

# 2017 Forum on Aging in Rural Oregon

## SPEAKER ROSTER

### **Jon Bartholomew**

Director, Government Relations  
AARP Oregon  
(503) 333-7002  
jbartholomew@aarp.org

Jon Bartholomew is the Government Relations Director for AARP Oregon. Prior to taking this position in 2014, he had been the Public Policy Director at the Alzheimer's Association Oregon Chapter, where he coordinated the creation of the State Plan for Alzheimer's Disease in Oregon. He has worked in public policy for 20 years, working on issues from after school program funding to media reform. Originally from Pennsylvania, he earned his Masters in Public Administration at the University of Washington.

### **Donna Becker, MSW**

Palliative Care Social Worker  
PeaceHealth Peace Harbor Medical Center  
(541) 902-6734  
dbecker@peacehealth.org

Donna Becker graduated with a Bachelor of Social Work degree from Moorhead State University in Minnesota. She has been working in the field of Medical Social Work ever since. She went back to graduate school in 2013 and graduated with a Master of Social Work degree in June 2016. Donna has been employed in the field of hospice for 10 years. She accepted the Palliative Care Social Work position in December 2016.

### **Kris Boler**

Older Adult Behavioral Health Manager  
Greater Oregon Behavioral Health  
(541) 380-1923  
kris.boler@gobhi.net

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.

### **Dave Brehaut**

# 2017 Forum on Aging in Rural Oregon

## SPEAKER ROSTER

Districts 9 and 12 Manager, Aging and People with Disabilities  
Department of Human Services  
david.brehaut@dhsosha.state.or.us

### **Claire Culbertson, MPH**

Advisory Board Member  
Volunteers-in-Action/Providence Hood River Memorial Hospital  
(608) 513-2297  
claireculbertson@gmail.com

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**

Older Adult Behavioral Health Specialist  
Greater Oregon Behavioral Health  
(541) 969-2129  
rod.harwood@gobhi.net

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

# 2017 Forum on Aging in Rural Oregon

## SPEAKER ROSTER

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**

Biologist & Author  
 (503) 222-5455  
[newmoonfarms@gmail.com](mailto:newmoonfarms@gmail.com)

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  
 University of Pennsylvania  
 (215) 898-1316  
[skagan@nursing.upenn.edu](mailto:skagan@nursing.upenn.edu)

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 Karnell 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

# 2017 Forum on Aging in Rural Oregon

## SPEAKER ROSTER

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](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.

### Stephen Kerner, DO

Physician

PeaceHealth Peace Harbor Medical Group

[skerner@peacehealth.org](mailto:skerner@peacehealth.org)

Dr. Stephen Kerner graduated from the College of Osteopathic Medicine of the Pacific in Pomona, California. He attended 2 years of an Anatomic and Clinical Pathology Residency at Cedars-Sinai Medical Center in Los Angeles, California and then completed his Internship/Family Practice Residency at West Virginia Osteopathic School of Medicine at Alleghany Regional Hospital in Low Moor, Virginia. Dr. Kerner has been employed as an Attending Physician Family Practice with PeaceHealth Peace Harbor Medical Group since November 2006. He is a member of the American Medical Director Association, the American Osteopathic Association, the American College of Osteopathic Family Physicians, and the American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine Pain Society of Oregon.

Dr. Kerner was the Oregon Hospice Association Medical Director of the Year in 2013 and the Oregon Association of Home Care Physician of the Year in 2015.

# 2017 Forum on Aging in Rural Oregon

## SPEAKER ROSTER

### **Rachel Larive**

Senior Health Insurance Benefits Assistance Program (SHIBA)  
prlarive@msn.com

### **Cheryl Miller**

Executive Director  
Oregon Home Care Commission  
(503) 378-2733  
cheryl.m.miller@state.or.us

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.

