will be able to identify resources available to support older adults to remain engaged.

Intimate Connection & Sexuality in the Context of Dementia Disorders: Benefits, Risks, and the Role our Own Values Play

August 11, 2020

11:30 AM – 12:30 PM

Dr. Regina Koepp, Atlanta VA Medical Center & Emory University School of Medicine Department of Psychiatry & Behavioral Sciences

Living with Dementia Track

People with dementia disorders experience a decline in functioning, but often maintain a need for intimate connection. This workshop will discuss sexuality, intimacy, and dementia disorders. It will review risks and benefits of intimacy, complicating factors, and the role values play when determining appropriateness of intimate connections.

Learning Objectives:

1. Attendees will be able to discuss the benefits and risks of intimate & sexual connection in an older adult population with dementia disorders.
2. Attendees will be able to summarize complicating factors related to individuals living with dementia who are engaging in intimate behaviors.
3. Attendees will be able to assess their own values related to older adults with major neurodegenerative disorders (i.e., dementia) wishing to engage in intimate connection.

The Peach State's Dementia Plan: What's on Georgia's Mind

August 13, 2020

11:30 AM – 12:30 PM

Miles Hurley, JD, CELA, Hurley Elder Care Law

Living with Dementia Track

Alzheimer's disease and related dementias are a looming national public health crisis. We will explore the programs, services, and policies that have been implemented to diagnose, treat, care for, and protect our residents with dementia. Mr. Hurley will discuss what Georgia is doing well, areas that need improvement, and how the private sector, public sector, and academia can best work together to meet the needs of this growing population.

Learning Objectives:

1. Attendees will be able to identify three ways Georgia is improving access to diagnosis and treatment of dementia.
2. Attendees will be able to know what GARD stands for and two things they are doing in Georgia.
3. Attendees will be able to describe two ways that Georgia can improve dementia care in our state.

Wisdom Project 2030 – Promoting Meaningful Engagement and Well-Being

August 18, 2020

11:30 AM – 12:30 PM

Pamela Elfenbein, MSW, PhD, HS-BCP, UNG Academic Gerontology Programs & Center for Healthy Aging
Carol Hanlon, Wisdom Project 2030, Inc.
Susan Cook Lahey, BULLI at Brenau University, Wisdom Project 2030
Jerry L. Butler, Retired

Well-Being & Meaningful Engagement Track

Wisdom Project 2030, Inc. prepares older adults to use their wisdom and talents in creative ways through action and advocacy. Program participants engage with community leaders in a dynamic, multi-faceted educational program exploring local issues and opportunities. Program graduates identify, encourage, and oversee projects and the annual Wisdom Project program delivery.

Learning Objectives:

1. Attendees will be able to discuss the development of a grass-roots initiative to create an independent organization preparing individuals age 55 and wiser to creatively use their wisdom and talents to benefit the community through action and advocacy.
2. Attendees will be able to determine the feasibility for replication of the initiative in their own communities.
3. Attendees will be able to engage older adults in educational, action, and advocacy programs and initiatives.

Building Resources for Person-Centered Care in Georgia’s Nursing Homes

August 20, 2020

11:30 AM – 12:30 PM

Dr. Jennifer Craft Morgan & Dr. Elisabeth Burgess, Georgia State University, Gerontology Institute
Kim McRae, Have a Good Life
Walter Coffey, WD International Consulting
Rose Marie Fagan, Culture Change Network of Georgia
(Co-Author: Joan Carson)

Organizational Excellence Track

This workshop: a) overviews findings from the statewide survey, b) reviews resources available to support person-centered care and culture change and c) shares the stories of organizations who have used these resources to improve their own organizations. Participants will be tasked to identify priority projects and plans for change implementation.

Learning Objectives:

1. Attendees will be able to identify ways to give residents more choice within their daily lives.
2. Attendees will be capable of using educational resources such as short videos and learning modules to support skills development among their staff.
3. Attendees will leave with a project plan that identifies change priorities for their own organization.

Why Evaluate? The Importance of Evaluation and Using Data to Tell Your Story

August 25, 2020

11:30 AM – 12:30 PM

Alice Prendergast, MPH & Kristi Fuller, MSW, Georgia Health Policy Center, Georgia State University

Organizational Excellence Track

The capacity to collect, analyze, utilize, and share data about programs and services is critical to ensuring quality and access, and is increasingly necessary for securing partnerships and funding opportunities. This session will focus on practical data and evaluation strategies that can benefit members of the aging network.

