

Speakers



Nicole Absar, MD
Medical Director
Copper Ridge Memory Clinic

Nicole Absar, M.D. is the Medical Director of the Copper Ridge Memory Clinic. She is a diplomate in behavioral neurology and neuropsychiatry. She is certified by the American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology (ABPN) and American Board of Psychosomatic Medicine. She is a fellow of American Psychiatric Association (FAPA) and an active member of the American Academy of Neurology (AAN), the American Neuropsychiatric Association (ANPA) and the American Medical Association (AMA). Prior to moving to Maryland, she practiced Geriatric Neuropsychiatry in Massachusetts and taught at the Harvard Medical School, University of Massachusetts Medical School and Tufts Medical School. She is also a registered yoga teacher and specializes in Yoga Therapy for brain disorders.



Lynn Biot-Gordon
Chief Operating Officer
National Council of Certified Dementia Practitioners (NCCDP)

Lynn Biot-Gordon is currently the Chief Operations Officer with the National Council of Certified Dementia Practitioners (NCCDP), and is a longtime dementia care expert. As a licensed clinical social worker with a Bachelors degree in psychology and a master of social work degree from Boston University, Lynn Biot-Gordon's social work experience spans 20 years and includes mental health, hospice, long term care, and school social work.

Gordon has served in the areas of administration, direct practice, health education, and clinical supervision. She founded Gordon Social Work Consultants in 1997 to provide consultation services for long term care facilities which includes training and in-services on a variety of topics for residents, families, and health care staff.



Amy Carpenter, AIA, LEED ap
Senior Associate
SFCS, Inc.

Amy Carpenter, AIA, LEED ap, is a Senior Associate with SFCS, Inc, a full service A/E/ID firm that specializes in the design of senior living communities nationwide. She is based in the Conshohocken, PA, office and focuses mainly on the design of Assisted Living, Memory Care and Skilled Nursing Facilities. In addition to her work with SFCS, she is also the current Board Chair at White Horse Village, A Life Plan Community located outside of Philadelphia. Amy was also named one of Long-Term Living Magazine's "Leaders of Tomorrow" in 2014.



Christopher Simon Coelho
Coordinator, Continuous Quality Improvement
Abe's Garden

Chris is the CQI Coordinator at Abe's Garden. He has experience working as a certified nursing assistant, conducting observations and data analysis at the Center for Quality Aging at Vanderbilt Medical Center, and is licensed as a nursing home administrator. He is published in the Gerontologist (2015) and in the Journal of the American Geriatric Society (2016). He is currently getting his master's degree in management of health care at Vanderbilt University's Owen Graduate School of Management.



Melissa Easton-Sandquist
Community Programs and Group Visits Manager
Michener Art Museum

Melissa Easton Sandquist first joined the Michener Art Museum community as a docent, leading visitors of all ages through our galleries to explore the collection. She became Education Coordinator in September, 2008, and has since worked with educators, docents and the Curator of Education in designing and implementing curriculum related to museum exhibitions. Her experience as a preschool teacher, K-6 School Librarian, and Special Education teaching assistant provides Melissa with a unique approach to incorporating art with literature, and engaging learners while looking, discussing and creating with a variety of arts media. Melissa has lived in England and Denmark, travelling extensively in Europe and eagerly exploring art museums with her family. She currently coordinates adult and school tours at the Michener, and is instrumental in the Michener docent program.



Amber Evans, MA, R-DMT, LCMHC, CDP, BC-DEd
Memory Care and Engagement Specialist
LCB Senior Living, LLC

Amber Evans is the Memory Care and Engagement Specialist for LCB Senior Living. Amber is a Licensed Clinical Mental Health Counselor, a Registered Dance/Movement Therapist, a Certified Dementia Practitioner and a Board Certified Dementia Educator. Amber received her dual master's degree in Dance/Movement Therapy and Clinical Mental Health Counseling from Antioch University New England. Amber provides support to Assisted Living communities within LCB Senior Living, to provide a higher standard of memory care and quality engagement for the residents living there. She also works alongside families, helping to cope with and manage their loved ones' care.

