

2024

# VULNERABLE POPULATIONS CONFERENCE

September 19-20  
Cornhusker Hotel  
Lincoln, NE



# VULNERABLE POPULATIONS CONFERENCE

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## Target Audience

C-Suite, Nurse Leaders, Quality Leaders, Social Workers, Case Management, Nursing Homes, Community Partners.

## Overview

The purpose of this event is to bring key health care stakeholders who are dedicated to bringing quality care services to Nebraska's most vulnerable and underserved populations that will improve their quality of life, improve outcomes, decrease costs, and help Nebraska provide equitable care to all.

This educational activity is jointly provided by AXIS Medical Education, the Nebraska Hospital Association, and the Nebraska Rural Health Association.

## Accreditation Statement

In support of improving patient care, this activity has been planned and implemented by AXIS Medical Education and the Nebraska Hospital Association. AXIS Medical Education is jointly accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME), the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE), and the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC), to provide continuing education for the healthcare team.

## Credit Designation for Nursing

AXIS Medical Education designates this continuing nursing education activity for a maximum of 8.5 contact hours.

Learners are advised that accredited status does not imply endorsement by the provider or ANCC of any commercial products displayed in conjunction with an activity.

## Quality Professionals

This program is pending approval by the National Association for Healthcare Quality (NAHQ) to provide CPHQ CE credit.

## Healthcare Executives/ACHE-Qualified

ACHE Qualified Education credit must be related to healthcare management (i.e., it cannot be clinical, inspirational, or specific to the sponsoring organization). It can be earned through educational programs conducted or sponsored by any organization qualified to provide education programming in healthcare management. Programs may be sponsored by ACHE, chapters, or other qualified sources, whether the programming is face-to-face or distance offerings (webinars, online seminars, self-study courses, etc.). You will receive a certificate of completion for 8.5 hours.

## Nursing Home Administrators

These educational activities are designated for a maximum of 7.0 contact hour each from the Nebraska Office of Behavioral Health and Consumer Services/ Nursing Home Administration.

## AXIS Contact Information

For information about the accreditation of this program please contact AXIS [info@axismeded.org](mailto:info@axismeded.org).

## Disclaimer

Participants have an implied responsibility to use the newly acquired information to enhance patient outcomes and their own professional development. The information presented in this activity is not meant to serve as a guideline for patient management. Any procedures, medications, or other courses of diagnosis or treatment discussed in this activity should not be used by clinicians without evaluation of patient conditions and possible contraindications on dangers in use, review of any applicable manufacturer's product information, and comparison with recommendations of other authorities.

## Requirements for credit:

- Attend/participate in the educational activity and review all course materials.
- Complete the CE Declaration form online by October 20, 2024. Instructions will be provided. If you do not enter the online portal by the above date, you will not be able to retrieve your statement of participation.
- Upon successful completion of the online form, your statement of completion will be presented to you to print.

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## Disclosure of Relevant Financial Relationships

AXIS Medical Education requires faculty, instructors, authors, planners, directors, managers, peer reviewers, and other individuals who are in a position to control the content of this activity to disclose all personal financial relationships they may have in the past 24 months with ineligible companies. An ineligible entity is any organization whose primary business is producing, marketing, selling, re-selling, or distributing healthcare products used by or on patients. All relevant financial relationships are identified and mitigated prior to initiation of the planning phase for an activity.

AXIS has mitigated and disclosed to learners all relevant financial relationships disclosed by staff, planners, faculty/authors, peer reviewers, or others in control of content for this activity. Disclosure of a relationship is not intended to suggest or condone bias in any presentation but is made to provide participants with information that might be of potential importance to their evaluation of a presentation or activity. Disclosure information for faculty, authors, course directors, planners, peer reviewers, and/or relevant staff is provided with this activity.

The faculty listed below reported no relevant financial relationships or relationships they have had with ineligible companies of any amount during the past 24 months.

