

2025 MALA Conference and Dementia Summit
May 6 and 7, 2025
Crowne Plaza, Lansing

CEU Information

If you attend the entire in-person conference, you will earn 8 AFC CEUs and have access to virtual sessions to complete your 16 AFC CEUs. If you are unable to attend in-person, you can complete your 16 AFC CEUs through virtual sessions. Virtual sessions are available at your convenience during the months of May and June.

*Please note that in 2025 we are unable to offer CEUs for nurses, social workers, and nursing home administrators. AFC CEUS will be made available.

In-Person Sessions at the Crowne Plaza

Tuesday, May 6
1:00 – 2:30 p.m.

Workshop A

"The Wisdom on Wheels" Journey: A Nationwide 5 Year Quest to Capture the Hearts and Minds of the Greatest Generation

"The Wisdom on Wheels Journey" is a one-of-a-kind session that encapsulates the essence of adventure, human connection, and storytelling. This session will present the idea and purpose of the journey, and discuss the lessons learned of resiliency, joy, gratitude and faith among the elders interviewed, especially individuals living with dementia. "The Wisdom on Wheels Journey" is a powerful message to deliver to the dedicated senior living profession. Almost everyone working within communities has a connection to an elder that got them into the profession in the first place. This session recreates those connections. By sharing this heartwarming and enlightening journey, we hope to inspire senior living leaders to ensure that capturing the stories of the elders becomes an expectation within their communities. Join us in our mission to preserve the stories that have shaped our world, one conversation at a time.

Presenter: Jack York, Founder of TaleGate and iN2L Technology

Workshop B

Department Behavioral Health Update

This session will provide an update on key issues impacting providers contracting with community mental health services programs (CMHSPs) throughout the state. The topics include a state budget update; waiver updates; conflict free access and planning; and other recent or pending developments. The session will include a question-and-answer segment.

Presenters: Kristen Morningstar, Director of Specialty Behavioral Health Services, Michigan Department of Health and Human Services

Workshop C

LGBTQ+ Older Adults: A Step Forward in Understanding (an Implicit Bias Training)

This training is an opportunity to explore LGBTQ+ communities through an aging lens. This serves as an introductory level presentation that focuses only on the brief history of the LGBT population, critical terms and definitions, overview of statistics and demographics in Michigan to better understand the challenges and needs of LGBTQ+ older adults.

Presenters: Caitlin Kefgen, Training and Education Director and Alberto Martinez, Training and Education Administrator, MiGen: Michigan LGBTQ+ Elders Network

Workshop D

Creating a Culture of Possibility and Potential

This session explores the transformative power of cultivating a culture of possibilities and potential within your care driven organization. Attendees will learn how to shift from traditional practices to a mindset that embraces growth, empowerment, and innovation. With a focus on strengthening leadership, improving performance, and fostering a collaborative environment, this session will provide actionable strategies for leaders and teams to unlock their full potential. Through real-world examples, we'll discuss how to empower individuals at every level, enhance engagement, and inspire a culture that drives excellence. Participants will walk away with practical tools to begin to create an environment where both staff and residents thrive, resulting in improved outcomes and a stronger, more effective organization. *(offered again Wednesday 2:30-3:30)*

Presenter: Erin Wallace, BS, Director of Quality Assurance and Education, Michigan Assisted Living Association

Tuesday May 6
3:00 - 4:30 p.m.

Workshop A

Navigating Anger and Depression in Dementia: Understanding and Supporting Emotional Well-being

Emotions like depression, anxiety, and anger are common in the dementia journey, but the way these emotions are experienced and managed can be vastly different from person to person. In this session, members of the National Council of Dementia Minds will offer valuable insights into how individuals living with dementia understand and cope with these emotions. Discover strategies they use to manage their emotional well-being and learn how you can support them in ways that honor their experiences and needs. Join us to gain practical tools that can make a real difference in enhancing emotional health and well-being for those you support. Let's transform how we understand and respond to emotional challenges in dementia—together.

