

Conference Sessions

Names in purple honor speakers living with dementia.
Names in green honor current and former care partners.

THURSDAY, JUNE 20

4:30–6:30 pm

4th FLOOR

Reception, Exhibits, Dementia Arts Fest & the Living Well Tech Expo

You won't want to miss this fun social event to meet conference participants and speakers from across the country and around the world and visit with an impressive selection of exhibitors. Enjoy the Arts Fest with inspiring works of art created by individuals with dementia (Buckhead Ballroom I-Lobby Level), have hands-on experiences with innovative technology products at the *Living Well Tech Expo* (Woodruff Room-Lobby Level), and the awarding of the **2nd Re-Imagining Life with Dementia Technology Award** (Grand Ballroom Concourse).

8:00–9:30 pm

GRAND BALLROOM

DAA Got Talent?

Bring your game and compete for prizes (and laughs) at this merry talent competition.

FRIDAY, JUNE 21

8:00–9:30 am

GRAND BALLROOM

Welcome & Opening Panel Discussion

Baby boomers and younger generations of people who have dementia are changing the worldview and understanding about living with dementia. This moderated panel of individuals living with varied types of dementia will share their experiences and perspectives and engage conference participants in a lively discussion about re-imagining life with dementia.

Moderated by **Karen Love**, Executive Director-Dementia Action Alliance; Panelists – **Mike Belleville**, DAA Board and Advisory Board Member; **Robert Bowles**, DAA Advisory Board Member; **Laurie Scherrer**, DAA Advisory Board Member; **Brian Van Buren**, DAA Advisory Board Member.

KEYNOTE PLENARY SESSION

9:30–10:30 am

GRAND BALLROOM

THE RIGHTS OF PERSONS WITH DEMENTIA: STEREOTYPES, PREJUDICES AND DISCRIMINATION

Explore stigmatizing practices in the form of stereotypes, prejudices and discrimination experienced by individuals and families living with dementia discussed by three international advocates who champion the human rights of persons with dementia. Hear from an advocate living with dementia who has addressed the United Nations on this topic. Consider how we can act in solidarity to support the rights of all individuals living with dementia.

G. Allen Power, MD, Geriatrician, International Educator, Author, Advocate & DAA Board Member; **Phyllis Fehr, MLA, RN, S.A.N.E.** former Board Member of the Dementia Alliance International & International Speaker; and **Daniella Greenwood**, Activist, Speaker, & Author.

CONCURRENT SESSIONS

11:00–12:30 pm

PROMOTING EMPOWERMENT: PARTNERING WITH PEOPLE WITH DEMENTIA IN RESEARCH, SERVICES, SUPPORTS AND THE ARTS

BUCKHEAD II

Leaders working to empower people living with dementia will discuss empowerment, how the status quo for people living with dementia is disempowering, and ways in which people living with dementia are becoming empowered. The session will cover recommendations from an NIH Summit, details about a PCORI funded project, and one community's journey to become dementia-inclusive.

Stephani Shivers, MEd, OTR/L, CDP, Chief Operating Officer-Community Services of LiveWell Alliance, Inc.; **Sadie Harmon, MFA**, Dementia-Inclusive Communities Director, Elder Care Alliance; and **Bob Savage**, Resident at LiveWell, Co-Founder of the CT Dementia Peer Coalition.

CAROL WOODS' QUEST UPSTREAM: A PRACTICAL AND POSITIVE PATHWAY TO INCLUSION

GRAND BALLROOM

This session will explore the practice of locked and segregated dementia care and present one community's successful inclusive philosophy and efforts. Carol Woods Retirement Community has supported people living with dementia inclusively since it opened in 1979. The speakers will discuss how they have been successful and their involvement in a participatory action research project to document the organizational and community requirements needed.

Jennifer Carson, PhD, Director of the Dementia Engagement, Education and Research Program, University of Nevada-Reno; **Pat Sprigg, MS, NHA**, President and CEO of Carol Woods Retirement Community; **Jennifer Wilson, MPH**, Vice President of Well-Being of Carol Woods; and **Phyllis Fehr, MLA, RN, S.A.N.E.** former Board Member of the Dementia Alliance International & International Speaker.