Wajahat Ali, JD	Whitney Feldman, MHA
Rashelle Hoffman, PT, DPT, PhD, GCS	Sydney Carraher, DNP, APRN-NP, NNP-BC
Kristin Lees Haggerty, PhD, MA	Renee Rafferty, LIMHP, LPC
Rebecca Stoeckle, PhD	Jennifer McWilliams, MD, MS
Anthony Rosen, MD, MPH	Gary Anthone, MD, FACS
Olanike Ojelabi, MS, MPP	Ardis Reed, MPH, RD, LD, CDCES, FADCES
Kyle Kellum, MHA	Jed Hansen, PhD, APRN, FNP-C
Meredith Koob	Brady Beecham, MD, MPH
David Palm, PhD	

The directors, planners, managers, peer reviewers, and relevant staff reported the following financial relationships they have with any ineligible company of any amount during the past 24 months:

Name of Planner/Manager	Reported Financial Relationship
Amber Kavan, BSN, RN, CPHQ	Nothing to disclose
Dana Steiner, BSN, MBA, CPHQ	Nothing to disclose
Tiffani Cullin, MSW	Nothing to disclose
Holly M. Hampe, DSc., RN, MHA, MRM, CHCP	Nothing to disclose
Dee Morgillo, MEd, MT (ASCP), CHCP	Nothing to disclose

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## YOUR FACULTY

**Wajahat Ali, JD**  
Writer & Author

**Gary Anthonie, MD, FACS**  
Chief Medical Officer  
Vetter Senior Living

**Brady Beecham, MD, MPH**  
Chief Medical Officer  
Gothenburg Health

**Sydney Carraher, DNP, APRN-NP, NNP-BC**  
Program Administrator  
The Nebraska Perinatal Quality Improvement Collaborative

**Whitney Feldman, MHA**  
Senior Regional Director  
Psychiatric Medical Care

**Kristin Lees Haggerty, PhD, MA**  
Project Director  
Education Development Center

**Jed Hansen, PhD, APRN, FNP-C**  
Executive Director  
Nebraska Rural Health Association

**Rashelle Hoffman, PT, DPT, PhD, GCS**  
Assistant Professor  
Creighton University

**Kyle Kellum, MHA**  
Chief Executive Officer  
Jennie M. Melham Medical Center

**Meredith Koob**  
CircleTalk by Telligen Program Specialist  
Social Engagement Program Master Trainer and Facilitator  
Telligen

**Jennifer McWilliams, MD, MS**  
Division Chief, Psychiatry  
Children's Nebraska

**Olanike Ojelabi, MS, MPP**  
Associate Project Director  
Education Development Center

**David Palm, PhD**  
Associate Professor, UNMC Department of Health Services Research & Administrative Director, UNMC Center for Health Policy  
University of Nebraska Medical Center

**Renee Rafferty, LIMHP, LPC**  
Senior Vice President of Behavioral Health  
Children's Nebraska

**Ardis Reed, MPH, RD, LD, CDCES, FADCES**  
Certified Diabetes Care and Education Specialist and Chronic Disease Subject Matter Expert  
TMF Health Quality Institute

**Anthony Rosen, MD, MPH**  
Assistant Professor of Medicine  
Weill Cornell Medical College, Cornell University

**Rebecca Stoeckle, PhD**  
Senior Vice President  
Education Development Center

## THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS



# VULNERABLE POPULATIONS CONFERENCE

## AGENDA AT-A-GLANCE

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### THURSDAY | SEPTEMBER 19, 2024

8:30 A.M. - 9:00 A.M.	<b>Registration Desk Open</b>
9:00 A.M. - 9:15 A.M.	<b>Welcome and Opening Remarks</b>
9:15 A.M. - 10:45 A.M.	<b>Building a “Multicultural Coalition of the Willing” A Path for New America</b> Presented by Wajahat Ali, JD
10:45 A.M. - 11:00 A.M.	<b>Break</b>
11:00 A.M. - 12:00 P.M.	<b>Early Cognitive Decline Detection and Improving Physical Activity in the Community</b> Presented by Rashelle Hoffman, PT, DPT, PhD, GCS
12:00 P.M. - 1:00 P.M.	<b>Lunch</b>
1:00 P.M. - 2:00 P.M.	<b>The Emergency Department Elder Mistreatment Toolkit: Making it Easy to do the Right Thing</b> Presented by Kristin Lees Haggerty, PhD, MA, Rebecca Stoeckle, PhD, Anthony Rosen, MD, MPH, & Olanike Ojelabi, MS, MPP
2:00 P.M. - 2:45 P.M.	<b>Chronic Kidney Disease Awareness - Identifying Gaps in Chronic Disease Education</b> Presented by Ardis Reed, MPH, RD, LD, CDCES, FADCES
2:45 P.M. - 3:00 P.M.	<b>Break</b>
3:00 P.M. - 4:00 P.M.	<b>Connection is a Cure: Addressing Loneliness and Social Isolation</b> Presented by Meredith Koob
4:00 P.M. - 4:45 P.M.	<b>Senior Life Solutions: Inpatient and Outpatient Mental Health Services in Rural Nebraska for Seniors</b> Presented by Whitney Feldman, MHA
	<b>Closing Remarks Connect with Vendors</b>
4:45 P.M. - 6:00 P.M.	<b>Social Event Sponsored by TMF Health Quality Institute</b>