Presenters: Brenda Roberts, MA, Chief Executive Officer, Michigan Assisted Living Association, and a Panel of Persons Living with Dementia from National Council of Dementia Minds

Workshop B

Breaking Free from Burnout: A Proven System for Recharging Your Life

At times, we all feel overwhelmed, exhausted, and drained. While this can be exponential for caregivers and healthcare workers, we can all break free from burnout with the right tools, mindset, and guidance. This transformative talk offers a practical, evidence-based approach to breaking free from burnout and recharging your mind, body, and personal well-being. Not only will you discover proven strategies to manage stress, improve work-life balance, and cultivate lasting resilience, you will walk away empowered with tools and resources to take back to your organization to support your community. Together, we will take control of our well-being, igniting our happiness and joy in life.

Presenter: Jay Johnson, MA, Chief Executive Officer of COEUS Creative Group

Wednesday, May 7
8:30 – 10:00 a.m.

Plenary Session

Michigan Assisted Living Association Welcome and Update

Presenters: Robert Stein, General Counsel, Michigan Assisted Living Association; Kathleen Murphy, General Counsel, Michigan Assisted Living Association; and John Williams, Board President, Michigan Assisted Living Association Board of Directors

Legislative Update

Presenter: Melissa McKinley, President, Kelly Cawthorne

Mental Health in the Workplace

Join us and learn from Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity Division Director, Sean Egan, as he shares about the importance of mental health in the workplace, and Michigan's unique initiative to help support these needs. Walk away with fresh insights and understanding of how impactful supporting mental health can be both for your employee as well as the financial health of your organization.

Presenter: Sean Egan, BA, JD, State of Michigan, Division Director - Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity

Wednesday May 7
10:30 – 12:00 p.m.

Workshop A

Low Tech, No Tech: Meaningful Engagement Strategies for People Living with Dementia

Engaging individuals in meaningful ways is essential in all residential settings. This session will showcase innovative, low-tech and no-tech approaches for creating positive interactions and fostering relationships with individuals across diverse populations. Experience live demonstrations of two unique engagement strategies to create enriching experiences for individuals you support. Members of the National Council of Dementia Minds will share their personal insights on the impact of these approaches in promoting connection, joy, and well-being for people of all ages and abilities.

Presenters: Brenda Roberts, MA, Chief Executive Officer, Michigan Assisted Living Association, and a Panel of Persons Living with Dementia from National Council of Dementia Minds and Allyson Schrier, Co-Founder and President of Zinnia

Workshop B

What Your Organization Needs to Know About Recent Changes in the Law: Hot Topics and Guidance on Issues Impacting Providers

Recent and pending changes in regulatory enforcement and employment law will significantly impact how providers in Michigan operate. This seminar, presented by Bator Lobb, P.C., reviews recent developments in the law that directly affect providers and offers guidance on how to achieve compliance.

Presenter: Christian A. Lobb, BA, MPA, JD, Attorney, Bator Lobb, P.C.

Workshop C

Creating Hope Through Action

Create hope in your family and your community by educating yourself about suicide prevention. Learn the warning signs and risk factors for suicide, how to support someone considering suicide, and familiarize yourself with the 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline.

Presenters: Doug Roede, BA, M.Div, Training Consultant and Floyd Booker BA, MM, Senior Director of Learning and Diversity, Equity and Inclusion, Hope Network

Workshop D

Strengthening Your Workforce for Years to Come: Coaching and Empowerment for the Win

In a fiercely competitive workforce environment, organizations frequently use tools like sign-on bonuses, competitive salaries, and flexible schedules to find and keep good talent. But that only addresses part of the issue: To truly build a workplace where caregivers want to work and stay for the long haul, they need a culture where their voice matters and where they can make a vital contribution every day.

In this session, you'll learn strategies for building and sustaining a coaching culture – the cornerstone of an empowered workforce that can turn organizations into the workplace of choice in any given market. Let's explore how managers and leaders can use a growth approach to developing team members, helping them to listen to each other and guide them toward quality decision-making. Great coaches lead great teams that make great decisions even when no one's watching. Come learn how a coaching culture can strengthen any organization's workforce for years to come.

