



Celebrating Our **43**<sup>rd</sup> Annual Meeting

**Annual Meeting and Conference**  
**NOVEMBER 2, 2023**


**M Hotel Buffalo • 2040 Walden Avenue • Buffalo NY**



**Balancing The Aging  
Landscape**

*Thank You* to our **SPONSORS** (pages 26-27)

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## 2023 Annual Meeting President's Message



I extend a warm welcome to everyone gathered at The M Hotel for our 43rd Annual Meeting and Conference. Fondly referred to as the Network, this esteemed association consistently brings together professionals in diverse aging-related fields. Given the growing aging population and the pressing need to deliver services to consumers efficiently and economically, our central strategy revolves around collaboration, education, and networking – these principles lie at the core of our mission.

To begin, I want to express my gratitude for the unwavering dedication shown by our board of directors and standing committees in organizing not only this event, but all the events held throughout the past year. In particular, there's one individual who deserves special recognition - our coordinator, Lisa Boron. Lisa has played a significant role in our success. Many of the insights I've gained stem from collaborating closely with her and delving into the intricacies of our organization. She has proven to be an invaluable asset to the Network as a whole.

Our standing committees: Communication, Education, Membership, Special Events and Networking are always looking for new members. Participation in committee work is a great way to get the most of your membership and be considered for a board position, if interested. Our board of directors is a working board, each committee is chaired by a board member. All members of the Nominating committee are board members.

I am privileged, during my inaugural year as President, to provide an update on the Network's status. We are an organization driven by our dedicated members and sustain ourselves solely through their membership dues. Financially, we are sound and have successfully retained our membership base. Member agencies have multiple avenues to showcase their organizations, such as hosting or co-hosting Network events, contributing articles or advertisements to our quarterly newsletter, displaying their logos as website links, or becoming sponsors of our annual meeting, January Social, educational workshops, or Progressive events. Our primary objective is to offer our members diverse opportunities to promote their agencies and gain exposure.

As a direct outcome of the membership survey, an ad hoc committee was established with the specific aim of undertaking strategic planning. The Network allocated funds and engaged the services of Kate Wehrmeyer with Optimal Flow Consulting to guide the strategic planning process. The committee has invested considerable effort over the past year and is now approaching the culmination of the Strategic Plan, which will soon be presented to the board for their endorsement. These strategic planning endeavors have proven to be productive and are poised to chart a well-defined course for the future of our organization.

I look forward to all that 2024 brings!

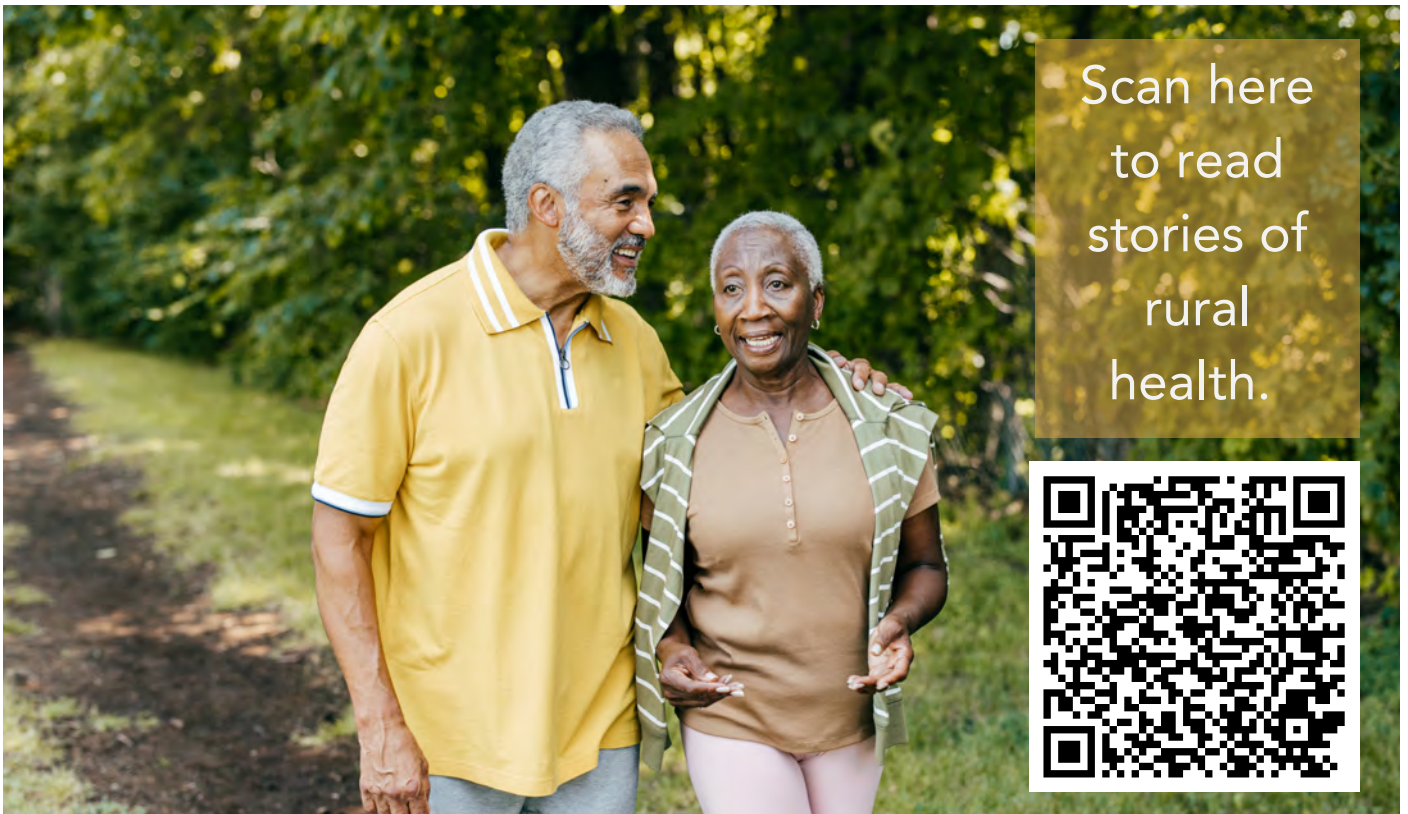
Sincerely,

*April Romanowski*

April Romanowski, President  
Network in Aging of Western New York, Inc.