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## AGENDA AT-A-GLANCE

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### FRIDAY | SEPTEMBER 20, 2024

9:00 A.M. - 9:05 A.M.	<b>Welcome</b>
9:05 A.M. - 9:50 A.M.	<b>Leveling the Playing Field: Addressing Birth Inequities in Nebraska</b> Presented by Sydnie Carraher, DNP, APRN-NP, NNP-BC
9:50 A.M. - 10:35 A.M.	<b>Addressing Mental Health in Children</b> Presented by Renee Rafferty, LIMHP, LPC, & Jennifer McWilliams, MD, MS
10:35 A.M. - 10:50 A.M.	<b>Break</b>
10:50 A.M. - 11:50 A.M.	<b>Rurality and Access to Care Panel</b> Moderator: David Palm, PhD  Panelists: Brady Beecham, MD, MPH Gary Anthone, MD Jed Hansen, PhD, APRN, FNP-C Kyle Kellum, MHA
11:50 A.M. - 12:00 P.M.	<b>Closing Remarks</b>

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## AGENDA

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### THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 19

9:15 A.M. - 10:45 A.M.

#### **BUILDING A “MULTICULTURAL COALITION OF THE WILLING” A PATH FOR NEW AMERICA**

Wajahat Ali, JD  
Writer & Author

Hate. Fear. Anger. Racism. Political polarization. Fake news. These are modern trends rooted in age-old anxiety—the fear of the “unknowable other.” America today is divided and confused, full of tremendous uncertainty. However, Wajahat Ali argues this is also a tired remake. From the rise of white nationalism to anti-immigrant conspiracy theories, America can often feel like an intolerant space, where diverse communities are the frequent targets of bigotry and far-right ideology. But Wajahat imagines an America remade: united over our shared values, not torn apart by racism or hate. Our country can achieve its pluralistic potential, he says. But first, we’ll need to emerge from our partisan cocoons, reach across the aisle, and build lasting partnerships. We need to see religious and cultural differences as the ideas that can bring us together, not rip us apart. And we have to create what he calls a “Multicultural Coalition of the Willing”: a sort of Justice League of diverse Americans who can unite over commonalities. We can resist the forces of bigotry, Wajahat insists; and in this keynote, he imagines a way to achieve the American Dream for everyone.

#### **Learning Objectives:**

- Assess the intolerance and division we face in this country.
- Discuss how to unite the country through shared commonalities and the benefits of diversity and “build a multicultural coalition of the willing.”
- Discuss a more multifaceted American experience by overcoming bigotry, fear and harmful stereotypes, using the power of storytelling to bridge divides.

11:00 A.M. - 12:00 P.M.

#### **EARLY COGNITIVE DECLINE DETECTION AND IMPROVING PHYSICAL ACTIVITY IN THE COMMUNITY**

Rashelle Hoffman, PT, DPT, PhD, GCS  
Assistant Professor, Creighton University

Cognitive impairment such as dementia (including Alzheimer’s Disease) can be a devastating diagnosis. However, there are actionable steps that can be taken to reduce the risk of cognitive impairment and reduce the risk of further cognitive decline. Physical inactivity is a modifiable risk factor for Alzheimer’s Disease and Related Dementias (ADRDs). Additionally, rural communities have an elevated risk of ADRD due to reduced access to healthcare services, physical inactivity, and limited healthcare prevention education. Improving physical activity can delay the progression from mild cognitive impairment/early-stage ADRDs to severe ADRDs and improve cognition and functional mobility. I will share perspectives from rural community members (older adults and care partners) and medical providers about how to adopt a physical activity behavioral intervention and the feasibility of implementation in rural Nebraska communities. I will additionally have interactive polling during the presentation to engage the audience and discuss ideas on how to advance physical activity promotion in health systems and rural communities.