DEMENTIA LIVE®: CHANGING ATTITUDES AND ACTIONS BY EXPERIENCING DEMENTIA SYMPTOMS

WEST PACES

Learn how an immersive, hands-on experience, Dementia Live®, cultivates greater sensitivity and understanding about dementia symptoms and the transformative effect the experience has on how people think, feel and act towards individuals living with dementia.

Pam Brandon, President and Founder of AGE-u-cate Training Institute; and **Laura Ellen Christian**, Senior Vice President of Engagement and Dementia Training at The Arbor Company.

THE DEMENTIA ARTS FEST 3-HOUR WORKSHOP

BUCKHEAD I

Part I of the Dementia Arts Fest Workshop spotlights and celebrates the enjoyment, creative expression and the many abilities individuals continue to have while living with dementia. Three artists living with dementia whose work is exhibited will discuss their artwork and the effect creative expression has on their current lives in this Workshop. Learn how a well-known artist's life-long art style and interest changed after living with dementia and the impact this creative expression has had on the artist's family.

Moderated by **Kathy Laenhue, MA**, CEO of Wiser Now, Inc. Presenters - **Susan Balkman**, Acclaimed Potter; **Mike Belleville**, National Speaker, Podcaster, and Painter; **Jytte Lokvig, PhD**, Dementia Specialist, Educator, Author and Artist; **John Wood**, Visual Artist; and **Chris Gray**, son and gallery manager of renowned artist, Jim Gray.

INSPIRING CHANGE: A NEUROLOGIST'S PROFOUND EXPERIENCE

TUXEDO

Hear about the impact the opening panel speakers from the DAA's 2017 conference had on a neurologist in the audience. Dr. Potts, whose father's Alzheimer's had already led him to enlightenment about living fully with dementia, will discuss what he has done since to change his practices and to impact change among his fellow neurologists. Brian LeBlanc, one of the speakers from the 2017 panel, will talk about his experience and invite audience dialogue.

Daniel C. Potts, MD, FAAN, Physician, Author and Dementia Advocate; and **Brian LeBlanc**, DAA Advisory Board Member & International Speaker.

CHANGING HEARTS & MINDS

HABERSHAM

Learn how care partners' hearts and minds are being transformed through education, relationships, shared socialization experiences, and policy changes at two diverse organizations - 23 ACT's Retirement Life communities and at Aviston Country Side Manor. The presenters will provide practical and effective ways they were able to immediately improve daily lives for residents as well as longer term strategies.

Moderated by **Regina E. Sofer, D.M. MPA**, DAA Executive Board Member and Principal at Sofer & Associates. Presenters - **Kelly Carney, PhD**, Corporate Director of Memory Care for ACTS Retirement Life; and **Leslie Pedtke, LNHA**, Owner and Educator of the King Management Company.

BUILDING SUCCESSFUL DEMENTIA INCLUSIVE COMMUNITIES

EAST PACES

Two pioneers of the Dementia Friendly Wyoming initiative will discuss their journey to build dementia friendliness in a rural, western culture. They will describe their successes and challenges with dementia peer support groups and educational programs. You will also hear from a husband and wife couple who are creating dementia friendliness in their Michigan communities including men's groups and church programs.

Heather Comstock, Dementia Care Educator of Dementia Friendly Wyoming; **Kay Wallick, MA**, Program Director of Dementia Friendly Wyoming; **Brenda Roberts, MA**, Care Partner and Dementia Advocate; and **Mark Roberts**, Dementia Advocate.

CONCURRENT SESSIONS

2:00–3:30pm

USING VIRTUAL REALITY TO SUPPORT INDIVIDUALS LIVING WITH DEMENTIA LIVE THEIR BEST LIVES

GRAND BALLROOM

Learn how embodied learning that uses virtual reality tools can immerse learners in a unique educational experience to increase understanding about dementia, empathy, as well as build new skills. The presenters will discuss a case study of Green House homes using embodied learning VR along with Green House's Best Life approach.

Anne Ellett, MSN, NP, Dementia Care Specialist, The Green House Project; and **Carrie Shaw, MS**, CEO of Embodied Labs.

