2017 Forum on Aging in Rural Oregon

2017 SPEAKER ROSTER

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KRIS BOLER
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Kris spent the last 1.5 years as a Long Term Care Innovator Agent. As such she has worked through many complex case meetings. She is a member of multiple interdisciplinary teams and committees to improve patient outcomes, service delivery & education. Kris joined GOBHI in November 2015.

She hopes that her biggest accomplishment in the next ten years will be to play an integral role in truly integrating behavioral health, physical health and long term care in Oregon.

TINA CASTAÑARES, MD
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Tina Castañares, MD is a retired physician who practiced family medicine for over 25 years, rural public health for 12 years, and hospice and palliative care medicine for over a decade. She lives in Hood River county and now is the volunteer convener of a grassroots advocacy organization called the Aging in the Gorge Alliance. Tina has done health policy work throughout her career, helped in the original development of the Oregon Health Plan, served on the Board of Trustees of the American Hospital Association and chaired the Board of Directors of the Northwest Health Foundation, and has been involved in the social determinants of health, federally qualified health center development, advocacy for community health workers as a profession, immigrants’ rights and health ethics.

CLAIRE CULBERTSON
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Claire currently serves on the Volunteers-in-Action Providence Hospital Advisory Board, and is a member of the Aging in the Gorge Alliance.

For the past 18 years Claire has worked in the field of aging and caregiving, providing training and education throughout the State of Wisconsin. She also served as Midwest Volunteer Director of Education and Outreach for ShareTheCaregiving, Inc. Claire received her Master’s Degree in Public Health, Health Promotion Division, from San Diego State University, San Diego, California. She and her husband moved to Hood River in 2015, where they now reside.
ROD HARWOOD, MDIV, MA, BCC
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Rod Harwood, is an Older Adult Behavioral Health Specialist with GOBHI. He has 28 years healthcare experience providing clinical support in hospital, mental health and hospice settings for. He has a M.Div. and a MA in Education, specializing in counseling. He did his thesis work in grief recovery. He had served in the role of a board certified clinical chaplain and as Director of Mission Services at CHI St. Anthony Hospital & Hospice in Pendleton, Oregon. In this role he facilitated patient/family conferences, provided crisis, life transition and grief counseling. He also established contracts and developed chaplaincy programs for two Oregon State mental health facilities in the community. During his last seven years at St. Anthony he chaired the Clinical Ethics Committee which focused extensively on educating the public and providers on issues relating to second half and end of life care. He produced the play VESTA, which followed the life of an elderly woman, transitioning from independence, assisted living to hospice care. Afterward, led a discussion with the audience in a dialogue of end of life issues. He brought Palliative Care education to local providers, and Conversation Ready for advance directives education to community meetings.

Rod has done extensive work in the area of Healthy Communities over the last several years with extensive community engagement and coalition building, working with community partners to address the health needs of the community. He chaired the EOCCO Umatilla County Advisory Council and initiated the start of both the Pendleton and Milton-Freewater Community Health Partnership, chairing the former. He led the community partners in these coalitions in the completion of comprehensive county-wide community health assessments for both Umatilla and Morrow Counties. This included assessing the health of the Latino and American Indian populations.

Rod is married to Kim, a second grade teacher. They have three children, who have all graduated from college. They live in Pendleton, where he enjoys drinking good coffee and coaching elementary and middle school cross country.

MARCY HOULE
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Marcy Cottrell Houle is a professional wildlife biologist and award-winning author of four books and numerous articles for The New York Times, LA Times, Reader’s Digest, Nature Conservancy Magazine, among others. Her book Wings for My Flight: The Peregrine Falcons of Chimney Rock, and her newest book, The Gift of Caring: Saving Our Parents from the Perils of Modern Healthcare, have each won the national Christopher Award, for “books that affirm the highest values of the human spirit.” Her work has also received the Oregon Book Award, Booklist Editor’s Choice, Publisher’s Weekly starred reviews, and New York City Library Best Books. The Prairie Keepers: Secrets of the Zumwalt was selected as New York Times Notable Reading and NYT’s Best Books for Earth Day. Marcy lives with her family on a farm on Sauvie’s Island, near Portland, Oregon.