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# NETWORK AGING

OF WESTERN NEW YORK, INC  
EST 1981



## 43<sup>rd</sup> Annual Meeting and Conference

NOVEMBER 2, 2023

### CONFERENCE AGENDA

#### “Balancing The Aging Landscape”

- |                          |  |
|--------------------------|--|
| <b>8:00-9:15 AM</b>      | Registration, continental breakfast, and networking  |
| <b>9:15-9:30 AM</b>      | Opening Remarks from April Romanowski<br>Network in Aging president                          |
| <b>9:30-10:45 AM</b>     | <b>KEYNOTE SPEAKER: Greg Olsen</b><br>Acting Director, NYS Office for the Aging              |
| <b>10:45-11:30 AM</b>    | <b>*** Networking Break ***</b>  |
| <b>11:30 AM-12:30 PM</b> | <b>SPEAKER: Nancy Weil</b><br>The LAUGH ACADEMY  |
| <b>12:30-2:00 PM</b>     | Luncheon<br>Annual Meeting<br>Award Presentations<br>Closing remarks<br>Basket raffle pickup |
| <b>2:00 PM</b>           | Conclusion   |



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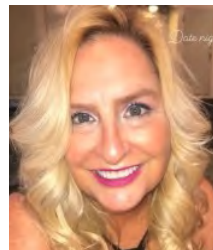
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*People Inc.*

**LYNN WESTCOTT**  
*Alzheimer's Association WNY Chapter*

### WELCOME NEW BOARD MEMBERS!



**Sharon Plant**  
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# **ANNOUNCEMENT**

## ***AGING WELL CARE MANAGEMENT recently acquired Geriatric Care Managers of WNY!***

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Michelle Spencer, CMC will serve as President of the practice and Beverly Kubala, RN, CCM will continue her role in the practice as a consulting partner. Sharon Costello, RN, MBA, CCM will remain the dedicated Medicaid liaison and Geriatric Care Manager within the practice. Andrea Kukoda will serve as the Office Administrator. We can continue to be reached at our office at 716-204-1063 or by calling 716-218-9717.



# NETWORK AGING

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## ABOUT OUR SPEAKERS



### GREG OLSEN

Acting Director, New York State Office for the Aging  
**Keynote speaker**

Greg Olsen is the acting director of the New York State Office for the Aging (NYSOFA). In this role, he is responsible for the development, implementation, and administration of programs and policies that help older New Yorkers and overseeing the administration of federal and state funded programs that assist more than 4.6 million older adults and 4+ million informal caregivers across New York State. Working with public and private partners at the state and local level, Greg is leading the effort to combat ageism, generalizations, and stereotypes about what aging is and demonstrating the value of not only the older population to their families, communities, and the state, but also the value of the network of aging services professionals in addressing social determinants of health and their role in helping older adults maintain their independence with dignity. Under Greg's leadership, many innovative projects have been launched to improve the lives of older adults and their families including combatting isolation, loneliness and depression, lifelong learning opportunities, innovative projects supporting working and non-working caregivers that are being replicated across the nation. He led NYS pandemic response efforts for older adults and he speaks regularly throughout New York State and across the nation about how New York frames aging and the way NY serves older New Yorkers.

With more than 30 years of experience in a variety of capacities serving older New Yorkers and their families, Greg served as chief of staff and legislative and policy director for Assemblyman Steve Englebright, former chair of the Assembly Standing Committee on Aging. He was the first executive director of the New York State Alliance for Retired Americans and served as executive director of the New York State Coalition for the Aging, a nonprofit membership organization representing more than 200 community-based organizations providing non-medical long-term care to the state's older adult population. He received his master's degree in social work with a specialty in gerontology from Syracuse University's Maxwell School.



### NANCY WEIL

Nancy Weil is the founder of The Laugh Academy and is a leading authority on the relationship between humor and grief, as well as effective tools for stress relief. She is the author of the book *If Stress Doesn't Kill You, Your Family Might*.

After becoming a Certified Laughter Leader in 2002 through the World Laughter Tour, Nancy has taken her passion for this unique craft to businesses and organizations, individuals and groups throughout the country. Having led the world's only laughter club held in a cemetery, Nancy knows how to bring the benefits of laughter to any situation.

Nancy has spent her career working at cemeteries and funeral homes as Director of Grief Support and holds certifications as a Grief Management Specialist, Grief Services Provider and Funeral Celebrant. Now she has broadened her work to support independent funeral homes around the world as Member Resources Director at the International Order of the Golden Rule. She also runs the Hope After Heartache grief support group on zoom reaching people across the country with her tools for tough times.



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Getting older looks different for each of us. Erie County Senior Services is focused on connecting you with local resources that meet your specific needs in effort to help you maintain or improve your quality of life. NY Connects is a free service that can link you to free health insurance counseling, activities, transportation, meal delivery, free fitness classes and more!