Presenter: Marla DeVries, BA, Chief Learning Officer, Centers for Innovation

12:00 – 1:00 p.m.

Buffet Lunch with Networking Opportunities –Lunch and seating will be available in the banquet room. Attendees can grab lunch and network with others or use the time to catch up on pressing emails and phone calls.

Wednesday May 7

1:00 – 2:00 p.m.

Workshop A

Dining with Dignity: Enhancing the Mealtime Experience for Individuals with Neurocognitive Disorders

Join us for a powerful session led by individuals living with dementia, where they will share their experiences of the world around them, with a focus on sensory perceptions during mealtimes. Through their personal insights, you'll gain a deeper understanding of how individuals with neurocognitive disorders experience dining. Discover practical, person-centered strategies to improve the mealtime experience, create meaningful connections, and support dignity and well-being. Together, we can transform mealtimes into enriching moments that nourish both body and spirit for all individuals.

Presenters: Brenda Roberts, MA, Chief Executive Officer, Michigan Assisted Living Association, and a Panel of Persons Living with Dementia from National Council of Dementia Minds

Workshop B

MIOSHA Resources: Navigating Compliance with Support

Gain the knowledge and available support you may need to prepare for a potential visit at your service site. This session will guide you through the MIOSHA compliance process with expert advice from a MIOSHA representative; helping you access valuable resources that can ensure your workplace is safe and compliant. We'll also explore how MIOSHA's consultation program can be a vital resource in fostering a proactive safety culture within your organization. Explore valuable insights and practical steps to ensure a smooth and successful visit, while also fostering a safer and more compliant workplace that ensures a confident workforce.

Presenter: Lynn Totsky, MS, Senior Industrial Hygienist, MIOSHA, Consultation, Education, and Training Division

Workshop C

Changing the Course: Servant Leadership Still Works

This session will equip and empower leaders with the essential skills and competencies to confidently lead and serve their teams. By fostering positive interactions, participants will learn to build a culture where employees feel valued, supported, and motivated. The focus will be on driving personal growth, well-being, and a renewed commitment to servant leadership principles in the modern workplace.

Presenter: Kayonna Ferguson, LPC, Director of Residential Operations, Hope Network

Workshop D

Risk Management Update - What's the Worst that Could Happen?

This session will provide a review of court cases, verdicts and claims for insights on how to manage risk in a world where providers are becoming a primary target for personal injury attorneys.

Presenter: Dan Hale, BA, JD, President, Michigan Business Insurance, Marsh McLennan Agency

Wed May 7

2:30 – 3:30 p.m.

Workshop A

From Screen to Conversation: A Documentary and Panel Discussion featuring 'Dementia and Living Well'

Experience a powerful documentary, Dementia and Living Well, featuring members of the National Council of Dementia Minds who share their personal journeys of living well with dementia. The film highlights their choice to embrace a fulfilling, purpose-driven life despite the challenges of dementia. After the screening, join the featured individuals for an insightful discussion and Q&A, where they will offer real-world strategies and inspiration for supporting others in living their best lives with dementia. This session invites you to challenge the stigma surrounding dementia and take actionable steps to create a culture of well-being and possibility for those you support. Don't miss the chance to be part of a conversation that will reshape how we think about life with dementia.

Presenters: Brenda Roberts, MA, Chief Executive Officer, Michigan Assisted Living Association, and a Panel of Persons Living with Dementia from National Council of Dementia Minds and special guest Jacquelyn Pogue

Workshop B

Health Care Facilities: Licensing Update for Homes for the Aged Licensed for 21 or More

The Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs (LARA) will provide an update on the latest home for the aged (HFA) licensing developments. This workshop's update is for providers with homes for the aged licensed for 21 or more.