#### **Learning Objectives:**

- Summarize the benefits of early cognitive decline detection.
- Describe the modifiable risk factors leading to elevated risk of Alzheimer’s Disease and Related Dementias in rural areas.
- Outline steps forward to enhance physical activity promotion in Nebraska’s health system and in rural communities initiatives and its adaptability to various hospital emergency departments.
- Attendees will discuss human resource strategies to mold retirement options to the demands and capabilities of individuals and hospital employers.

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## THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 19

1:00 P.M. - 2:00 P.M.

### **THE EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT ELDER MISTREATMENT TOOLKIT: MAKING IT EASY TO DO THE RIGHT THING**

**Kristin Lees Haggerty, PhD, MA**

Project Director, Education Development Center

**Rebecca Stoeckle, PhD**

Senior Vice President, Education Development Center

**Anthony Rosen, MD, MPH**

Assistant Professor of Medicine, Weill Cornell Medical College, Cornell University

**Olanike Ojelabi, MS, MPP**

Associate Project Director, Education Development Center

Elder mistreatment is a prevalent problem that too often goes undetected. Hospital emergency departments (ED) offer a unique opportunity to identify elder mistreatment and connect patients at risk with needed services, but most do not have training and protocols in place to help staff screen for and respond to elder mistreatment. Recognizing this gap, the National Collaboratory to Address Elder Mistreatment designed, tested, and is now disseminating the Elder Mistreatment Emergency Department Toolkit (EMED Toolkit). The EMED Toolkit is a streamlined and adaptable model for identifying and responding to elder mistreatment that has been implemented successfully in range of hospital emergency departments across the United States. During this session, National Collaboratory to Address Elder Mistreatment leaders will discuss the need for the EMED Toolkit, its alignment with national initiatives including the Age Friendly Health Systems and Geriatric Emergency Department Accreditation and share strategies for implementation. Participants will have the opportunity to engage in discussion to help them determine whether the EMED Toolkit is a good fit for their organization.

#### **Learning Objectives:**

- Outline the importance of emergency departments in identifying and addressing elder mistreatment and recognize the current gaps in training and protocols.
- Describe the key features of the Elder Mistreatment Emergency Department (EMED) Toolkit and its role in improving detection and response to elder mistreatment in hospital settings.
- Assess the potential benefits of adopting the EMED Toolkit in their own institution, considering alignment with national initiatives and its adaptability to various hospital emergency departments.

2:00 P.M. - 2:45 P.M.

### **CHRONIC KIDNEY DISEASE AWARENESS – IDENTIFYING GAPS IN CHRONIC DISEASE EDUCATION**

**Ardis Reed, MPH, RD, LD, CDCES, FADCES**

Certified Diabetes Care and Education Specialist and Chronic Disease Subject Matter Expert, TMF Health Quality Institute

This session discusses how implementing data can help identify gaps in chronic disease education. Using CDC data on CKD and poverty prevalence by county in Nebraska, Ardis will demonstrate how she used this data and other data sources to determine which counties have less access to chronic disease education; Diabetes Self-management Education and Support (DSMES), Diabetes Prevention Programs (DPP), any hypertension training by county across Nebraska.

#### **Learning Objectives:**

- Describe one example of using CDC data for population health needs.
- Discuss where there are gaps in chronic disease education with their community healthcare leaders.
- Identify chronic disease education programs that can be started in their communities.

3:00 P.M. - 4:00 P.M.

### **CONNECTION IS A CURE: ADDRESSING LONELINESS AND SOCIAL ISOLATION**

**Meredith Koob**

CircleTalk by Telligen Program Specialist, Social Engagement Program Master Trainer and Facilitator, Telligen

On May 3rd, 2023, the United States Surgeon General Dr. Vivek Murthy called the nation to action to help address the public health crisis of loneliness and social isolation. In this session, we will take a look into the Surgeon General's Advisory on Our Epidemic of Loneliness and Isolation, and you will have a chance to observe how one social engagement program has been methodically impacting social isolation and well-being for adults over the last 13 years, including older adult vulnerable populations.

#### **Learning Objectives:**

- Discuss the difference between loneliness and social isolation.
- Examine how widespread loneliness and/or social isolation is, how it affects health, who is at highest risk, and actions to take.
- Explore how a social engagement program has been building connection, belonging, and community with program participants.



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## THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 19

4:00 P.M. - 4:45 P.M.

### **SENIOR LIFE SOLUTIONS: INPATIENT AND OUTPATIENT MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES IN RURAL NEBRASKA FOR SENIORS**

Whitney Feldman, MHA

Senior Regional Director, Psychiatric Medical Care

This session will review Senior Life Solutions (SLS) services, locations, and financial impact for Critical Access Hospitals.