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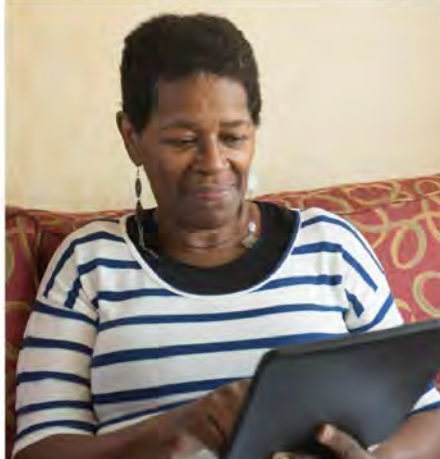


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# Thank You

Many thanks to the Network in Aging Education and Special Events Committee members for volunteering their time and talents in the planning of today's event. Their hard work and commitment to the Network is greatly appreciated each year.

## 43rd ANNUAL PLANNING COMMITTEES

### EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Co-Chairs – Mary Baty,  
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Charlie Battaglia  
Alison Case  
Angie Crawshaw  
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### SPECIAL EVENTS COMMITTEE

Co-chairs – Sharon Plant  
& Bonnie McMorrow

James Conley  
Tracy Reese

April Romanowski  
**PRESIDENT**

Lisa Boron  
**COORDINATOR**

**A big THANK YOU to our members and member agencies that donated to our basket raffle!**

#### Special thanks to:

Allegra Cheektowaga – design and printing services

Tina Sparling – photography

Encore Global – full-service technology and AV systems



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## 2023 RECIPIENT OF THE NETWORK IN AGING MERITORIOUS SERVICE AWARD

### Anne Binga

Hospice & Palliative Care Buffalo



The Network in Aging is proud to present the 2023 Evan Calkins Award for Meritorious Service to **Anne Binga** from **Hospice & Palliative Care of Buffalo**. Her background is a comprised of a life of service in her professional career as well as community leader through extensive board service in a manner that tends to go unnoticed. We know and love her as someone who will sacrifice her time to help guide an organization as a caring and committed board member but also someone who is quite willingly to roll up her sleeves and help make an event happen by running to the store, putting up decorations or really anything that is needed so the group can gather and grow together.

Her extensive resume includes a cumulative total of 36 years of board service with occasionally overlapping terms. The organizations she has helped includes not only the Network in Aging, but also Ken-Ton Meals on Wheels, the UB School of Social Work,

as well as Lockport Meals on Wheels – chairing committees and taking turns being both a strong leader and a willing and able follower.

Her career of on-going service includes her current position as a social worker at Hospice as well as several placing over 1000 volunteers

for the Niagara County’s Retired and Senior Volunteer Program. Her earlier career included a position as in mental health as Assistant Director at Supportive Case Management Services. It’s no accident that her first position involved implementing innovated programs for older adults at Coordinated Care Management Corporation.

Anne remains a shining example of dedication, humility and a deep, abiding respect is the inherent worth of every person. She clearly strives to live this vision in her daily living as a loving mom, wife, employee and member of her community.



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## 2023 RECIPIENT OF THE NETWORK IN AGING PROGRAM OF EXCELLENCE

### The McGuire Group's Journeys Team



**The McGuire Group's Journeys Team**

Back: Patrick Reilly; middle: Gina Sciandra, Brittney Hoffman, Pat Gonzalez,  
Barb Johnson; front: Cheryl Tredo, Joanne Novak, Janice Brown, Lynn  
Priester, Kathy Mateja

### There's no denying it....life is a journey!

From the moment we take our first steps, to the hills and valleys that we navigate, our lives are woven together by the unique experiences that define our journey.

While many exciting things happen by surprise, it's often the well-planned events that are the most memorable and rewarding. At the McGuire Group's Journeys palliative care program, we believe that end-of-life care should be given the same thoroughness and attention that's given to all the major events in our lives.

"The Journeys program is designed to complement a person's plans and desires while meeting the physical, emotional and spiritual needs of end-of-life care. This includes honoring our patients' wishes regarding comfort and treatment," stated Journeys Director, Barbara Johnson. "Patients appreciate being able to remain at the facility and often form strong bonds with their caregivers."

For Johnson, the development of the Journeys program has been a journey in itself. "The concept was first introduced at our Northgate Health Care Facility in North Tonawanda," she stated. "At that time, we saw a need for a more palliative approach in long-term care, and the company president asked me to expand the program to our four Erie County facilities in 2013."

The popularity of the program grew because of its uniqueness from other end-of-life services. "One advantage is that there's no separate cost, which allows patients to take advantage of

rehabilitative programs such as physical therapy, swallowing rehab and other services," Johnson stated. "For example, if a patient comes into the facility with a fractured hip and a terminal diagnosis, Journeys allows them to participate in rehab and ultimately enhance or potentially extend their time in the program."

In addition, patients benefit from 24-hour skilled nursing care that's delivered by physicians, licensed nurses, social workers, therapists and nursing assistants trained in end-of-life care. Ancillary services include pain and symptom management, oxygen therapy, pharmacy consultations and specialized services, as needed.

As a Social Worker, Johnson understands the unique niche that the program fills and the level of peace and comfort that the patients and their families experience. She believes the program's success can be attributed to the staff's personal touch and consistency. "We have the same caregivers getting to know the patients and families," she said. "They spend time one-on-one with them completing life books, reading, visiting, providing music therapy or any number of activities that enhance their overall quality of life." Johnson went on to say that "the program gives families flexibility knowing that their loved one is getting this level of personalized attention."