Presenter: Andrea L. Moore, Manager, Long-Term Care State Licensing Section, Health Facility Licensing, Permits, and Support Division, Bureau of Community and Health Systems, Michigan Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs

Workshop C

Creating a Culture of Possibility and Potential

This session explores the transformative power of cultivating a culture of possibilities and potential within your care driven organization. Attendees will learn how to shift from traditional practices to a mindset that embraces growth, empowerment, and innovation. With a focus on strengthening leadership, improving performance, and fostering a collaborative environment, this session will provide actionable strategies for leaders and teams to unlock their full potential. Through real-world examples, we'll discuss how to empower individuals at every level, enhance engagement, and inspire a culture that drives excellence. Participants will walk away with practical tools to begin to create an environment where both staff and residents thrive, resulting in improved outcomes and a stronger, more effective organization.

Presenter: Erin Wallace, BS, Director of Quality Assurance and Education, Michigan Assisted Living Association

Workshop D

Licensing Updates for Adult Foster Care

The Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs (LARA) will provide an update on the latest adult foster care (AFC) licensing developments. This presentation will include a status report on the proposal to combine all the categories of AFC homes into a single licensing rule set.

Presenter: Jay Calewatts, Division Director, Adult Foster Care Licensing Division, Bureau of Community and Health Systems, Michigan Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs

Virtual Courses – Included in the cost of the live conference registration. Available May 1 – June 30, 2025

Supervisors' Role in Safety

This course is designed for first line supervision, safety and health committee members, and management personnel. Topics covered include employee safety and health training, accident investigation, hazard recognition, and self-inspection techniques. This course gives tips to supervision on methods to integrate health and safety into their daily duties and responsibilities.

Presenter: Lynn Totsky, MA, Senior Industrial Hygienist, MIOSHA, CET Division

Understanding and Improving Your Safety Culture

This course will provide knowledge and tools for participants to gain an understanding of the factors that affect culture and how it impacts safety performance. The topics covered include techniques to improve safety culture, and examine what good, positive safety culture looks like.

Presenter: Lynn Totsky, MA, Senior Industrial Hygienist, MIOSHA, CET Division

Nurturing Resilience: A Workshop on Self-Care and Mindfulness in Caring Roles

This self-care workshop will introduce tools and strategies for caring for yourself while supporting others. Finding time and energy for ourselves can be challenging. This time together will offer space and tools to reconnect with yourself and your needs. Together, we will identify ways to hold time in your day just for you, opportunities to cultivate joy through mindfulness and gratitude practices, explore tips for building supportive and energizing connections and review resources to help maintain a sense of balance and wellbeing.

Presenters: Chardae Korhonen, LMSW, Youth and Family Outreach Specialist, Stay Well Program

Long Term Care Ombudsman: Why are they knocking at my door?

In this session, participants will learn about the unique resident-driven advocacy role of the Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program. We will review the program's authority under state and federal rules and regulations as well as discuss our approach to resident-driven and systemic advocacy. We will explain our various program services and share examples of case resolution which benefits both the resident and the operator. Lastly, we'll explain why a local ombudsman may be reaching out to your home at this time.

Presenter: Salli Pung, Michigan State Long Term Care Ombudsman

Preventing and Responding to Behaviors in People with a Developmental Disability and Dementia

Behavior change is a common symptom of dementia and may require different interventions than responding to behaviors caused by developmental disabilities. This program is designed to help attendees learn more about common behavior changes in those with developmental disabilities and dementia, including training to help decipher the root cause of behavior and how to prevent and respond to common behavior changes.

Presenter: Kristi Davis, CTRS, DDSSP Program Manager, Alzheimer's Association

Communication Challenges in Supporting Individuals with a Developmental Disability and Dementia

The desire to communicate and connect with other people is a basic human need. In this training, we will discuss how communication abilities may change as people with a developmental disability progress through the stages of dementia. Attendees will also learn how to modify their own communication and listening strategies to maximize understanding.

Presenter: Kristi Davis, CTRS, DDSSP Program Manager, Alzheimer's Association

End of Life Issues for People with a Developmental Disability and Dementia

Dementia is a progressive disorder, and Alzheimer's disease is the sixth-leading cause of death in America. In this training, attendees will learn what dementia looks like in the late stages, strategies and resources to maximize quality of life, and why commonly used medical interventions for those with a developmental disability may not be useful for those with late-stage dementia.