#### **Learning Objectives:**

- Explore SLS as a CMS-approved outpatient program for older adults in rural communities.
- Examine how this service supports the mental health of our aging population.
- Review the referral process and locations of the program in Nebraska.

4:45 P.M. - 6:00 P.M.

### **SOCIAL EVENT SPONSORED BY TMF HEALTH QUALITY INSTITUTE**

Snacks - 2 drink tickets per attendee, then a cash bar will be available.

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## AGENDA

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### FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 20

9:05 A.M. - 9:50 A.M.

#### **LEVELING THE PLAYING FIELD: ADDRESSING BIRTH INEQUITIES IN NEBRASKA**

**Sydney Carraher, DNP, APRN-NP, NNP-BC**  
Program Administrator, The Nebraska Perinatal Quality Improvement Collaborative

This session will delve into the critical issue of perinatal health disparities in Nebraska and nationwide, focusing on racial inequities in outcomes. Participants will explore the concept of respectful maternity care and its role in promoting birth equity. The session will highlight the Nebraska Perinatal Quality Improvement Collaborative (NPQIC) Birth Equity Initiative, detailing its goals, strategies, and implementation approach. Attendees will gain insights into efforts to engage healthcare providers, patients, and communities in improving the state's maternal and infant health outcomes.

#### **Learning Objectives:**

- Describe the disparities in birth outcomes for mothers and infants in Nebraska and nationwide.
- Describe respectful maternity care and its role in promoting birth equity. Describe updates to the regulatory requirements and related interpretive guidelines.
- Explore actionable steps to address birth inequities and improve maternal health outcomes in Nebraska.

9:50 A.M. - 10:35 A.M.

#### **ADDRESSING MENTAL HEALTH IN CHILDREN**

**Renee Rafferty, LIMHP, LPC**  
Senior Vice President of Behavioral Health, Children's Nebraska

**Jennifer McWilliams, MD, MS**  
Division Chief, Psychiatry, Children's Nebraska

This presentation will delve into Children's Nebraska's strategic expansion of acute services and their pioneering outreach efforts to equip primary care providers across the State of Nebraska with specialized mental health training.

#### **Learning Objectives:**

- Discuss the importance of expanding services to meet the growing mental health crisis for youth.
- Explain the "no wrong door" approach to crisis stabilization for youth.
- Discuss the value of empowering primary care providers to provide mental health care.

10:50 A.M. - 11:50 A.M.

#### **RURALITY AND ACCESS TO CARE PANEL**

**Moderator:**  
**David Palm, PhD**  
Associate Professor, UNMC Department of Health Services Research & Administrative Director, UNMC Center for Health Policy, University of Nebraska Medical Center

#### **Panelists:**

**Gary Anthone, MD**  
Chief Medical Officer, Vetter Senior Living

**Kyle Kellum, MHA**  
Chief Executive Officer, Jennie M. Melham Medical Center

**Jed Hansen, PhD, APRN, FNP-C**  
Executive Director, Nebraska Rural Health Association

**Brady Beecham, MD, MPH**  
Chief Medical Officer, Gothenburg Health

#### **Learning Objectives:**

- Discuss the importance of health care entities addressing needs in their communities.
- Outline regulations on staffing in the post-acute setting.
- Discuss rurality as a disparity and supporting vulnerable populations across Nebraska.
- Discuss opportunities to collaborate across the health care continuum to be successful in their communities, providing key take-aways for attendees as they consider starting their own programs.

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## SPEAKER BIOS

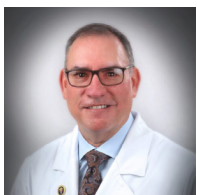
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### **WAJAHAT ALI, JD**

#### **Writer and Author**

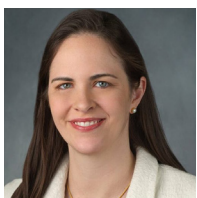
Wajahat Ali is an author, playwright, attorney, and podcast host. He is currently a Senior Fellow at the Western States Center and the President of the Before Columbus Foundation which gives out the prestigious American Book Awards. He was a contributing op-ed writer at the New York Times, a CNN contributor, and the co-host of Al Jazeera America's The Stream. He was also the author of the investigative report Fear Inc: The Roots of the Islamophobia Network in America released by the Center for American Progress and a consultant for the State Department where he designed and implemented the Generation Change leadership program to empower young social entrepreneurs in 8 countries. He has given two Ted Talks and given keynote speeches around the world.