Over the last decade, the program has helped thousands of people navigate their path with comfort, quality and dignity, making it a Journey well-taken.



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- 2021 Jennifer Guni – Harmonia Collaborative Care
- 2020 Margaret Kleinmann – Solstice Senior Living at East Amherst
- 2019 Pamela Krawczyk – Amherst Center for Senior Services
- 2018 Lynn Riker – The Center for Hospice & Palliative Care
- 2017 Leilani Joven Pelletier – Center of Excellence for Alzheimer's Disease
- 2016 Michael Olear – Olear Realty Group, Inc.
- 2015 Charles Battaglia, Jr – Kenmore Tonawanda Meals on Wheels
- 2014 Bonnie McMorrow, Meals on Wheels & Hearts and Hands: Faith in Action
- 2013 Laura Mondello, Schofield Residence
- 2012 Helen Ferraro-Zaffram, Esq, Legal Services for Elderly, Disabled or Disadvantaged Volunteer Program, Amherst Senior Center
- 2011 Robert Chur, President and CEO of Elderwood Senior Care
- 2010 Toby Laping, Ph.D., L.M.S.W.
- 2009 John W. Kinner, Health Association of Niagara County Inc.
- 2008 Beverly A. Kubala, RN, Geriatric Care Managers of WNY, LLC Schofield Adult Day Health Care Program
- 2007 David Dunkelman
- 2006 Mary Ellen Walsh, M.S. W., Executive Director, Amherst Center for Senior Services
- 2005 Georgiana Jungels, Professor, State University at Buffalo
- 2004 Bruce D. Reinoso, Esq., Partner in Magavern Magavern & Grimm LLP
- 2003 Rhonda Frederick, People Inc.
- 2002 Jerry Flaschner, Living Prime Time Magazine
- 2001 Bea Berman, Advocate for the Elderly and Volunteer - NYS Wide Senior Action Council
- 2000 Dr. Kenneth Garbarino/Kaleida Health/Millard Fillmore Hospital
- 1999 Rose Marie Hall, The McLaughlin Center of Kaleida Health/DeGraff Hospital
- 1998 Dr. John Edwards, Veterans Administration Medical Center
- 1997 Robert Meiss, Beechwood Continuing Care
- 1996 Joanne Senall, Corporation for Senior Services Programs
- 1995 John Feather, Ph.D., WNY Geriatric Education Center
- 1994 Michael Maloney, The Bristol Home
- 1993 Clifford Whitman, Concerned Ecumenical Ministry (CEM)
- 1992 Maryanne Bolles, Coordinated Care
- 1991 Richard J. Gehring, Meals on Wheels of Buffalo and Erie County
- 1990 Francis "Mac" McCoy, Chautauqua County Office for Aging
- 1989 Jurgis Karuza, Ph.D., WNY Geriatric Education Center & Multidisciplinary Center on Aging
- 1988 Joyce Savasta, MSN, Buffalo Psychiatric Center
- 1987 Lillian Meadows, Alfred D. Price Senior Citizen Center
- 1986 Lillian Meadows
- 1985 Milton Rogovin, Richard Newberg and Lou Glasse, Special Commendation in recognition of outstanding artistic and media contributions

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- 2021 Center for Elder Law - Enhanced Multi-Disciplinary Teams (E-MDT) WNY HUB
- 2020 Elderwood's Right Moves Wellness Program
- 2019 WNY Coalition Pooled Trusts: a collaboration between People Inc. and Center for Elder Law & Justice
- 2018 University Express Project: Patricia Dowling of Erie Co. Senior Services
- 2017 The Pride Center of WNY, Inc.- Silver Pride Project
- 2016 Rural Transit Service
- 2015 United Church Home Society Senior Wishes
- 2013 The Burchfield Penney Art Center Early Diagnosed Alzheimer's Program
- 2011 Alzheimer's Association, Western New York Chapter Silver Alert Initiative
- 2008 Schofield Adult Day Health Care Program
- 2007 The MultiDisciplinary Coordinating Council on Elder Abuse
- 2006 People Inc. Senior Housing
- 2005 Erie County Caregivers Coalition
- 2004 Meals on Wheels of Buffalo and Erie County's Home Delivered Meals for the Elderly
- 2003 The Chautauqua Adult Day Care Centers, Inc.
- 2002 Senior Employment Program/Supportive Services Corporation
- 2001 Legal Services for the Elderly, Disabled and Disadvantaged (LSED)
- 2000 The Telephone Assurance Program (TAP) operated by Coordinated Care
- 1999 The Salvation Army Senior Olympics
- 1998 The Foster Grandparent Program of Buffalo and Erie County, Catholic Charities
- 1997 Gloria Olmsted, Erie County Department of Senior Services
- 1996 Care Connection, Inc
- 1995 The Staywell Health Education Course developed by The McLaughlin Center/DeGraff Hospital
- 1994 Hospice Buffalo Nursing Home Services
- 1993 The Western Region, NYS Adult Day Services Association & Intergenerational Program - Preschool Children & Older Adults
- 1992 Elder Abuse/Caregivers Services, Niagara County Family Violence Project
- 1991 Erie County Long Term Care CHOICES Program
- 1990 Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementias Association (ADRDA), WNY Chapter
- 1989 National Fuel's Assistance Programs for Seniors
- 1988 Buffalo Psychiatric Center
- 1987 Alfred D. Price Senior Citizen Center
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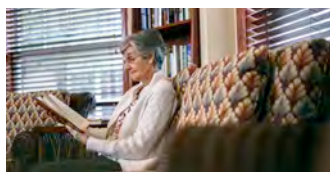
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### COMMITTEE CO-CHAIRS & MEETING INFORMATION

Please be sure to verify meeting date, time and location  
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#### COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

Establishes and directs the Network's print and online communications with its members and the public. Meetings are on the **second Tuesday** of the month at 10:00am.