SARAH KAGAN, PHD, RN
Lucy Walker Honorary Term Professor of Gerontological Nursing
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Sarah H. Kagan is the Lucy Walker Honorary Term Professor of Gerontological Nursing at Penn and Gerontological Clinical Nurse Specialist at the Living Well Program at the Joan Karpell Supportive Care Program for the Abramson Cancer Center at the Pennsylvania Hospital. She is currently holds several international appointments in Nursing and in Public Health including Visiting Professor at the School of Nursing and Midwifery, University College Dublin; Honorary Professor at Queen Margaret University in Edinburgh; Adjunct Professor at the American University of Armenia; Visiting Professor at the Oxford Brookes University Faculty of Health and Life Sciences; and Honorary Professor in Public Health and in Nursing at the University of Hong Kong.
Professor Kagan is Editor in Chief of the International Journal of Older People Nursing http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/journal/10.1111/(ISSN)1748-3743. She serves on the Editorial Boards of four journals – Cancer Nursing, Geriatric Nursing, Research in Gerontological Nursing, and PTJ: Physical Therapy. Additionally, Professor Kagan writes regularly for the lay press as a contributor to Calkins Media, authoring the monthly column Myths of Aging for newspaper and online content.

Professor Kagan’s education and training includes a Bachelor of Arts in Behavioral Science from the University of Chicago, a Bachelor of Science in Nursing from Rush University, and a Master's Degree in Gerontological Nursing and a PhD from the University of California San Francisco. Since arriving at the University of Pennsylvania some two decades ago, Professor Kagan has focused her scholarship in undergraduate nursing education, care of older people, and qualitative research. She currently directs the University of Pennsylvania Benjamin Franklin Scholars in Nursing Program and two clinically-based undergraduate international exchange programs in nursing – one in the United Kingdom and one in Australia.

In addition, Professor Kagan teaches short term study abroad for the University of Pennsylvania in partnership with the University of Hong Kong. Professor Kagan maintains an active program of clinical scholarship and practice in gero-oncology which serves as a wellspring for her clinical pedagogy and anchors her understanding of the clinician-patient relationship as well as provision nursing care. Professor Kagan’s work is acknowledged nationally and internationally as innovative, sophisticated, and clinically relevant. She is a fellow of the Gerontological Society of America and the American Academy of Nursing.

Among the awards she has received for her practice, research, and teaching are the Sigma Theta Tau International Founders Award for Excellence in Nursing Practice and the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Fellowship. Professor Kagan received an Honorary Doctorate of Science from Oxford Brookes University in June 2013.

CHERYL MILLER
Executive Director
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Cheryl Miller, Executive Director of the Oregon Home Care Commission, has a history of working to improve the lives of others. After graduating from San Diego State University with a Bachelor’s of Science in Business administration, she began her career in the area of mortgage banking. She later moved closer to her passion to serve others, when she accepted the director position at a non-profit organization that provided support and services for pregnant and parenting teens. For nearly 17 years, she has been involved in all facets of providing services to seniors and people with disabilities in the State of Oregon. Cheryl has been in her role as the Executive Director of the Oregon Home Care Commission for almost 11 years. In her role she works directly with consumer-employers, families, homecare and personal support workers, the Department of Human Services Aging & People with Disabilities and Office of Developmental Disability Services, Union workers and leaders, advocates, partners and stakeholders.
MARGARET NEAL, PHD
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Margaret B. Neal, Ph.D., is Director of the Institute on Aging and Professor of Urban Studies at Portland State University, teaching graduate courses in gerontology, survey design and data collection, and global aging. She led Portland’s participation in the 2006-07 World Health Organization’s Global Age-Friendly Cities project and has co-ordinated the Age-Friendly Portland and Multnomah County initiatives since then, speaking locally, nationally and internationally and authoring several articles and book chapters on the topic of age-friendly communities. She and her husband, David Leckey, live between Wilsonville and Newberg at their tree nursery, Oregon Small Trees.

BONNIE NEW
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JOEL PELAYO
Lead Health Promoter
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Joel Pelayo was born in Jalisco and raised in Colima, Mexico and moved to Hood River County in 1990. He has been a Family Services Coordinator with Mid-Columbia Children’s Council for 19 years and a Community Health Promoter for 25 years providing education prevention of chronic diseases and Domestic Violence Education and treatment for Latino Men for 20 years.