"RAISING THE BAR" – THE NATIONAL PERSON AND RELATIONSHIP-CENTERED PRACTICE INITIATIVE

BUCKHEAD II

Person and relationship-centered principles and practices are considered the gold standard globally, yet there are no generally accepted standards or guidelines for dementia support. The absence of accepted standards/guidelines creates a confusing landscape for what these principles and practices are and how to implement them. The Dementia Action Alliance and The Eden Alternative partnered in 2017 to address this important gap along with a diverse, talented group of individuals living with dementia and other specialists.

Learn about this national initiative from some of the participants and the development of the first Practice Guide for the assisted living setting.

Laura Beck, MPaff, Learning and Development Guide at The Eden Alternative; **Karen Love**, Executive Director of the DAA; **Laurie Scherrer**, DAA Advisory Board Member; and **Jan Bays, PT**, DAA Board Member and Director of Program Development and Education at Jill's House.

THE DEMENTIA ARTS FEST 3-HOUR WORKSHOP – CONTINUED

BUCKHEAD I

Part II of Dementia Arts Fest Workshop will be led by a renowned art educator with extensive experience helping people living with dementia express themselves creatively. Through a hands-on studio experience, you will learn how to offer creative arts opportunities for wide-ranging abilities. Varying approaches, communication techniques and practical aspects of creating an inspiring and functional creative space will be covered. Come to learn and have fun!

Moderated by **Kathy Laenhue, MA**, CEO of Wiser Now, Inc. Presenters - **Jytte Lokvig, PhD**, Dementia Specialist, Educator, Author and Artist; and **Susan Balkman**, Acclaimed Potter.

NURTURING A DEMENTIA-FRIENDLY SPIRITUAL LIFE

EAST PACES

Spirituality is a foundational dimension of being human. Nurturing this valuable dimension can be life enriching, yet nurturing spirituality often gets lost when individuals are impacted by dementia. This interactive session will explore spirituality, community and our interconnectedness with one another - "We are spiritual beings having a human experience".

Moderated by **Susan Gilster, PhD, RN, NHA**, Principal of The Gilster Group. Presenters – **Jane Dwinell, DMin**, Care Partner; **Sky Yardley**, Dementia Advocate; and **Linn Possell, MDiv**, Live Well with Dementia, LLC.

TRANSFORMING THE EXPERIENCE OF LIVING WITH DEMENTIA TOGETHER

TUXEDO

Learn how one continuing care retirement community embraced efforts to help its community better understand and support its residents living with dementia. Through the combined efforts of residents and staff using small group discussions, book groups, and educational programs, hear how one community is truly living its belief of “together transforming the experience of aging”.

Moderated by **Jackie Pinkowitz, MEd**, Chair of the Dementia Action Alliance. Presenters – **Elizabeth Hole, MA**, Resident of Kendal at Oberlin; **Michele Tarsitano-Amato**, Director of Creative Arts Therapy at Kendal at Oberlin; and **Carol Bojanowski**, Resident of Kendal at Oberlin.

THE SURPRISE OF SELF

WEST PACES

View a short documentary film, *From the Valley of the Heart*, that examines how poetry, music and other creative expressions stimulated joy and fun for individuals living with dementia. The filmmaker, who had a stroke before the documentary was completed, will discuss how the project was finished in spite of cognitive challenges. Hear from the filmmaker’s care partner about how she learned when to let go and when to step in when her partner was struggling, followed by a facilitated discussion with the audience.

Moderated by **Jill Vitale-Aussem, MMH, NHA**, President & CEO of The Eden Alternative and DAA Board Member. Presenters – **Marysue Moses, MA**, Dimensions Program Coordinator of Ebenezer Management Services; **Rich Reeder, MA**, Producer, Writer and Director of Documentary Films; and **Vicki Hooper**, Care Partner.

3:30–5:00 pm

Arts Fest Exhibition, Exhibitors, and the Living Well Tech Expo

Enjoy this free time to explore the Arts Fest Exhibition and Living Well Tech Expo, learn about the services and products the Exhibitors offer, and engage with conference participants.

7:00–9:00 pm

GRAND BALLROOM

Public Television Documentary and Panel Discussion

REVOLUTIONIZING DEMENTIA CARE

The new public television documentary that details how individuals with dementia are living full and meaningful lives with a focus on their abilities, not their disabilities, will be shown followed by an engaging panel discussion.