##### CO-CHAIRS

Pamela Pace  
pamela@amazinghc.com  
(716) 863-9035

Paula Venné-Clendening  
pvenne@walshduffield.com  
(716) 255-1593

#### EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Plans and carries out educational programs/workshops on aging related issues, along with planning and preparation for the annual meeting. Meetings are on the **second Thursday** of each month at 3:30pm.

##### CO-CHAIRS

Mary Baty  
mbaty@carepatrol.com  
(716) 906-9014

Mike Ford  
michael.ford@vitalhomecare.com  
(845) 660-0606 ext. 3659

Julie Whitbeck-Lewinski  
jlewinski@carepatrol.com  
(716) 463-2966

#### MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Reviews and recommends changes in membership dues and benefits; coordinates ongoing membership recruitment efforts. Meetings are on the **fourth Thursday** of each month at 8:30am. No meetings in August and December.

##### CHAIR

Jane Nogowski  
jnogowski@brothersofmercy.org

#### NETWORKING COMMITTEE

Plans and carries out member-to-member functions, including Networking events. This committee meets the **first Thursday** each month at 8:30am. Additional dates may be scheduled.

##### CO-CHAIRS

Stacy Jasinski  
sjasinski@depaul.org  
(716) 608-7000

Stephanie Mruzek  
eastamherstdsm@solsticeseniorliving.com  
(716) 688-7880

Nancy Maira  
nlmaira@verizon.net  
(317) 727-7532

#### SPECIAL EVENTS COMMITTEE

Plans social functions for the Network, including the January Social, Taste of the Network and annual meeting venue. Meetings are on the **fourth Tuesday** each month at 8:30am. No meetings in January, July and December.

##### CO-CHAIRS

Bonnie McMorro  
bmcmmorrow@feedmorewny.org  
(716) 822-2002

Sharon Plant  
splant@people-inc.org  
(716) 817-9229

#### NOMINATING COMMITTEE

This committee solicits and accepts nominations for positions on the Network in Aging Board of Directors and presents a slate of officers and directors to the membership for their consideration.

##### CO-CHAIRS

Ann Marie Klosko  
amklosk@hotmail.com  
(716) 440-0933

Dr. Kara Calandrelli  
kcalandrelli@sonidaliving.com  
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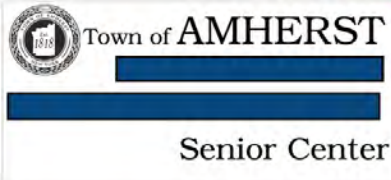


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**Home care services at a glance:**

- Personal Care Services**
  - Bathing/grooming
  - Dressing
  - Prompting and reminders
- Companionship**
  - Travel/accompaniment to appointments
  - Shopping and errands
  - Social engagements
  - Safety and security
- Homemaking Services**
  - Light housekeeping
  - Grocery shopping
  - Meal planning/prep
  - Personal laundry



Skilled nursing and catastrophic care services are tailored to accommodate our client's unique needs.

- Skilled Nursing Services:**
  - Post-operative
  - Wound care
  - Ventilation and tracheostomy care
  - Feeding tube assistance
  - Ostomy care and catheter maintenance
  - Medication management
- Complex Clinical Care For:**
  - Spinal cord or traumatic brain injury
  - Neurological disorders
  - Complex orthopedic injuries & amputations
  - Psychiatric and behavioral health

For more information on how Health Force can assist with home care services please call Kristin Crandall at 716-817-1127 or visit [Healthforcewny.com](http://Healthforcewny.com)

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**Brian Reader**  
Administrator

275 Brompton Road, Williamsville, NY 14221  
tel: 716-634-5734 | fax: 716-634-1416  
[BReader@BromptonHeights.com](mailto:BReader@BromptonHeights.com) | [BromptonHeights.com](http://BromptonHeights.com)



**Heathwood**  
ASSISTED LIVING & MEMORY CARE

Gary Henry  
Community Relations Manager

815 Hopkins Road  
Williamsville, NY 14221  
p. 716-688-0111 / f 716-688-7266  
[ggheny@heathwoodassistedliving.com](mailto:ggheny@heathwoodassistedliving.com)  
[www.heathwoodassistedliving.com](http://www.heathwoodassistedliving.com)



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**Laping, Surdej Associates** started as the first private aging/geriatric care management firm in Buffalo back in 1982. We are a member of the Aging Life Care Association and other aging related organizations. Kristin Surdej, owner, has been a practitioner for 27 years. She is a New York State licensed social worker and a nationally certified care manager. We provide private pay care management services to those in hospitals, their own home and in facility settings. Being a private company/service, we can offer a wide range of services tailored to meet the needs of our clients. Services include, but are not limited to, assessment/consultations which refer/guide clients through the health care systems, housing/placement options, applications for Medicaid and other benefits, as well as Daily Money Management. Contact Laping, Surdej Associates at 716-884-3277 or go to www.wnycaremanager.com for your care management needs.