Presenter: Kristi Davis, CTRS, DDSSP Program Manager, Alzheimer's Association

Applied Gerontology Research and Education to Eliminate Disparities (AGREED)

In parts of Wayne County, MI including Detroit, older adults are dying at twice the rate of those who live elsewhere in Michigan. Disparities in social determinants of health (SDOH), which include access to healthcare, are major contributing factors to poor health outcomes. Alongside this, the increasing number of individuals diagnosed and living with dementia is contributing to the growing shortage of geriatric providers.

The A.G.R.E.E.D (Applied Gerontology Research and Education to Eliminate Disparities)-GWEP (Geriatric Workforce Enhancement Program) was developed to address health care barriers including disparities in SDOH plaguing our aging population. This program aims to improve geriatric care through quality improvement, education, and skills training by assisting various health systems to become Age Friendly Health Systems. Two key components of the A.G.R.E.E.D GWEP initiative that are expected to have the greatest impact on the Michigan Assisted Living Association are our geriatric specialist training and our Age Friendly Health System Recognition. Both of these offerings can be made available to assisted living facilities across the state of Michigan. In this presentation, we will outline how assisted living facilities receive Age-Friendly recognition, how we can train staff to become certified as a geriatric specialist, and the positive impact these efforts will have on the aging population.

Presenter: Dr. Cynthera McNeil, DNP, APRN, AGPCNP-C, FAANP

Compassion Fatigue: Helping Helping Professionals

Helping professionals often share many of the emotions experienced by the vulnerable populations they serve. Intended or not, individuals who serve in the helping professions are affected by the work they do. Compassion fatigue can be one of the outcomes of the work of helping professionals. This presentation will introduce the concepts of compassion fatigue and compassion satisfaction. Participants will understand these concepts and will learn methods for addressing risk and promoting resilience in the work they do with vulnerable populations. This topic is one that revolves around self-care in helping professions. Participants will understand the concepts of compassion fatigue and compassion satisfaction as well as learn methods to address reducing the risk for compassion fatigue.

Presenter: Dr. Catherine Macomber, PhD, LMSW, Assistant Dean of the College of Health & Human Services, BSW Program Director, and Professor in the Social Work & Youth Services Department of Saginaw Valley State University

Medication Management and Using Your Pharmacy Resources

Learn about medication management guidelines based on the Michigan Public Health Code. In addition, learn ways that the local Long Term Care pharmacy is able to assist at the assisted living/adult foster care level in order to increase safety, prevent med errors, and provide resources.

Presenter: Sarah Westerbrink, RN, Nurse Account Manager, Guardian Pharmacy

MI Health Link: Past, Present, and Future

As the CMS Financial Alignment Initiative (FAI) comes to an end, participating states were given the option to sunset their programs or transition them into an integrated Dual Eligible Special Needs Plan (D-SNP) model. Michigan has elected to transition its FAI demonstration program, MI Health Link, to a Highly Integrated Dual Eligible Special Needs Plan (HIDE SNP) model by January 1, 2026. This session will explore the history and trajectory of the FAI and MI Health Link, including lessons learned and opportunities for Michigan's new HIDE SNP program, MI Coordinated Health (MICH).

Presenter: Allison Beaudouin, MDHHS State Administrative Manager, Medicaid Policy and Health Systems Innovation

Effective Grief and Bereavement Practices for Staff and Residents

Unaddressed grief and bereavement have been shown to have serious effects on residents and staff. In this session, leaders and staff will learn about the impact of grief and bereavement on those working and residing in communities as well as learn about what strategies are being used to mitigate this impact. Attendees will understand current gaps and come away with easily implemented best practices to improve and protect the mental and physical health of the residents and staff of the communities they serve.

Presenter: Christy MacDermid-Avery, Business Analyst, Altarum

The Montessori-Inspired Lifestyle for Memory Care and Assisted Living

In this session, we will explore how Montessori principles, originally developed to support early childhood education, can be adapted to enhance the lives of persons living with dementia. Grounded in dignity, equality, and respect, the Montessori approach offers practical strategies for creating environments and interactions that support independence, engagement, and well-being.