Moderated by **Deke Cateau, CEO**, A.G. Rhodes Health & Rehab. Panelists — **Mason Mills**, Senior Producer/Director of the documentary, The Community Idea Stations; **Brian LeBlanc**, documentary narrator living with dementia; and **Jackie Pinkowitz, MEd**, Chair of the Dementia Action Alliance.

SATURDAY, JUNE 22

KEYNOTE PLENARY SESSION

8:00–10:15 am

GRAND BALLROOM

Performance Activism: Challenging Stigma Associated With Dementia and Fostering Relational Caring Through Film

A film screening of the play, *Cracked: New Light on Dementia*, a research-based drama created to explore stigma and misconceptions about living with dementia and the implications this has for persons with it, will be shown. A panel discussion with individuals living with dementia facilitated by Dr. Kontos, one of the play’s creators, will follow the screening.

Pia Kontos, PhD, Senior Scientist and Associate Professor, Toronto Rehabilitation Institute-University Health Network and the University of Toronto; and **Sherry L. Dupuis, PhD**, Professor and Associate Chair for Graduate Studies at the University of Waterloo.

CONCURRENT SESSIONS

10:30–12:00 pm

CULTURAL CHALLENGES FOR AFRICAN AMERICANS, HISPANICS AND LGBTQ COMMUNITY MEMBERS LIVING WITH DEMENTIA

BUCKHEAD II

While African Americans and Hispanics have a higher risk of developing dementia than other ethnicities, cultural norms often impact their outreach for support. Cultural norms can also impact LGBTQ community members' outreach for support. The panelists will discuss these cultural challenges when living with dementia and ways to impact change.

Moderated by **Sandy Douglass**, DAA Executive Board Member and Principal of Douglass Consulting. Panelists – **Debra Tann, Ed.D.**, Advocate; **Brian Van Buren**, DAA Advisory Board Member; **Martha Villanigro-Santiago**, Co-Founder of Mosaic Forum

THE JOY OF IMPROVISATION: CREATING A NEW PERFORMANCE OF DEMENTIA

BUCKHEAD I

Improv and performance are powerful ways to build relationships and as an outlet for creative expression. Two experts from New York City's The East Side Institute will use improvisation and creative exercises to teach participants how to create environments for individuals living with dementia to enjoy this unique form of expression.

Susan Massad, MD, Faculty at The East Side Institute; **Mary Fridley**, Director of Special Projects at The East Side Institute; and **Chuck McClatchey**, DAA Advisory Board Member

HOW TECHNOLOGY CAN TRANSFORM DEMENTIA SUPPORT

WEST PACES

Learn how creative technologies are being configured to support individuals living with dementia from two technology innovators. The innovators will discuss the technological creation process from conception to development. Hear about a technology that assists individuals to express their sense of selves and support their well-being, and another technology that uses visual maps to organize and schedule daily activities to reduce stress and provide for more independence and autonomy.

Moderated by **Chris Perna**, DAA Board Member. Presenters – **Mandy Salomon, PhD**, CEO of Mentia; **Jennifer Kral**, Chief Experience Officer of Emmetros; and **Matt Golden**, CEO and Co-Founder of Map-Habit, Inc.

A FRIENDLY DEBATE: USING ROBOTIC PETS WITH INDIVIDUALS LIVING WITH DEMENTIA

GRAND BALLROOM

Join in this friendly debate about the merits and implications of using robotic pets with individuals who are living with dementia. There are strong feelings for and against - one perspective that the use of robotic pets for enjoyment and comfort should be considered on an individualized basis, and another perspective that the use of these 'fake' pets in any circumstance is demeaning.

Moderated by **Susan Gilster, PhD, RN, NHA**, Principal of The Gilster Group. Presenters – **Susan Ryan, MA**, Senior Director of The Green House Project; **Mike Belleville**, DAA Board and Advisory Board Member; **Anne Ellett, MSN, NP**, Dementia Care Specialist, The Green House Initiative; **Jan Bays, PT**, DAA Board Member and Director of Program Development and Education at Jill's House; **Phyllis Fehr, MLA, RN, S.A.N.E.** former Board Member of the Dementia Alliance International; and **Brian LeBlanc**, DAA Advisory Board Member & International Speaker.