**CARE Patrol**  
Your Partner In Senior Care Solutions

Finding the **Right Care and Living Options**

CarePatrol of Buffalo, Niagara, Rochester & Syracuse is a **NO COST**, local service that partners with families and healthcare providers to find the right care and living solutions for for seniors 55 and over:

- 📍 Home Care
- 📍 Independent Living
- 📍 Assisted Living
- 📍 Memory Care
- 📍 Enhanced Care
- 📍 Nursing Home and Respite Care
- 📍 VA Benefits Consultation
- 📍 Home and Driver Safety Screenings

"CarePatrol was a gigantic help at the exact time I needed it the most! I had nowhere to turn and out of the blue I came across this company. They were very helpful, insightful, caring, diligent, and compassionate! Trust them that they have your best interest at heart...I did and I am thankful I did!"

~ Kevin M.



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**People Inc.**, a multispecialty non-profit health and human services agency, provides programs and services to more than 12,000 people with intellectual and developmental disabilities, families and older adults throughout Western New York and the Greater Rochester region. For over 50 years, the agency has assisted people to achieve greater degrees of independence and productivity

Whether you are in need of supports for yourself, a loved one or someone you assist, our team is committed to being your resource.

With 20 locations throughout Western New York, People Inc. Senior Living Apartments are for those age 62+ and who are income-eligible. The agency offers a Senior Companion Program and Senior Outreach (case management), as well as a day program that helps people with memory loss.

Additionally, People Inc. manages the New York State Long Term Care Ombudsman Program, which provides advocacy for older adults who live in nursing homes, assisted living and licensed adult care locations. Home Health and People Inc. Rehabilitative Services are also available.

People Inc. Affordable Apartments provide reasonably-priced, safe apartments for those who are income-eligible in Erie and Niagara Counties. These communities are for people 18 and over or an age requirement of 55 and over.

At People Inc., our focus is to encourage older adults to get the most out of life, address challenges, live affordably and achieve independence.

The agency offers a variety of supports to assist people with intellectual and developmental disabilities, including: Residential, Child and Young Adult Services, Community Habilitation, Day Services, Vocational Services and Supported Employment, Family Supports, Respite, Self-Directed Services and Health Services.

With nearly 4,000 employees, People Inc. is one of the region's largest employers.

To learn more, visit [people-inc.org](http://people-inc.org) or call 716-880-3890.



**Health Foundation**  
for Western & Central New York

At the Health Foundation for Western & Central New York, our mission is to improve the health and health care of the people and communities of western and central New York.

We're working toward a healthy central and western New York where racial and socioeconomic equity are prioritized so all people can reach their full potential and achieve equitable health outcomes.

Learn more about our work supporting programs and partnerships that build communities where older adults and people of all ages can thrive!

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# SPONSOR SPOTLIGHTS

**WHEATFIELD COMMONS**  
A DePaul Senior Living Community

(716) 475-7600  
www.depaul.com  
Assisted Living • Memory Care

**Wheatfield Commons** is a DePaul Senior Living Community in North Tonawanda, which provides both assisted living and memory care accommodations to families in and around Niagara County. Offering gracious, single floor living in a well-appointed setting, the community features spacious, furnished private and semi-private suites with a choice of floor plan and fully equipped bathrooms in every resident room.

Close to shopping, restaurants and places of worship, Wheatfield Commons is nestled in a park-like suburban setting with inviting grounds and courtyards. In warmer weather, residents enjoy taking in the sights from a large covered front porch. Welcoming living areas with fireplaces and beautifully decorated dining areas are all part of an accommodating, enriching atmosphere where residents receive the highest quality services and care. A cozy family dining room is available for private use and special occasions and individual mailboxes are also provided.

Wheatfield Commons provides seniors a lifestyle for their future, offering a personal approach to delivering support and services while encouraging family members to be actively involved in the care of their loved ones. Staff work closely with residents and family members to develop a personalized approach to delivering support and services which appropriately meet each residents' needs.



Grace Nowicki



Paul Armbruster



Left to right: June Blattenberger, Caroline Cooperman, Ruby Joiner

### The Art of Living Well at Glenwell

Seniors at Glenwell have discovered the fountain of youth in their backyard with plentiful opportunities to enjoy the second half of life at the DePaul Senior Living Community in Cheektowaga.

At Glenwell, supportive and caring staff provide personal care services which promote independence and dignity, so residents can focus on enjoying their quality of life with interactive social activities and plenty of opportunities to celebrate, socialize and remain active in their community. Enriching and engaging activities pictured at Glenwell include sunflower wreaths and Buffalo Bills themed-flower pot crafts, an interactive, culture-rich drumming workshop, and live entertainment.

Licensed by the New York State Department of Health, Glenwell offers options for a variety of needs including an Assisted Living Program for those who don't require skilled nursing but could use some extra assistance, as well as a specialized memory care unit for those with Alzheimer's disease and other forms of dementia.

Let us show you why our family is the next best thing to your family! Contact Administrator Tina Hagen or Marketing Director Stacy Jasinski at (716) 608-7000 or via email at [thagen@depaul.org](mailto:thagen@depaul.org) or [sjasinski@depaul.org](mailto:sjasinski@depaul.org) to schedule a tour! For more information about Glenwell, visit Facebook.

**home-delivered meals** enhance the health and independence of homebound older adults and individuals living with a disability

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wny  
[feedmorewny.org](http://feedmorewny.org)

**Brookdale Senior Living**  
Western New York

Nothing says home like cozy, comfortable spaces with people who care. If you and your family are looking for a senior living option in Western New York, our Brookdale communities can help. Are you looking for an Enhanced Assisted Living community or an Alzheimer's and Dementia community? Either way, we are here to guide you through this journey. See below for the Brookdale options that could best help you.