### **GARY ANTHON, MD**

#### **Chief Medical Officer Vetter Senior Living**

Before joining Vetter Senior Living as Chief Medical Officer, Dr. Anthone was Chief Medical Officer and Director of the Division of Public Health for the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services, overseeing ten public health areas. He previously owned a private surgical practice in Omaha and was a faculty member in the Department of Surgery at Creighton University. Dr. Anthone directed Bariatric Surgery at Methodist Hospital in Omaha (2004–2016) and was Director of the Bariatrics Program and Associate Professor at the University of Southern California (1991–2003). Named among the Best Doctors in America (2005–2020), he has served in committee leadership roles in Nebraska and California.



### **BRADY BEECHAM, MD, MPH**

#### **Chief Medical Officer Gothenburg Health**

Dr. Brady D. Beecham is a family medicine doctor in Lexington, Nebraska, and is affiliated with multiple hospitals in the area, including Gothenburg Health and Lexington Regional Health Center, as well as the Two Rivers Public Health Department. She received her medical degree from the University of Nebraska College of Medicine. She completed her residency at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania. Dr. Brady D. Beecham has expertise in treating sleep apnea, chronic diabetes, and chronic high blood pressure, among other conditions.

Dr. Beecham currently serves as the Chief Medical Officer at Gothenburg Health. She recently received the Early Career Achievement Award from the UNMC's Alumni Association. She is a Fellow of the National Rural Health Association and serves on the Board of Directors of the Nebraska Rural Health Association.



### **SYDNI, CARRAHER, DNP, APRN-NP, NNP-BC**

#### **Program Administrator The Nebraska Perinatal Quality Improvement Collaborative**

Dr. Sydnie Carraher is the Program Administrator for the Nebraska Perinatal Quality Improvement Collaborative (NPQIC), a nonprofit organization whose mission is to improve delivery and access to evidence-based and equitable healthcare for all Nebraska mothers and newborns. She collaborates with Nebraska birthing facilities, community and state organizations, payors, legislators, and national partners to develop, implement, and evaluate quality improvement initiatives to improve perinatal outcomes. In addition to her role at NPQIC, she is a Neonatal Nurse Practitioner at CHI Health St Elizabeth in Lincoln, NE with 24 years of experience caring for critically ill infants and families. Sydnie also serves on the Nebraska Maternal Mortality Review Committee, ALIGN Maternal Child Health Committee, Nebraska Maternal Health Task Force, and the Nebraska Black Maternal Health Coalition. She received her Master of Science in Nursing and Doctorate in Nursing Practice from the University of Nebraska Medical Center with a research focus on reducing maternal disparities.



### **WHITNEY FELDMAN, MHA**

#### **Senior Regional Director Psychiatric Medical Care**

Whitney joined PMC in early 2016 as a Regional Director. She oversaw Senior Life Solutions program operations in her home-state of Iowa as well as neighboring states of Nebraska and Missouri. In 2018, Whitney accepted her now current role as Senior Regional Director, overseeing multiple regions in more than 20 states. Whitney began her career in medical services as a Certified Nursing Assistant and then as an acute-care respiratory therapist before moving into management of invasive ventilator units with Linde RSS. Crediting this experience with playing a pivotal role in her managerial development, Whitney managed day-to-day operations in four units located across the Southeast. Prior to joining PMC, she supervised a national team of healthcare professionals under Alana Healthcare's population health management. Whitney recruited medical directors nationwide and cultivated client relationships with national insurance providers, hospitals, and accountable care organizations. She utilized clinical, financial, and operational data to develop and implement strategies that ensured quality care while reducing healthcare costs. Whitney received her M.H.A from Stevens-Henager College.

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## SPEAKER BIOS

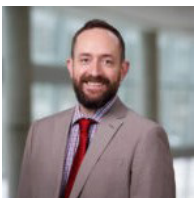
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**KRISTIN LEES HAGGERTY, PHD, MA**  
Project Director

**Education Development Center**

Kristin Lees Haggerty, PhD is a public health researcher focusing on the design, testing, and dissemination of innovations to improve health care for older adults. Dr. Lees Haggerty's work focuses on prevention and remediation of elder mistreatment and improving access to comprehensive dementia care. Dr. Lees Haggerty is the Project Director for the National Collaboratory to Address Elder Mistreatment and Associate Director of the National Dementia Care Collaborative. Dr. Lees Haggerty was recently awarded an NIH K-01 Career Development grant to investigate elder mistreatment among older adults with cognitive symptoms with mentorship from leading experts in elder abuse and dementia research.