Presenter: Dr. Evan Shelton, Center for Applied Research

Facility Training and Compliance

Learn best practices for an individual's paperwork for pharmacy onboarding and staff training topics such as: CPR, med pass, eMAR and more. Also learn ways to prepare for state audits, specifically when it comes to Med cart maintenance, proper medication disposal and proper HIPAA disposal within the facility.

Presenter: Leslie Durbin, Field Operations Specialist, Kalamazoo Long Term Care Pharmacy

Michigan's Mental Health in the Workplace

Join us and learn from Michigan's Labor and Economic Opportunity Deputy Director of Labor, Sean Egan, as he shares about the importance of mental health in the workplace, and Michigan's unique initiative to help support these needs.

Walk away with fresh insights and understanding of how impactful supporting mental health can be both for your employee as well as the financial health of your organization.

Presenter: Sean Egan, BA, JD, Deputy Director, Labor and Economic Opportunity, State of Michigan

Integrating Music into Memory Care

Unlock music's potential to boost well-being and connection. We will learn about the amazing benefits of music, how it enhances resident care and quality of life, and simple steps to put this in action.

Presenter: Dan Cohen, MSW, Founder Right to Music

From Minor to Major Renovations: Improving the Environment You Have

Even when new construction isn't an option, care communities can enhance their designed environment to support person-centered care goals, increase safety for residents and staff, and enhance their marketing appeal. Identifying the most impactful changes within a given budget can be challenging. This session describes the EASE: Environmental Audit Scoring Evaluation tool, and how it can be used by providers and designers to identify opportunities for improvements in existing settings and guide a redesign process. The EASE is deeply based on decades of environmental research and embraces person-centered care values and practices. Numerous examples, from small, inexpensive projects to major renovations, will be explored.

Presenter: Margaret Calkins, PhD, EDAC, FGSA

Overcoming Dementia Stigma: If its mentionable, its manageable

Individuals with a stigmatized disease such as Alzheimer's disease or related dementia (ADRD) are frequently isolated from others. Stigma related to ADRD may be particularly harsh among people of color, and further, is associated with reduced awareness of dementia services and reduced help-seeking among minoritized groups. Further, dementia stigma is often prevalent among health care providers. This session will discuss efforts to overcome dementia stigma through a multi-pronged project. The collaboration between university researchers, social service organizations, community members, city government and the National Council of Dementia Minds will be presented to illustrate efforts to create messages about dementia that meet people where they are, to educate and overcome shame. By doing so, both lay people and health professionals will be better able to talk about dementia; talking about dementia is a necessary step to overcome stigma and leads to the ability to seek and provide resources. While this project focuses on one racial/ethnic minority community that faces high levels of dementia stigma, the methods used can be applied more widely.

Presenter: Dr. Kristine Ajrouch, PhD, Director, Michigan Center for Contextual Factors in Alzheimer's Disease (MCCFAD)

AI to Support Everyday Life for People with Dementia

We are seeing new AI systems for people with dementia, such as brain games which detect and diagnose cognitive impairment and smart-home systems to monitor the daily activities of people with dementia while caregivers are away. Although these are important areas of research, there are open opportunities to extend the use of AI to support individuals with dementia in a variety of different aspects of everyday life outside of diagnosis and monitoring. In this talk, Dr. Emma Dixon will discuss her work in the area of AI for people experiencing age-related cognitive changes. First, she will describe ways AI may be used to provide personalized solutions to people with dementia. She will then discuss how some tech-savvy people with dementia have already configured commercially available AI systems to support their everyday activities. Finally, she will discuss how emerging generative AI tools can be used to support the everyday lives of people living with dementia.