NAVIGATING THE EMOTIONAL WATERS LIVING WITH DEMENTIA

EAST PACES

Hear from two experienced psychotherapy counselors who work with care partners of individuals living with dementia to help them better understand symptoms and how dementia can impact the ways people engage together. They will discuss conflicting emotions in being a care partner, the different types of care partnering personalities, and changing relationship dynamics. You will be inspired by what they have to share.

Nancy Kriseman, MSW, LCSW, Principal of Geriatric Consulting Services; and **Pamela Corsentino, MS, LPC**, Director of Support Services, Lewy Body Dementia Association; and **Barbara Leipow, RN**, Former Care Partner, Dementia Consultant.

BUILDING PARTNERSHIPS FOR A DEMENTIA FRIENDLY COMMUNITY

TUXEDO

Caring community partners in Bloomington, IN, have developed an impressive dementia friendly community that includes a choir, integration with Indiana University and its health system, and a program at a high school care center that incorporates dementia education into its health sciences and CNA curriculums to provide high school students a new perspective of individuals living with dementia. Learn about these inspiring efforts among many others from three of the Dementia Friendly Bloomington partners.

Dayna Thompson, M.S. Ed.S., Alzheimer's Educator for Indiana University Health, Alzheimer's Resource Service; **Amanda Mosier, CDP**, Community Health Coordinator for Indiana University Health, Alzheimer's Resource Service; and **Christi McBride, MS**, Director of the Hoosier Hills Career Center serving nine high schools in Monroe County, IN.

CARING ABOUT CARE PARTNERS' HOLISTIC WELL-BEING

CHASTAIN

Learn how the current medical model of care diminishes the well-being of individuals living with dementia and their care partners, and how, conversely, a focus on holistic well-being enhances everyone's quality of life. The presenters will provide a holistic framework of well-being using Eden's Seven Domains of Well Being model and complementary approaches including aromatherapy and therapeutic touch.

Evy Cugelman, RN, Eden Alternative and Therapeutic Touch Educator; **Mel Coppola**, President, Hearts in Care, LLC; and **Susan Balkman**, Dementia Advocate.

HOW CAN YOU SUPPORT ME IF YOU DON'T KNOW ME? THE POWER OF LIFE STORIES

HABERSHAM

Often when individuals living with dementia move into residential care, they may not have the ability to fully share their personal stories and life backgrounds. Knowing about a person's history and life creates a personal and emotional connection for care partners. Hear from two company innovators who have developed products to capture life story details in engaging formats, and learn what the largest senior living company in the country does so its staff members can get to know its residents well.

Moderated by **Jill Vitale-Aussem, MMH, NHA**, President & CEO of The Eden Alternative and DAA Board Member. Presenters – **Rick Kral, MSN, RN, LNHA, DNS-CT, CDP**, Independent Risk Manager at Signature Health Care; **Juliet Holt Klinger, MA**, Senior Director of Dementia Care, Brookdale Senior Living; and **Jay Newton-Small, MS**, CEO & Founder of MemoryWell.

CONCURRENT SESSIONS

1:15–2:45 pm

DEMENTIA: A TWO-WAY STREET FOR MEMORY, COMMUNICATION & DIGNITY

EAST PACES

Attitude and communication are foundational to connecting to and engaging with others. These assets can become especially important when living with dementia and supporting others living with dementia. Learn how a positive mental attitude benefits well-being and how to get and sustain a positive attitude from a physical therapist who incorporates these techniques in her home health physical therapy work to enhance client's well-being. Hear from a neuroscientist about how the brain processes memories and how to enhance communication and connection.

Moderated by **Sandy Douglass**, DAA Executive Board Member and Principal of Douglass Consulting. Presenters – **Marian Over, PT**, Physical Therapist – Cognitive & Mental Health Special Interest Group, AGPT; and **Stuart Zola, PhD**, Co-Founder of MapHabit, Inc., Emeritus Professor-Psychiatry & Behavioral Science, Emeritus Associate Director – Goizueta Alzheimer's Disease Research Center.