He is involved in Community Events Planning, Leadership Trainings, HIV, Alcohol, Pesticides Outreach, Health Education, Community Information Fair, and Trainings on Popular Education to other Community Health Promoters.

DELORES PIGSLEY
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JULIE REYNOLDS, PHD
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Julie S. Reynolds, Ph.D., grew up on a ranch in Sherman County, and now lives in The Dalles, where she works as a consulting gerontologist. Her educational background is in lifelong developmental and social psychology, with an interest in solving problems that arise as people age. She has worked as a health services researcher and evaluation specialist, and has served on boards in the area of medical ethics, developmental disabilities, and aging services. She is interested in how people provide social support during chronic illness and how mental health services are delivered to older persons who live in rural areas.

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DERENDA SCHUBERT, PHD
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Bridge Meadows, Executive Director, Dr. Derenda Schubert, a licensed psychologist with extensive professional experience counseling children and families and creating, managing, and evaluating foster care, mental health and developmental disability programs in Chicago and Portland. Additionally, she has served as the Chief Operating Officer of Trillium Family Services and a Board Member of Bridge Meadows. Dr. Schubert is an intergenerational champion, leading the team that created Bridge Meadows, advocating nationally for intergenerational solutions to complex social challenges, spearheading strategic planning and shaping Bridge Meadows’ expansive vision for the future. Under Dr. Schubert’s leadership, Bridge Meadows has received national recognition by the National Home Builders Association, named an Angel in Adoption TM by Senator Wyden, recognized as the 2014 award winner for the Intergenerational Excellence Prize by The Eisner Foundation, and recognized as one of Oregon’s Most Admired Non-profits. Dr. Schubert serves as Secretary of the Oregon Volunteers Commission. Dr. Schubert, a graduate of Purdue University and received her Doctorate from DePaul University, Chicago, IL. Dr. Schubert’s passion for making the world better for children, families, and elders, and the power of a community is inspired by her own children and the love of her grandmothers.

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VERIAN WEDEKING
Outreach Program Administrator
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Verian Wedeking is the Program Administrator for the OHSU Casey Eye Institute Outreach Program, and in partnership with local agencies, operates a 33-foot fully outfitted mobile ophthalmology unit providing free medical vision exams at locations ranging from the state’s most remote corners to Portland’s urban core. Entirely donor funded, the Casey Outreach Program is staffed by volunteer eye doctors, technicians and support staff. With a background in graduate medical education administration, project management, healthcare volunteer management and diversity affairs, Verian joined the outreach team in December 2015. Verian has been at OHSU for 10 years and in his previous positions at the university has worked to support the university’s diversity and accessibility initiatives by implementing programs and services to better serve underrepresented students, faculty and staff. Additionally, having managed and developed the healthcare volunteer programs at OHSU, he is very excited to have the opportunity to work with clinical and non-clinical volunteers to reduce incidences of preventable eye disease. In 2005, after earning a bachelor’s degree in Political Science, Verian and his family moved to Portland from San Diego. When not out on the road with the Casey Outreach Volunteer Team, Verian enjoys spending time with his wife, daughter, homebrewing, and exploring the Pacific Northwest.
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Diana White works on a variety of workforce development and evaluation projects. Most recently, she and her colleagues participated in the development of the Older Adult Behavioral Health Initiative, including development of training materials targeting different audiences including primary care providers, aging services and behavioral service providers, and members of the general community. The Institute on Aging is currently conducting an evaluation of the Initiative.

ANNA WILLIAMS, MSW
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Ms. Williams is a social worker from Hood River, OR. She received her Master’s Degree in Administrative Social Work from the University of Kansas in 2005. Anna gets excited about creating partnerships between people or agencies, community building, popular education, and being a good neighbor. Having lived and worked in rural communities her whole life, Anna sees opportunities to create rural service delivery models which use the strengths we have developed through living in the country. She lives with her husband, two children, two dogs, and more outdoor gear than a family of four can justify owning.

CAROLINE WOOD
Director
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Caroline Wood is a Gerontologist recently transferring from rural Minnesota. She has eight years of experience serving in Area Agencies on Aging as a Board of Directors member, Strategic Planning Committee Member, and Director for Rural Planning and Services Areas. She is a retired USAF, Air Traffic Controller and enjoys bringing a new perspective to the field while being a passionate advocate for older adults.