Amber's clinical background expands beyond that of dementia, and additionally includes working one-on-one with children, adults and families, to which she has provided a wide array of expressive arts and traditional therapies for many mental health diagnoses. Amber provides and leads memory care trainings for associates and professionals, and is a sought after presenter in the New Hampshire area to both implement and advocate for cutting edge and expressive approaches to a dementia diagnosis. Amber's passion is to bring forth creative ways for families and caregivers to work with loved ones with dementia, instilling hope and fruitful engagement.



Appearing on
 behalf of:



Molly Fogel, LCSW, MSW
Director of Educational and Social Services
Alzheimer's Foundation of America (AFA)

Molly Fogel, LCSW is the Director of Educational and Social Services at the Alzheimer's Foundation of America (AFA). In the field for ten years, Molly has spent her career working to educate and improve best practices within organizations, focusing on improving clinical skills in all staff, despite their background, and ensuring the community served is provided the opportunity to improve overall health and wellness, emotionally, mentally, & physically.

In her current position, Molly is able to work with a dynamic interdisciplinary team providing education, resources, and support to individuals living with dementia, their families and care professionals. Molly received her bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice from American University in Washington DC, and went on for her Master's in Social Work from New York University. Molly finds her most rewarding work has been teaching professionals and paraprofessional staff clinical techniques to improve the quality of services being provided within the populations they serve.



Joshua J. Freitas, M.Ed, CADDCT, CAEd
Vice President, Program Development
CERTUS Senior Living, LLC

Joshua J. Freitas is an award-winning memory care program developer, researcher, and author. His care and training philosophies have been featured in prominent publications, including Long-Term Living Magazine, Healthcare Provider Magazine, Science Today Magazine, television talk shows, and much more. Freitas serves as the Vice President of Program Development at CERTUS Senior Living where he oversees memory care philosophy and initiatives throughout the company.

Currently, Freitas is a Doctoral student at California Institute of Integral Studies where he focuses on Clinical Gerontology and Aging Neuroscience. Freitas holds five certifications related to dementia care. His education includes studying Non-Pharmacological Healthcare at Lesley University, Healthcare Economics at Harvard University, and Music Education and Music Therapy at Berklee College of Music.

Through his two recent book publications, *The Dementia Concept* and *Joining Grandma's Journey*, Freitas hopes to change the way society views individuals who are living with Alzheimer's disease and related forms of dementia. A dementia diagnosis should not be viewed as the end of life. "To break the stigmas that impede progress and quality care," Freitas says, "we must all advocate for those with memory loss, and support their families and friends."



Natasha Goldstein-Levitas, MA, BC-DMT
Board-Certified Dance/Movement Therapist
Moving Peace

Natasha Goldstein-Levitas, MA, BC-DMT is a Philadelphia, PA Board Certified Dance/Movement Therapist with over 16 years of experience working with high functioning to severely cognitively and physically impaired adults and older adults across various cultures and socio-economic backgrounds. Her professional history includes Healthcare Administration roles, Therapeutic Programming, and regular Dance/Movement Therapy facilitation. Natasha incorporates her extensive knowledge of music and vocal artists of the 40s, 50s, 60s, and 70s into sessions, along with sensory stimulation techniques and reminiscence. She has recently presented her work at the Alzheimer's Association's New Jersey and Delaware Dementia Conferences. Natasha is a member of the American Dance Therapy Association (ADTA) and is a former ADTA Blog Staff Writer.

Natasha's book chapter, *Dance/movement therapy with institutionalized older adults: an effective, holistic intervention for loss adaptation*, appears in: Brooke, S.L. & Miraglia, D.A. (Eds.) (2015). *Using the creative therapies to cope with grief and loss*. Charles Thomas Publishers: Springfield, Illinois. Natasha is honored to have had her work published in the 50th Anniversary Issue of the American Journal of Dance Therapy (December, 2016). Her article, *Dance/movement therapy and sensory stimulation: a holistic approach to dementia care*, offers a holistic, cost-effective, and fruitful approach to promoting quality of life in dementia care.