Learning Objectives:

1. Attendees will gain knowledge of the types of data and data collection methods used to evaluate social service programs.
2. Attendees will be able to identify potential objectives for data collection and practical applications for results.
3. Attendees will be able to identify strategies they can use to incorporate data collection within their own organizations.

How to Be a Super Ager

August 27, 2020

11:30 AM – 12:30 PM

Sharon A. Matthew, Caron Treatment Centers Older Adult Program

Living with Dementia Track

This presentation will describe and explain what it means to be a super ager, both cognitively and physically. It will include information from the Harvard Study on Super Aging. There will be information on the barriers to becoming a super ager, such as addiction, mental health, trauma, stress, sadness, grief, negativity and chronic pain.

Learning Objectives:

1. Attendees will be able to describe what is Super Aging.
2. Attendees will be able to cite what gets in the way of being a Super Ager.
3. Attendees will be able to discuss and apply what it takes to be a Super Ager and what will enhance an Older Adults wellbeing and give purpose and quality of life.

Lifelong Neuroplasticity: As Simple as Child's Play

September 1, 2020

11:30 AM – 12:30 PM

Dr. Jaami L.M. Rutledge, DNP, MSN, APRN & Sandy Bramlett, M.Ed., Ageless Grace®

Medical/Mental Health and Well-Being & Meaningful Engagement Tracks

Neuroplasticity is the key to lifelong brain and body fitness. Enhancing the brain and bodies' innate ability to change is expedited and maintained more fully when done through play. Experience & understand the cognitive and physical benefits of neuroplasticity with simple child's play.

Learning Objectives:

1. Attendees will be able to describe neuroplasticity and its relationship to physical & cognitive function.
2. Attendees will be able to list the 5 basic functions of the brain that affect aging.
3. Attendees will be able to articulate how movement affects brain health.

Developing Age-Friendly Healthcare Providers to Optimize Health Outcomes for Older Adults

September 3, 2020

11:30 AM – 12:30 PM

Dr. Susan W. Miller & Dr. Leslie Taylor, Mercer University
(Co-Authors: David Taylor, PT, DPT, and Jennifer de la Cruz, PA.)

Organizational Excellence Track

Strategies for training age-friendly healthcare providers will be presented, including integration of foundational aspects of the four pillars of the age-friendly framework - Mobility, Medication, Mentation, and What Matters - into each healthcare visit. In order for clinicians to practice and participate in the delivery of age-friendly care, they must be trained in an age-friendly manner.

Learning Objectives:

1. Attendees will be able to define age-friendly healthcare.
2. Attendees will be able to describe the components of the "4 M's" approach.
3. Attendees will be able to identify how value-based care enhances health outcomes.

Your Piece of the Puzzle – Person-Centered Planning for Persons Living with Dementia

September 8, 2020

11:30 AM – 12:30 PM

Aline Stone & Thom Snyder, GA DHS Division of Aging Services

Rebekah Davis, Alzheimer's Association, GA Chapter

Living with Dementia and Organizational Excellence Tracks

There are more than 150,000 persons living with dementia in Georgia and 533,000 care partners supporting them. This presentation will explore best practices for person-centered care with these care partners and explore person-centered care within the context of the aging network.

Learning Objectives:

1. Attendees will be able to list the ten signs of dementia.
2. Attendees will be able to develop a working knowledge of the dementia statistics in Georgia and implications for practice.
3. Attendees will be able to describe how to implement at least three of the dementia care recommendations in their everyday practice.

Learning by Listening: Service-Learning in Medical Education to Assess Community Needs

September 10, 2020

11:30 AM – 12:30 PM

Eve Anthony, Athens Community Council on Aging

Julie K. Gaines, MLIS, AHIP, Megan Chesne, MS, & Lauren Slarks, AU-UGA Medical Partnership

Medical/Mental Health and Organizational Excellence Tracks

For ten years, ACCA and the Augusta University/UGA Medical Partnership have collaborated to provide community-based, service-learning experiences for medical students. ACCA staff and AU/UGA faculty will discuss the purpose and design of the collaboration and medical students will present their findings from a 2-year project identifying unmet needs of homebound older adults.