RE-FRAMING DEMENTIA: A LEADERSHIP CALL TO ACTION

BUCKHEAD II

Inspired by the global dementia advocacy movement, learn about a groundbreaking pilot program, LeaderShift, one residential community has undertaken to transform its systems and approaches and shift the way leadership understands dementia by learning directly from persons living with dementia. Individuals with dementia are serving as mentors to the community's leadership resulting in deep cultural changes that are enhancing lives for those who live and work in the community. Learn how they are developing LeaderShift into a teachable model for other communities.

Jenna Weiss, MA, NHA, Director of Learning at LiveWell; **Jennifer Terray**, Assistant Director of Nursing at LiveWell; **Bob Savage**, LeaderShift Associate and Resident at LiveWell; and **Laurie Scherrer**, LeaderShift Associate and DAA Advisory Board Member.

MUSIC: FROM ENTERTAINMENT TO ENGAGEMENT HABERSHAM

Music has a unique ability to touch people deeply helping them connect to warm memories, movement and feelings of happiness. Learn how music affects the brain and how you can help individuals living with dementia connect through the right music. Hear how important music is in the life of an individual living with dementia – both listening to it and performing it.

Mary Sue Wilkinson, MEd, Founder and Owner of Singing Heart to Heart; and **Brian LeBlanc**, DAA Advisory Board Member, Performer, and Speaker.

CHANGING THE STATUS QUO: HOW WORDS & RELATIONSHIPS ENRICH LIVES FOR EVERYONE CHASTAIN

Join these skilled presenters in a dialogue about changing culturescapes to better support individuals living with dementia. Learn how one senior living organization's understanding about the power words hold for shaping perception and mindset has led it to revamp its terminology for an improved culture of dementia support. Hear about how another organization's commitment to relationships helps its residents living with dementia thrive, and how its in-house baby and children's day center enriches the lives of everyone involved.

Jan Bays, PT, Director of Program Development and Education at Jill's House and DAA Board Member; and **Nicole Bays**, Co-Founding Director of Operations of Jill's House.

CONNECTING THE DOTS THROUGH CONSUMER ENGAGEMENT GRAND BALLROOM

An informed general public of aging support and service consumers that understands what person-directed dementia support can raise the standards and become a vital part of changing the status quo. Explore how informed, knowledgeable consumers are key to successfully transforming old models of dementia care. The presenters will share information from national projects they are involved in.

Laura Beck, MPaff, Learning and Development Guide, The Eden Alternative; and **Kim McRae, FCTA**, President of Have a Good Life & Co-Founder of the Culture Change Network of Georgia.

BUILDING THE CAPACITY OF PEOPLE LIVING WITH DEMENTIA, CARE PARTNERS, & COMMUNITIES TUXEDO

Scotland has an acclaimed model of post-diagnostic support for individuals and families living with dementia. Hear from leaders of a project team funded to pilot test a modified model of post-diagnostic support in the U.S. The speakers will present case reports from early piloting and engage participants in discussion about their own experiences with post-diagnostic support.

Stephani Shivers, MEd, OTR/L, CDP, Chief Operating Officer-Community Services at LiveWell Alliance, Inc.; **Kate Keefe, OTD, OTR/L**, Therapy Practice Lead at LiveWell Alliance, Inc.; and **Anne Kenny, MD**, Geriatrician, Professor Emeritus, UCONN Health, LiveWell Affiliate.

RE-FRAMING THE BROKEN MEDICAL LENS OF BSPD WEST PACES

Behaviors expressed by people living with dementia have been labeled by the medical community as 'behavioral and psychological symptoms of dementia'. This mindset medicalizes and pathologizes these expressions rather than serving as signals of distress requiring attention. Learn how two care partners' experiences and caring hearts are working to change how dementia symptoms are understood and strengthening relationships.

Moderated by **G. Allen Power, MD**, Geriatrician, International Educator, Author, Advocate & DAA Board Member. Presenters – **Susan Macaulay**, Advocate, Activist & Blogger; and **Edward G. Shaw, MD, MA**, Director of the Memory Counseling Program at Wake Forest Baptist Health & Author.