Daniel Haimowitz, MD, FACP, CMD

Daniel Haimowitz, MD, FACP, CMD, is a board-certified internist and geriatrician. He earned his Doctor of Medicine from Jefferson Medical College and completed his residency at Thomas Jefferson University Hospital. He received his Bachelor of Science degree from Pennsylvania State University. Dr. Haimowitz has been in private practice in Levittown since 1986. An active staff physician at St. Mary Medical Center, Dr. Haimowitz is the medical director of St. Mary's Geriatric Assessment Program and several area nursing homes and assisted-living communities. He served as the medical director of the Genesis PACE, LIFE at Home in Delaware County. He founded the Bucks County Long-Term Care Consortium and serves on the Bucks County Senior Task Force. He is also the medical adviser for the Bucks County Area Agency on Aging. A nationally recognized expert in long-term care, he participated in the latest White House Conference on Aging. Dr. Haimowitz received the American Geriatrics Society Physician of the Year Award in 2001 and the William Dodd Founder's Award for Distinguished Service from the American Medical Directors Association in 2009.



Samantha Hollister, CDP
President
CERTUS Senior Living

Samantha Hollister, as President, is a member of the executive team for CERTUS Senior Living, who's portfolio has seven memory care communities under development with plans to grow to 20 communities over the next five years. Hollister's industry knowledge and leadership are creating new standards for memory care communities by blending research principles, innovative building design and a unique approach to creating associate culture.

Hollister's mission is to meet the needs of an ever burgeoning population of seniors, and their families, who seek a home like environment that will embrace their unique memory care needs while enabling each senior to thrive through experiencing a sense of purpose, individual engagement and quality care.

Hollister holds a degree in Communications from Western New England University along with two certifications in dementia and one in leadership.



Alan C. Horowitz
Partner
Arnall Golden Gregory, Attorneys at Law

Alan C. Horowitz is a partner in the Healthcare Practice. Apart from practicing law for the past 25 years, Alan has significant healthcare experience having held clinical, faculty and management positions at major medical centers where he utilized his management skills as well as his background as a registered respiratory therapist and registered nurse. In 1976, he formed the first neonatal respiratory care team while at Hahnemann University Medical Center in Philadelphia. Mr. Horowitz focuses his practice largely on regulatory issues concerning Medicare providers such as skilled nursing facilities, home health agencies, end-stage renal dialysis facilities, clinical laboratories, and hospital-based transplant centers as well as issues concerning quality of care. Before joining the firm, Mr. Horowitz served as Assistant Regional Counsel at the United States Department of Health and Human Services' (HHS) Office of the General Counsel (OGC). He worked closely with and litigated cases on behalf of the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). He has litigated cases before the HHS Departmental Appeal Board and the federal courts involving enforcement actions taken by CMS as well as having worked with the U.S. Attorneys' Office defending Medicare coverage determinations and Federal Tort Claims Act (FTCA) cases. Mr. Horowitz served as the Acting Director of ECRI Institute's National Center for Independent Medical Review. He also served as the Director of Clinical and Legal Affairs for the Institute for Safe Medication Practices (ISMP). Additionally, as well as having maintained his own law practice, Mr. Horowitz served as in-house counsel and program director for the pilot SNF-based ventilator-dependent program in New Jersey.



Kathy Johanns
Program Administrator
Texas State Veteran's Homes Division - Veterans Land Board

Kathy Johanns is the Program Administrator at the Texas State Veterans Homes Division of the Veterans Land Board. She oversees the

daily operations of the homes via the two management companies and the eight On-site Representatives. She also provides training programs for the homes including the PTS and behavior training.

Ms. Johanns has worked in long term care for 18 years in Hospice care, skilled nursing, social work, assisted living and CCRC's. She has a degree in social welfare from California State University, Northridge.