### **Kristi Murphy**

Program Analyst  
Department of Human Services  
(503) 945-6181  
kristi.m.murphy@state.or.us

### **Margaret Neal, PhD**

Director and Professor  
Institute on Aging - PSU  
(503) 725-5145  
nealm@pdx.edu

# 2017 Forum on Aging in Rural Oregon

## SPEAKER ROSTER

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-coordinated 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, MD, MPH**

(541) 490-9919  
bnew1@live.com

Bonnie New is a retired physician who moved to Hood River in 2009. She now works as a community volunteer, particularly in the areas of age-friendly community, affordable housing, and political advocacy. Her public health education has been expanded immensely since retirement by Hood River's robust attention to social determinants of health and by exposure to the particular challenges of a rural environment.

### **Joel Pelayo**

Lead Health Promotor  
Nuestra Comunidad Sana/The Next Door  
(541) 399-7030  
joelp@nextdoorinc.org

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 (Siletz)**

Chair, Confederated Tribes of Siletz & Tribal Delegate  
National Indian Council on Aging  
dpigsley@msn.com

# 2017 Forum on Aging in Rural Oregon

## SPEAKER ROSTER

Delores (Dee) Pigsley, (Siletz), is the Tribal Chair of the Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians of Oregon. She has served in tribal leadership for nearly 40 years. Throughout this time, Delores has represented the best interests of her tribe with city, county, state, and federal officials. She has testified before Congress in support of adequate funding for native programs, and has worked vigorously for tribal sovereignty. She was a leading figure in the successful battle to repeal the 1954 federal statute terminating the Siletz nation, and a key individual responsible for the restoration of the tribe to sovereignty, and to vitality ever since. Because of Dee's leadership, a myriad of important services have been provided to her people, tribal citizens of the Siletz nation. She has continuously advocated for the development of tribal youth, culture, and history in an ongoing effort to ensure that Siletz traditions will continue in future generations.

As Tribal Chair, Delores has met with city, county, state, and federal officials to represent the tribe's position on many issues. She has negotiated agreements, testified before congressional hearings, and continuously advocated for adequate funding for Indian programs. Delores' efforts to build tribal sovereignty have resulted in improved law enforcement, housing, education, cultural resources, health care, and environmental and natural resources management.

Chair Pigsley has served as a member or delegate to the following: National Congress of American Indians, National Indian Council on Aging, Northwest Portland Area Indian Health Board, Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians, Oregon Commission on Indian Services, and the Chemawa Indian School Board, to name a few. Presently, she is one of the longest serving tribal chairs in the nation.

Delores Pigsley was born in Toledo, Oregon, the youngest of eight children. She lived and grew up at the Chemawa Indian School, where her parents were employed, graduating from North Salem High School. Delores began her career working for the Prudential Insurance Company, and retired in 1998 after 24 years of service with the federal government at the Social Security Administration in Salem.

### **Marvin Pohl, MSW, LCSW**

(503) 704-5651

m.pohl@mac.com

Most recently Marvin was the Deputy Director for the Mid-Columbia Council of Governments as well as the Director of the Region 9 Area Agency on Aging for the 5 County service area of Hood River, Wasco, Sherman, Gilliam and Wheeler Counties in the Columbia Gorge. Marvin has worked in the field of human services for over 25 years in a variety of capacities. He brings a wealth of knowledge/experience in operational management, Multi-cultural community development and entrepreneurial expertise. He has worked on public policy issues that have resulted in positive and creative solutions to complex community problems. Marvin graduated with an MSW from Portland State University Graduate School of Social Work, focusing on Child and Family Therapy, and completed 4 years' post Masters training in Multi-Generational Family Therapy. In addition, he served as Director of Ikoi No Kai, a Senior Program of the Japanese Ancestral Society, and helped

# 2017 Forum on Aging in Rural Oregon

## SPEAKER ROSTER

to develop a new Senior Nutrition site for Meals on Wheels People (formerly Loaves and Fishes in Portland). Marvin is also a Licensed Clinical Social Worker (LCSW).

