




WEAAD 2023 Webinar: **Trauma-Informed Practices to Address Abuse and Build Resilience**



WORLD ELDER ABUSE AWARENESS DAY is June 15th!

The National Center on Elder Abuse



NCEA
National Center on Elder Abuse

The National Center on Elder Abuse (NCEA) provides up-to-date information regarding policy, research, training, best practices, news and resources on elder abuse, neglect and exploitation for policy makers, professionals in the elder justice field and the public.

**We stand united
against elder abuse.**

About the NCEA

Education

Through training, education, and a comprehensive resource repository, we inform professionals and the public of the facts of elder abuse, prevention tools, and intervention strategies


Research

We synthesize, disseminate, and translate the latest research in the field to inform practitioners and professionals about evidence-based practices to prevent and respond to abuse

Collaboration

We work with community, state, and national elder justice organizations to design and deliver resources to support elder rights, autonomy, and wellness

Housekeeping Items

- All attendees will enter the meeting in listen-only mode.
- Please utilize the Q&A function to submit questions.
- To enable the Live Transcript feature, click the  button.
- Recording & presentation materials will be made available via the National Center on Elder Abuse.
- Your feedback matters! After we conclude today's webinar, please follow the link to complete our survey.

Moderator



Laura Mosqueda (she/her), Director, National Center on Elder Abuse at the Keck School of Medicine of USC

Laura Mosqueda, MD, FAAFP, AGSF, is a professor of Family Medicine and Geriatrics at the Keck School of Medicine of USC. As a widely respected authority on elder abuse and care of the elderly and underserved, she serves as the Director of the National Center on Elder Abuse, a federally funded initiative that serves as the nation's coordinating body and clearinghouse for information on research, training, best practices, news, and resources. Dr. Mosqueda's experience as a clinician, researcher, educator, and academic administrator provides a unique perspective shaped by her extensive experiences in the community, including her role as a volunteer long term care ombudsman.

Panelists



Donna Benton (she/her), Director, Los Angeles Caregiver Resource Center

Donna Benton, PhD, is a Research Associate Professor of Gerontology at the USC Leonard Davis School of Gerontology. Benton is the Director of the USC Family Caregiver Support Center (FCSC) and the Los Angeles Caregiver Resource Center (LACRC). She has over 30 years of experience in providing direct service, advocacy and programs for families caring for persons with dementia. She was appointed to the CA Master Plan for Aging Stakeholder Advisory Commission and the CA Commission on Aging (CCOA). Her research focus is on the development of online evidence-based interventions for family caregivers to improve mental and physical health and well-being and prevention of elder mistreatment. She also serves as a mentor to students interested in advocacy for caregivers.



Elizabeth Avent (she/her), Secure Old Age Lab & USC Center for Elder Justice

Elizabeth Avent, PhD, MA is research assistant in the Secure Old Age Lab and the USC Center for Elder Justice. Her research focuses on abuse over the life course, including late-life intimate partner violence, elder abuse prevention, intervention and policy, and the impact of adverse childhood experiences into later life. Her current research aims to differentiate intimate partner violence in late-life from elder mistreatment by spouses and intimate partners and starting to build foundational research conceptualizing IPV in late life to determine best practices for identifying the needs of victims and providing resources tailored to those needs.

Panelists



Lauren Pongan (she/her), National Director, Diverse Elders Coalition

Lauren Pongan serves as the National Director of the Diverse Elders Coalition (DEC) which advocates for policies and programs that improve aging in our communities as racially and ethnically diverse people; American Indians and Alaska Natives; and LGBTQ people. Before coming to DEC, she worked to support and build a national network of health equity leaders from Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander communities throughout the country. Lauren identifies as a mixed race, second generation Filipina American. She holds a Masters in Southeast Asian Studies from the University of Washington, and a Bachelors in English from Colby College.



Sherrill Wayland (she/they), Director of Special Initiatives, SAGECare and the National Resource Center on LGBT Aging

Sherrill Wayland, Senior Director of Special Initiatives and Partnerships, for SAGE (providing Advocacy & Services for LGBTQ Elders), where Sherrill serves as a trusted thought partner to national initiatives team members and SAGE staff across the organization. They lead the National Resource Center on LGBTQ Aging, serves as SAGE lead for the Long-Term Care Equality Index (in partnership with the Human Rights Campaign Foundation), and works in close partnership with SAGECollab, SAGECare, and the Diverse Elders Coalition. Sherrill earned a Master of Social Work degree from the Brown School of Social Work, Washington University in St. Louis, and has over 25 years of professional experience in the fields of education, disability, and LGBTQ older adult advocacy.

Panelists



Lori Smetanka (she/her), Executive Director, National Consumer Voice for Quality Long-Term Care

Lori Smetanka, JD, is the Executive Director of the National Consumer Voice for Quality Long-Term Care, the leading national nonprofit advocacy organization representing consumers receiving long-term care and services in nursing homes, assisted living facilities, and home and community based settings. As Executive Director, Lori oversees and contributes to the organization's policy, advocacy, and program activities; leads the organization's fundraising efforts; establishes strategic partnerships with organizations and federal agencies working on issues related to the provision of long-term services and supports; and establishes the strategic direction of the organization.

Case Study

- Jack, a 78-year-old Black gay man from the South, faced rejection and homelessness after coming out as a teenager
- Eventually became a teacher, and rose to the position of school superintendent
- Lifelong discrimination due to his identity led to a mistrust of formal services and reluctance to seek help
- Recently, Jack experienced the loss of his partner of 28 years, worsening his grief and health issues (chronic illness and mild cognitive impairment)
- Seeking companionship and caregiving assistance, he met Don, a 55-year-old unemployed individual through a room-for-rent ad. Their relationship soon turned romantic
- Don began managing, then mismanaging, Jack's finances. Arguments ensued, and Don became less attentive to Jack's needs.
- Don threatened physical harm and to move Jack to a nursing home when Jack was being "difficult"

Additional Resources

National Center on Elder Abuse

- [Tips and Tools: Person-Centered, Trauma-Informed Care of Older People at the Intersection of Trauma, Aging, and Abuse](#)
- [Tips & Tools: Person-Centered Care in Elder Abuse](#)
- [Tips and Tools: Supportive Caregiving](#)

National Long-Term Care Ombudsman Resource Center

- [Trauma-Informed Care](#)

Consumer Voice for Quality Long-Term Care

- [The Value of Being Heard: Loneliness and Social Isolation in Long-Term Care](#)

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