Learning Objectives:

1. Attendees will be able to identify how shared outcomes can enable organizations serving older adults and academic institutions to build mutually-beneficial partnerships.
2. Attendees will be able to describe how community-based teaching methods of social determinants of health benefit the medical student, patient and the community.
3. Attendees will be able to utilize the medical students' key findings related to social, environmental and health needs to better serve community dwelling older adults.

Supported Decision Making: Autonomy for All

September 15, 2020

11:30 AM – 12:30 PM

Dana Lloyd & Devon Orland, JD, Georgia Advocacy Office

Becky Kurtz, JD, Atlanta Regional Commission

Advocacy & Ageism Track

Supported decision making is a pro-active tool that enables people experiencing a variety of disabilities to direct their lives. This concept can be used to support older adults with memory and cognitive impairments to maintain autonomy and dignity. Professionals and informal supporters alike can use these principles to support people throughout their lifespan.

Learning Objectives:

1. Attendees will be able to recognize 3 benefits seniors experience when supported to retain decision making control.
2. Attendees will be able to identify 2 principles of Supported Decision Making and their impact on people who need decisional support and 2 harms associated with guardianship.
3. Attendees will be able to identify a variety of strategies available to help older adults maintain decisional autonomy.

Supporting Struggling Caregivers who are Caring for Family Members who have been Toxic or Abusive

September 17, 2020

11:30 AM – 12:30 PM

Dr. Wendy Haus Hanevold, Private Practice

Medical/Mental Health Track

Research indicates that providing care to someone who created a toxic family environment in the past due to mental illness, addiction and/or abuse increases the risk of physical and mental health of the caregiver. Learn how to identify these caregivers and provide resources and support to help them make wise decisions moving forward.

Learning Objectives:

1. Attendees will be able to describe research and theory of the impact on physical and mental health when developmental trauma and ongoing complex trauma and old wounds are re-triggered by care taking an adult who did not care for the caregiver.
2. Attendees will be able to discuss how to identify caregivers in these situations.
3. Attendees will learn how to become a support to these caregivers and be given resources to share with their clients/patients.

Technology and Aging Combined Session

September 22, 2020

11:30 AM – 12:30 PM

Medical/Mental Health and Well-Being & Meaningful Engagement Tracks

How Remote Monitoring Technology Will Benefit Seniors and Care Teams

Jeffrey Hill, Remote Home Check & OnePoint Senior Care

Did you know that hospital readmissions within 30 days after discharge are commonplace among elderly patients? According to the National Center for Biotechnology Information (NCBI), not only is this the case, but literally billions of dollars can be saved if hospital readmissions were simply reduced. How can we accomplish this care cost savings? What if technology helped reduce preventable readmissions by 5 or even 10%? Are there other benefits in addition to decreased care costs?

Learning Objectives:

1. Attendees will be able to state what percentage of hospital readmissions will directly result in \$1 billion of Medicare savings?
2. Attendees will be able to list the two Medicare reimbursements for resident ADL monitoring technology.
3. Attendees will be able to describe who is affected by the caregiver cliff effect.

Innovative Solutions: Harnessing Technology to Keep Seniors Safe at Home

Brad Culp, CSA & John Butler, CSA Griswold Home Care of Atlanta

Technology to facilitate care, reduce errors, and improve decision-making in the home is becoming more prevalent. This presentation will provide a thoughtful discussion on how integrating technology into practice can improve senior comfort, safety, and well-being; an overview of the cutting-edge technology being used in improving the care environment; and a proposal on how technology can facilitate aging in place through Circle of Care collaboration.

Learning Objectives:

1. Attendees will be able to summarize the factors influencing a senior's ability to age in place.
2. Attendees will be able to name two risks that can impact the safety of seniors in their homes.
3. Attendees will be able to identify three ways that technology can increase the well-being of seniors aging in place.