### **Julie Reynolds, PhD**

Consulting Gerontologist  
(541) 965-0908  
julierey@charter.net

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.

### **Maria Antonia Sanchez**

Lead Community Health Worker  
Nuestra Comunidad Sana/The Next Door  
tonas@nextdoorinc.org

### **Derenda Schubert, PhD**

Executive Director  
Bridge Meadows  
(503) 863-7644  
dschubert@bridgemoadows.org

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



# 2017 Forum on Aging in Rural Oregon

## SPEAKER ROSTER

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.

### **Michelle Singer (Navajo)**

Project Manager, Center for Healthy Communities  
 OHSU-PSU School of Public Health  
 (503) 418-2199  
[singerm@ohsu.edu](mailto:singerm@ohsu.edu)

Michelle Singer is an enrolled tribal citizen of the Navajo Nation, and has over 25 years' experience in research, advocacy, and community engagement in Indian country. Her professional and personal background are strongly rooted in Indian health and education. She has worked at OHSU for 12 years. As a Senior Research Assistant in the OHSU-PSU School of Public Health, she is the Project Manager for the Center for Healthy Communities' Core Research Project, Native STAND (Students Together Against Negative Decisions) Dissemination, Implementation and Evaluation Project. The Center for Healthy Communities ([www.oregonprc.org](http://www.oregonprc.org)) at OHSU is Oregon's CDC-funded Prevention Research Center (PRC) addressing the health promotion and chronic disease prevention needs of AI/ANs, and other underserved communities. Prior to coming to OHSU, Michelle spent nearly a decade in the U.S. Senate as a policy advisor to former Senate Democratic Leader Tom Daschle (D-SD), Senate Committee on Indian Affairs Chairman Ben Nighthorse Campbell (R-CO), and Senator Ron Wyden (D-OR). Her work in Indian Education spans working with the American Indian Higher Education Consortium (AIHEC) tribal college movement and the Bureau of Indian Affairs-Indian Education arm for the following institutions: Salish Kootenai College on the Flathead Indian Reservation in Pablo, Montana; Northwest Indian College on the Lummi Indian Reservation in Bellingham, Washington; Chemawa Indian School, the oldest existing Federal Indian off-reservation boarding school in the nation.

### **Todd Steele, MPA**

Deputy State Long-Term Care Ombudsman  
 Office of the Long-Term Care Ombudsman  
 (541) 604-9583  
[todd.steele@ltco.state.or.us](mailto:todd.steele@ltco.state.or.us)

Todd Steele was born and raised in Tillamook, OR. He earned his Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration from Portland State University. Todd lived in Alaska for nearly 15 years where he was involved in many health and social policy endeavors. He was the State of Alaska Assistant State LTC Ombudsman and worked for many years for the Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority, including a detail with the joint Federal-State Denali

# 2017 Forum on Aging in Rural Oregon

## SPEAKER ROSTER

Commission addressing behavioral health concerns in Rural Alaska. Todd obtained his Master's Degree in Public Administration and subsequently developed the Beneficiary Projects Initiative while a member of The Foraker Group, the Alaska non-profit association. He currently is a Deputy State LTC Ombudsman, serving twelve central and eastern Oregon counties.

### **Mark Thomas, MDiv, BCC**

Providence Hood River Memorial Hospital  
mark.thomas@providence.org

### **Verian Wedeking**

Outreach Program Administrator  
OHSU Casey Eye Institute  
(503) 718-4952  
wedeking@ohsu.edu

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.

### **Diana White, PhD**

Senior Research Associate  
Institute on Aging, Portland State University  
(503) 753-7553  
dwhi@pdx.edu

# 2017 Forum on Aging in Rural Oregon

## SPEAKER ROSTER

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**

Program Coordinator, Volunteers in Action  
Providence Hood River Memorial Hospital  
(541) 387-6404  
[anna.williams3@providence.org](mailto:anna.williams3@providence.org)

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.