Presenter: Dr. Emma Dixon, PhD, Assistant Professor, Human-Centered Computing, Clemson University

Fall Prevention Solutions That Really Work

This seminar "Fall Prevention Solutions That Really Work" will offer practical solutions to some of the most challenging real-life situations you face in your facilities for those older adults who fall or are at risk of falling. Built on today's best practices, this program will provide you with some effective tools to:

- Better predict and prevent falls with effective fall prevention tools and strategies

- Educate staff to be better detectives in seeing potential fall risk factors and implement interventions to combat these
- Present ideas for better communication with all those involved when addressing FALL PREVENTION

Presenter: Shelly Denes PT, C/NDT, CFPS, CGCP, Denes Physical Therapy Consulting LLC

Creating a Culture of Possibility and Potential

This session explores the transformative power of cultivating a culture of possibilities and potential within your care driven organization. Attendees will learn how to shift from traditional practices to a mindset that embraces growth, empowerment, and innovation. With a focus on strengthening leadership, improving performance, and fostering a collaborative environment, this session will provide actionable strategies for leaders and teams to unlock their full potential. Through real-world examples, we'll discuss how to empower individuals at every level, enhance engagement, and inspire a culture that drives excellence. Participants will walk away with practical tools to begin to create an environment where both staff and residents thrive, resulting in improved outcomes and a stronger, more effective organization.

Presenter: Erin Wallace, BS, Director of Quality Assurance and Education, Michigan Assisted Living Association

Insulin Administration and Other Variables

Insulin administration is a critical component of diabetes management, especially in group home settings. This session will explore the importance of proper insulin use to regulate blood sugar levels, prevent serious health complications such as nerve damage and kidney issues, and improve overall well-being. Participants will gain insights into the role of insulin for individuals with both Type 1 and Type 2 diabetes, understanding how it helps maintain glucose control and reduces the risk of long-term complications. Join us to learn best practices for safe and effective insulin administration.

Presenter: Bill Snider, PharmD, Rx Pharmacy

Managing Difficult Behaviors with Positivity

Behaviors can significantly impact your resident's quality of life. As Activity Professionals, we must piece together the puzzle to provide quality services and programming that meets their individualized needs and understand that behaviors are nothing more than a means for communication when words are no longer effective. This session will provide an in-depth look at behavior interventions. Gain knowledge and confidence in person-specific interventions. Learn the importance of building relationships with the persons we serve. Focus on interventions that can help improve quality of life.

Presenter: Alissa Tagg, MS ACC/EDU CADDT CDP CDCS-RCCS, DCS. Association Director for the National Association of Activity Professionals

Understanding the Risks: Commonalities and Distinctions of Sexual Abuse of Minors and Adults across Industries

The best offense is a good defense, especially when it comes to protecting your vulnerable residents and community. As one of the least reported types of abuse, sexual abuse and molestation risk can feel overwhelming for many senior living organizations to become proactive about.

Presenter: Gina Hunter, MLS, RN, CPHRM, CPG, Marsh McLennan Agency (MMA)

Using Technology Driven Visual Cues to Assist with Activities of Daily Living.

In this session Allyson Schrier, co-founder and President of Zinnia TV will share and explore the pros and cons of standard cuing practices used to support people with dementia or IDD in adherence to activities of daily living. Allyson will then introduce two technology-based tools that can help promote and retain independence in accomplishing ADLs. Map Habit is a customizable step-by-step visual 'map' of ADLs like brushing teeth, taking a shower, and IADLs like taking a bus to work. ZinniaTV models ADLs, promoting adherence with compelling videos that show others engaging successfully in a given activity, and enjoying the process.

Presenter: Allyson Schrier, MA, Co-Founder and President Zinnia TV

Hospice 101 and End of Life Care

This session reviews the basics of hospice care, coverage, and services. You will review common questions and debunk misconceptions. This course discusses interventions to support the dying person through effective pain management and compassionate care.

Presenter: Melissa Wedberg, Emmanuel Hospice

Holistic Hospice and Dementia Care

In this session, you will come to understand the impact of caring for the whole person at the end of life. You will be able to recognize the benefits and value of holistic, non-pharmaceutical interventions in hospice care. You will also explore challenges and interventions in caring for hospice patients with dementia while simultaneously integrating the concepts and interventions of holistic care.

Presenter: Kaitlyn Dawson, LMSW, APHSW-C, Emmanuel Hospice