Nebraska: How to Have “The Good Life” with Dementia

September 24, 2020

11:30 AM – 12:30 PM

Kelley Napier, JD, Brannon Napier Elder Law, LLC

Advocacy & Ageism and Living with Dementia Tracks

Using the Motion Picture "Nebraska," Elder Law attorney Kelley Napier will guide participants through Woody's story and offer thoughtful guidance on guardianship and conservatorship, eligibility guidelines for VA benefits, and elder abuse prevention resources and tools

Learning Objectives:

1. Attendees will be able to list the different levels of the VA Improved Pension.
2. Attendees will be able to describe the legal standard for Guardianship and Conservatorship.
3. Attendees will be able to identify two scams that prey on vulnerable seniors.

Providing Care for the Dyad: MCI or Early-Stage Alzheimer's Patients and their Care Partners

September 29, 2020

11:30 AM – 12:30 PM

Mary Caldwell, Alzheimer's Association, GA Chapter & Bailey Collette, UGA Institute of Gerontology

Living with Dementia and Medical/Mental Health Tracks

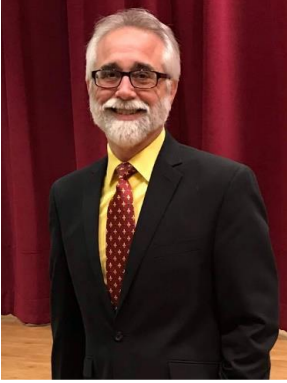
This informative presentation presents implications for practice regarding multidomain interventions during the early stages of mild cognitive impairment (MCI), or early-stage Alzheimer's that may improve quality of life for patients and their care partners. Participants will be introduced to participants and facilitators in the Alzheimer's Association Virtual "Carpe Diem" Early Stage Program through interaction with current members and video clips that showcase the evidence-based program offered in Atlanta and Athens.

Learning Objectives:

1. Attendees will be able to understand the importance of providing interventions for the care partner dyad in the early stages of dementia.
2. Attendees will be able to identify evidence-based lifestyle interventions to reduce risk and improve quality of life in care partner dyads.
3. Attendees will be better prepared to plan and produce virtual and other programming to benefit early stage care partner dyads.

Closing Keynote
October 1, 2020
11:30 AM – 1:00 PM

Brian LeBlanc, International Dementia Advocate



Brian LeBlanc is originally from New Orleans, LA and now makes his home in Largo, FL. It was in Pensacola, FL where he found his niche in the professional world as a Marketing and Public Relations Executive. All that changed in October of 2014 when he was diagnosed with Younger-Onset Alzheimer’s Disease, thus becoming the 4th generation in his family to receive this diagnosis. In June 2019, he was also diagnosed with Vascular Dementia. Being he made a career by using his voice, he knew he HAD to use it now to Advocate and Educate for Persons Living with Dementia and their Care Partners. He does this also to honor his Mother who died with Alzheimer’s disease.

LeBlanc is now an International Alzheimer’s Advocate, Keynote Speaker, Session Presenter / Panelist and Congressional Alzheimer’s Ambassador for the Alzheimer’s Association. He speaks at International, National, Regional and Local Conferences, Seminars and Workshops. He is also a Crisis Intervention Team Trainer for Law Enforcement.

LeBlanc’s presentation provides a window into the journey of a “regular guy” from a “regular life” who is living with a progressive, disabling, degenerative brain disease. He speaks from the heart leaving his audience with the truest perspective he can give.

**Keynote - Alzheimer’s Up Close and Personal:
Alzheimer’s and Other Dementias from the Care Partner Perspective**

Many people, even aging professionals, think that a diagnosis of Alzheimer’s or other dementias is the end of the road or the end of opportunities to have a socially engaged and fulfilling life. Dr. Maya Angelou said, “When we know better, we do better!” Brian and Maureen start the conversation that they hope will begin the audience member’s journey knowing better from a lived experience perspective. Brian was diagnosed with Alzheimer’s in 2014. Maureen joined him as his Care Partner as well as Life Partner in 2019. Together, they hope to use their personal experiences to educate and advocate for person-centered approach to living well with dementia for both people living with dementia and their care partners in a guilt-free, life-enhancing, and sometimes humorous and musical manner.

Learning Objectives:

1. Attendees will develop empathy and understanding for people living with dementia and their care partners.
2. Attendees will understand stigma and its consequences for people living with dementia.
3. Attendees will be able to identify strategies to reduce stigma and empower people in their communities to live more fully with dementia.