**JED HANSEN, PHD, APRN, FNP-C**

**Executive Director**  
**Nebraska Rural Health Association**

Jed Hansen, PhD, APRN, FNP-C, is the Nebraska Rural Health Association's Executive Director and serves as the Nebraska Hospital Association's senior rural consultant. Additionally, his academic background is focused on healthcare utilization facilitators and barriers in ambulatory care settings, and he actively practices in Urgent Care and Family Practice. He is a Fellow of the National Rural Health Association, the 2023 NRHA National Advocate of the Year, and has been recognized as an influential healthcare executive and academic leader in Nebraska through the Nebraska Action Coalition and the University of Nebraska Medical Center, respectively.



**RASHELLE HOFFMAN, PT, DPT, PHD, GCS**

**Assistant Professor**  
**Creighton University**

Dr. Rashelle Hoffman is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Physical Therapy, School of Pharmacy and Health Professions at Creighton University in Omaha, NE. She achieved her Doctorate in Physical Therapy and PhD at the University of Nebraska Medical Center and is a Board Certified Geriatric Clinical Specialist. Additionally, she completed a Postdoctoral Fellowship at the University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus. Dr. Hoffman has clinical experience in skilled nursing, outpatient, long-term care, and home health settings. Her research and scholarly activities are focused on behavioral and neuroimaging outcomes to improve understanding of the brain activity underlying movement and cognition and to promote physical activity with a particular interest in rural-dwelling older adults with cognitive decline and their care partners in dyadic interventions.



**KYLE KELLUM, MHA**

**Chief Executive Officer**  
**Jennie M. Melham Medical Center**

Currently the CEO at Jennie M Melham Medical Center in Broken Bow, NE.

Previously CEO of Cherry County Hospital in Valentine, NE.



**MEREDITH KOOB**

**CircleTalk by Telligen Program Specialist**  
**Social Engagement Program Master Trainer and Facilitator**  
**Telligen**

Meredith is a Social Engagement Program Specialist and Master Trainer with CircleTalk by Telligen. She was born and raised in rural Rushville and Gering, Nebraska. After moving to the city of Denver Colorado where she was diagnosed with Type 1 insulin - dependent diabetes at age 20, she was fearful, felt like she had done something wrong to get diabetes, didn't yet have new friends established there, and became lonely upon self-isolating after this life-altering diagnosis. She is driven by seeing those at high risk of disconnection have empowering intersections with the healthcare system, and feel a sense of belonging within a community of support. As a result, Meredith sought out a healthcare career journey where she could be, and might help others be, more connected and thriving in health. This has included direct patient care as a Certified Nursing Assistant and Physical Therapist Assistant in long-term care, medical Home Health administrative support and leadership, and healthcare quality innovation and improvement work under contract with The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, including facilitation of Chronic Disease, Chronic Pain, and Diabetes Self-Management Programs. She is also certified in Leadership and Organizing in Action by the Harvard Business School of Executive Education, and this allows her to work alongside entire communities to implement collective action for improved health and well-being.



**JENNIFER MCWILLIAMS, MD, MS**

**Division Chief, Psychiatry**  
**Children's Nebraska**

Dr. McWilliams is a Child and Adolescent Psychiatrist and the Clinical Service Chief in the Department of Behavioral Health and well as the Medical Director for Digital Health and Innovation and COPE for Children's Nebraska. She has been with Children's since September 2015. She attended medical school at the University of Nebraska Medical Center and completed her residency and fellowship at the University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics. She has a Master's degree in Health Care Delivery Science from Dartmouth. She has dedicated her career to improving access to mental health care for pediatric patients.

# VULNERABLE POPULATIONS CONFERENCE

## SPEAKER BIOS

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**OLANIKE OJELABI, MS, MPP**  
Associate Project Director

**Education Development Center**

Olanike Ojelabi, an Associate Project Director, specializes in public health and policy research. She is an expert in generating ideas and strategies to improve identifying, reporting, and responding to elder mistreatment. She co-leads projects focused on strengthening health care and adult protective systems to better support older adults' well-being, including Pathways to Safety, a National Institute of Justice-sponsored initiative. Prior to joining EDC, she worked with the Center for Social Policy at the University of Massachusetts Boston. She provided research support on several projects including the City of Cambridge Workforce Study, where she co-designed and conducted a qualitative study to inform the growth of an integrated workforce development program and services for the city. She is currently a PhD candidate in Public Policy at the University of Massachusetts Boston.