Linda Maguire, MHS, MA-CBN, BMus, CEO and Chief Science Officer, Maguire Brain Health Sciences

Opera Singer, Musician, Neurologist, Researcher, Author

Linda Maguire is a Professional Musician, Neuroscientist, Gerontologist, Author and Lecturer. A recent graduate from the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health with degrees in Health Science and Gerontology (MHS '14), she is currently completing a PhD in Health Communications at George Mason University. Linda also holds a Psychology Masters from George Mason University and a BA in Vocal Performance and Opera from the Oberlin Conservatory of Music and University of Toronto. Linda's goal is the development of "Prescription iPods" as a medically validated device and intervention for caregivers and elderly, particularly those with Alzheimer's and in neurocognitive decline.

Linda lectures and demonstrates on the power of music to escort mood, cognition and behavior, as well as brain health oxygenation science and tissue rehydration rescue strategies. She is an inventor of numerous brain-health based devices and produces recordings, CDs, films, demonstrations, tutorials and intervention techniques. Linda continues to perform professionally and enjoyed a renowned international career and operatic soloist.



Jean Makesh
CEO
The Lantern

Jean Makesh is the founder, CEO of the Lantern group. He designed a state of the art award winning Alzheimer care facility in Madison, Ohio. His fascination and passion to aging was the impetus to design and create a Personality centric rehabilitative care program that is one of its kinds in the country and in the world. Some of his recognitions include Entrepreneur of the year and the Model practice award. Most recently he was named one of the Top 50 Influencers in Aging by Next Avenue, a digital platform of PBS aimed at baby boomers. Mr. Makesh was featured in various local and international media.

Before establishing Lantern Group, he held various senior executive positions with a fortune 500 company. During his tenure with the fortune 500 company, his day to day responsibilities included ensuring best operational practices and compliance to highest quality of

care.

He holds an under graduate and a Master's degree in Occupational therapy and a Master's degree in Business administration.

Jean, designed and developed a patent pending retro-virtual time capsule to nurture and facilitate memory and to promote functional independence. The care delivery model that he developed is the only care program in the world that is therapeutic in nature. The care program utilizes the individual's environment, learning and activities to activate repressed memories and stimulate newer learning.

Jean Makesh is on a personal mission to support, educate and equip the elderly, caregiver's, family members and healthcare professionals with knowledge and resources about the Alzheimer's disease, its prevention and treatment. His goal is to continue design, develop and construct state of the art facilities and therapeutic care models in the US and other parts of the world.

Jean Makesh has authored textbooks called "Revelation to a unique world" for medical, professional's and caregivers.

His objective and mission is to combine his knowledge and experience to contribute and impact policies and practices in the areas of elderly care, good and efficient business practices and human kind as a whole.



Kelly McCarthy, LNHA, CDP
Corporate Director, Memory Care and Resident Engagement
LCB Senior Living, LLC

Kelly McCarthy is the head of LCB's Reflections Memory Care program and Resident Engagement. She oversees all aspects of the company's renowned Reflections Memory Care program, including developing programming, ensuring quality, training associates at all communities, and working with individual residents and their families.

Ms. McCarthy has had nearly twelve years of experience in management within assisted living and memory care communities. Her extensive career in managing memory care began with her position as Director of Memory Care at Tamarisk Assisted Living in RI. She moved to Horizon Bay Retirement living and soon after transitioned to the corporate level, holding positions as Corporate Memory Care Specialist. From there she moved to become the Corporate Director of Memory Care Services with Senior Lifestyle Corporation in Chicago, IL. Ms. McCarthy gave the keynote at the Rhode Island Alzheimer's Association Annual Caregivers conference in 2016. She has recently written a book, Brass Ring Memoirs, that is set to be published early 2017. In the book, she discusses how her "Brass Ring Memoirs" method is effective and important as a tool for communicating with and caring for those affected by memory challenges.



Melissa Pritchard, AIA, LEED ap BD+C
Senior Vice President
SFCS, Inc.

Melissa Pritchard, AIA, LEED ap BD+C, is a Senior Vice President at SFCS, Inc., based in the main office in Roanoke, VA. Beginning with her graduate thesis, Melissa began to focus on her specialized interests in the areas of design for seniors, with a focus on design for memory support. Melissa is actively involved in researching design trends and innovations that can improve the residential environments that are emerging as the industry standard for skilled care communities. She has written numerous project articles and received many distinctive awards for her work.