<b>Enhanced Assisted Living</b>	<b>Alzheimer's &amp; Dementia Care</b>
Brookdale Kenmore (716) 874-3200	Brookdale Williamsville (716) 632-7123
Brookdale Niagara (716) 731-1634	Brookdale Niagara (716) 731-1461

AGING WELL CARE  
MANAGEMENT, LLC

**gm**  
WNY  
Geriatric Care Managers  
of Western New York  
Solutions for care

Aging Well Care Management, LLC recently acquired Geriatric Care Managers of WNY. Michelle Spencer, CMC will serve as President of the practice and Beverly Kubala, RN, CCM will continue her role in the practice as a consulting partner during the transition. Sharon Costello, RN, MBA, CCM will remain the dedicated Medicaid Liaison and Geriatric Care Manager within the practice. "We are excited to have Andrea Kukoda join our team as our Office Administrator". We can continue to be reached at our office at 716-204-1063 or by calling 716-218-9717.



# SPONSOR SPOTLIGHTS



**Protect the Financial Future**  
*for Yourself & Loved Ones*

*The WNY Coalition Pooled Trust provides local, personalized service to those living in Western New York and the Finger Lakes.*

Trusts are set up and administered by professionals, knowledgeable in public benefits, trusts and estates.

Available to people with disabilities of any age!

For more information, visit [wnypooledtrust.org](http://wnypooledtrust.org) or call 1.866.362.5081



Family Choice of New York has been serving Western New York since 2005 and is dedicated to providing **comprehensive clinical and care management programs** to individuals who are medically complex. **Independent Health's Medicare Family Choice HMO I-SNP** is a Special Needs Plan for permanent residents of participating skilled nursing and assisted living/adult care facilities. Independent Health's Assure Advantage HMO C-SNP is a Special Needs Plan for individuals in the community who are diagnosed with a form of Chronic/Congestive Heart Failure. **Please call Family Choice of New York** at (716) 668-7051 for more information and check out our website [www.familychoiceinc.com](http://www.familychoiceinc.com).



**Family Choice**  
**OF NEW YORK**

Understanding that clients have unique financial situations and personal objectives, Harris Beach attorney Judy Wagner listens carefully and considers all factors involved when advising clients in developing and implementing successful, customized solutions for the preservation, management and transfer of wealth to the next generation. Harris Beach attorneys have extensive experience using comprehensive and sophisticated planning strategies to help clients navigate the seemingly overwhelming complexities of estate planning, disability planning, and elder law and to meet their individual, family, and business succession needs in a tax-efficient and cost-effective manner.



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**Tennyson Court**  
ASSISTED LIVING & MEMORY CARE

**Tennyson Court**

We know that choosing a community for your loved one can be a difficult decision.

Our homelike setting combined with our all-inclusive pricing make choosing Tennyson the Simple answer.

For over 20 years, Tennyson Court has been considered the premier assisted living and memory care community in WNY. Our private ownership and tenured management provide the community with compassionate leadership that makes Tennyson a special place to be.

At Tennyson we strive to:

- Provide outstanding care.
- Promote independence.
- Preserve mental ability.
- Provide a beautiful place for our residence to live and thrive.

**Erie County Department of Senior Services**

FOR INFORMATION AND HELP CONTACT US:

**(716) 858-8526**

[www2.erie.gov/seniorservices](http://www2.erie.gov/seniorservices)

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The Administration on Aging and the NYS Office for the Aging help to fund these programs.

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SENIOR LIVING



# SPONSOR SPOTLIGHTS

Since 1988, **Niagara Hospice**, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, has provided end-of-life comfort, care and support to more than 30,000 Niagara County individuals and families faced with terminal illnesses.

**Niagara Hospice maximizes moments** by treating the patient, not the disease. The hospice team provides expert symptom management, caregiver relief and comprehensive end-of-life guidance to the entire family to help everyone cherish precious time together.

**In the words of patients & loved ones...**

"Hospice is true 'comfort care' that provides peace of mind for the patient and the family."

"For the first time in the caregiver journey, I didn't feel alone."



*Dedicated to providing the right care, in the right place, at the right time since 1988.*

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NiagaraHospice.org



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Hospice & Palliative Care Buffalo (HPCB) cares for individuals suffering from serious illness, as well as their families and caregivers. HPCB provides an integrative, holistic (physical, emotional, social, and spiritual) approach to care that focuses on the whole person, rather than on individual symptoms, to enhance quality-of-life.

HPCB is a nonprofit organization, serving over 1,000 patients and families in Erie County every day.



Jacobs School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences  
**Center of Excellence for Alzheimer's Disease**  
University at Buffalo

The Alzheimer's Disease and Memory Disorders Center (ADMDC), a New York State DOH Center of Excellence for Alzheimer's Disease (CEAD) since 2015, provides state-of-the-art diagnosis and treatment of Alzheimer's Disease and other cognitive disorders. The Center utilizes a multidisciplinary approach to provide compassionate care and support to patients and families affected by Alzheimer's and other neuro-cognitive disorders.

CEAD WNY serves traditionally marginalized communities through collaboration with the UB Medical School health care system (Buffalo General Hospital, Erie County Medical Center, and Veteran's Administration Hospital), Jericho Road, and Evergreen Health clinics. CEAD WNY also collaborates with the Community Health Worker Network to reach these communities.

As a quaternary referral center, the ADMDC provides access to clinical trials and several observational research programs to expand opportunities for patients and caregivers. The Center has also joined the highly selective Global Alzheimer's Platform (top 40 clinical trial sites in the US and Canada), developed relationships with registries and national cohorts, and emerged as the leader in the diagnosis and treatment of AD/D at the regional, national, and international levels.