**DAVID PALM, PHD**  
Associate Professor, UNMC Department of Health Services Research & Administrative Director, UNMC Center for Health Policy  
**University of Nebraska Medical Center**

David W. Palm, PhD, is an associate professor in the Department of Health Services Research & Administration of the UNMC College of Public Health and serves as director of the college's Center for Health Policy. He also has been an instructor in the Department of Economics of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. Before joining UNMC in 2014, worked for 40 years for the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services. His roles included serving as administrator of the Office of Community and Rural Health, as a strategic planner in the Division of Strategic and Financial Planning, and as director in the Division of Health Systems Planning and Evaluation. He also was director of the Bureau of Health Planning and Data Management, director of the Division of Health Systems Planning, and a health economist in the Division of Health Systems Planning.



**RENEE RAFFERTY, LIMHP, LPC**  
Senior Vice President of Behavioral Health  
**Children's Nebraska**

Renee Rafferty is the Senior Vice President of Behavioral Health and Wellness. She has been in the behavioral health field for over 31 years and has over 20 years of leadership experience in health care. She worked for Providence Health & Services for 30 years and has experience in many different clinical settings including inpatient, residential treatment, outpatient therapy, substance use treatment and crisis care. She is passionate about expanding access to care and has developed new programs including residential treatment that specializes in treating trauma, mental health services in schools, and led a system wide approach to providing access to addiction medicine.



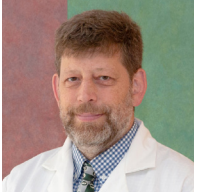
**ARDIS REED, MPH, RD, LD, CDCES, FADCES**  
Certified Diabetes Care and Education Specialist and Chronic Disease Subject Matter Expert  
**TMF Health Quality Institute**

As a Registered Dietitian and Certified Diabetes Care and Education Specialist, Ardis has been the Chronic Disease subject matter expert at TMF Health Quality Institute for the past 14 years. In addition, Ardis has worked on Chronic Care Management, Practice Workflow, Chronic Kidney Health Education, and Adult Learning Techniques. She often speaks at national, state and local conferences on topics about diabetes and related chronic diseases. Ms. Reed has been a volunteer DSMES program auditor with the Association of Diabetes Care and Education Specialists (ADCES) for the past 14 years. Ms. Reed proudly served on the Texas Diabetes Council from 2018-2023, and now continues her volunteer commitment on the council's advocacy and outcomes workgroup.

# VULNERABLE POPULATIONS CONFERENCE

## SPEAKER BIOS

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### **ANTHONY ROSEN, MD, MPH**

**Assistant Professor of Medicine**

**Professor of Medicine**

Tony Rosen, MD, MPH is a researcher in elder abuse and geriatric injury prevention at Weill Cornell Medical College and a practicing Emergency Physician at New York-Presbyterian Hospital. Dr. Rosen's research focuses on improving identification, intervention, and prevention of elder abuse in emergency departments and other health care settings. His research has explored forensic injury patterns in physical elder abuse and health care utilization among elder abuse victims using Medicare claims data and data mining/machine learning approaches. He has also led the development of an emergency department-based multidisciplinary Vulnerable Elder Protection Team to assess, treat, and ensure the safety of elder abuse and neglect victims while collecting evidence and working closely with the authorities. Currently, he is working with colleagues on screening and intervention in primary care clinics for caregiver neglect. His work with collaborators also explores the optimal role of prosecutors in elder abuse response.



### **REBECCA STOECKLE, PHD**

**Senior Vice President**

**Education Development Center**

Rebecca Jackson Stoeckle is EDC's Senior Vice President and Director of Strategic Partnerships, leading a body of work at the intersection of intervention design and scalable systems change. Balancing innovation and pragmatism, this globally focused work includes addressing elder abuse in rural and urban settings, redressing the COVID-19 disruption of education systems through virtual first job opportunities for at-risk youth, and expanding access to evidence-based psychotherapies through direct-to-consumer digital applications. Rebecca's projects have received national recognition and awards for excellence in innovation and sustainable systems change.

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