The WNY CEAD's serves the following counties: Allegany, Cattaraugus, Chautauqua, Erie, Genesee, Niagara, Orleans and Wyoming. We work with county offices for the aging regarding access to cognitive neurologic care and education for healthcare providers and staff via dementia specific clinical, nursing and social work didactics, as well as a program entitled "Brain Train" which is specifically geared to educating the public about brain health, what is normal vs not normal brain aging, and how to approach your care if are experiencing cognitive symptoms. To schedule training for staff and/or a "Brain Train" session contact Allison Case, CEAD Program Director at 716-323-0521. To schedule an appointment with the CEAD - Alzheimer's Disease and Memory Disorders Center please call 716-829-5056.



## SENIOR LEGAL ADVICE HELPLINE

Call us for free advice on health insurance, consumer issues, income maintenance, POA's, housing and more!

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**elderjusticenyc.org/helpline**



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*Our agency is dedicated to simplifying the CDPAP enrollment process for consumers and their caregivers.*

*Consumer Directed Personal Assistance Is A Program Funded By Medicaid.*

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## Contact our Western New York based team today!



**Buffalo Office**

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**Rochester Office**

585-785-3004



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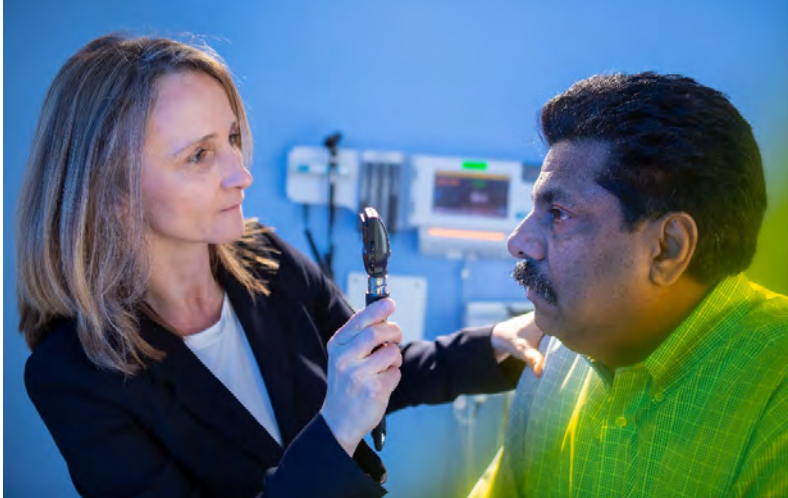
[www.trustedchoicehomecare.com](http://www.trustedchoicehomecare.com)



Jacobs School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences

## Center of Excellence for Alzheimer's Disease

University at Buffalo



In 2011 the University at Buffalo opened the Alzheimer's Disease and Memory Disorders Center, the region's first comprehensive center devoted to Alzheimer's disease and related disorders.

- 2016 the Alzheimer's Disease and Memory Disorders Center (ADMDC) designated a Center of Excellence for Alzheimer's Disease (CEAD) by NYS Department of Health
- 2022 CEAD designation renewed for an additional 5-years.
- CEAD's service area is the counties of Allegany, Cattaraugus, Chautauqua, Erie, Genesee, Niagara, Orleans and Wyoming.

### Four-Step Evaluation Process for Memory Concerns

1. At the initial appointment the patient and their family member meet with our provider. A complete medical and surgical history (including timeline of cognitive changes) is taken, and a physical and neurological exam are performed. Tests are ordered to look for correctable causes of memory loss (i.e. bloodwork, imaging CT/MRIPET, and neuropsychological testing).
2. Multidisciplinary team confers on the patient's case when the tests, imaging and np testing have been completed. A diagnosis and a medical treatment plan is developed.
3. 1<sup>st</sup> Follow up appointment the provider explains the diagnostic results and treatment plan followed by a meeting with our social worker.
4. Social worker meets with patient and family to learn about current living situation and counsels the patient and family on how to best manage the diagnosis. This information is also sent to the referring provider.

### QUICK FACTS

**ADMDC opened in 2011 to serve residents in WNY.**

#### DIRECTOR

Kinga Szigeti, MD, PhD

Allison Case, RN and  
CEAD Program Director

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Rachel Eisenberg, LCSW  
Alex Lazarich, LMSW

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Research Coordinator

Shannon Cooper  
Medical Secretary

Karen Zakalik  
Program Support Specialist

#### TWO LOCATIONS

Conventus Building  
1001 Main Street, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Buffalo, NY 14203

5851 Main Street  
Williamsville, NY 14221

#### TELEMEDICINE

Telemed is an option. Ideally 1<sup>st</sup> appointment is in person.

#### TRANSPORTATION

Assistance for Medicaid insured patients is available.

#### RESEARCH

Interested in learning about research studies please call 716-329-0549 or email [ncaudino@buffalo.edu](mailto:ncaudino@buffalo.edu).

#### APPOINTMENTS

716-829-5056

#### WEBSITE

[www.buffalo.edu/cead](http://www.buffalo.edu/cead)



# The Bristol Advantage is experience

Everyone has a story, and ours began more than 150 years ago. Since then, we have built a legacy of compassion and expertise in assisted living and memory care. **With experience comes trust**, and trust is something we take very seriously. Your loved one is our top priority. It is our mission to provide a safe, comfortable living environment full of opportunities for independence and around-the-clock support.

**The Bristol Village promise is one of quality above all else.** As the only freestanding nonprofit assisted living facility in Western New York, our mission is focused on the individual – *and not the bottom line*. Our family-friendly environment ensures both well-being – *and respect*.



  
**Bristol Village**  
Experience  the difference

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