



TSLCA Summit:

Bias is Getting Old:

Challenging age bias together to build healthier communities and economies

2021 Speaker Biographies

Mary Lou Ciolfi, JD, MS, Program Manager, University of Maine Center on Aging

Mary Lou Ciolfi, JD, MS is currently Program Manager at the UMaine Center on Aging. She practiced law in Brunswick Maine for 17 years and was administrator of an assisted living facility in Bath, Maine for 10 years. She has a master's degree in health policy from the University of Southern Maine's Muskie School of Public Service and worked at Muskie as a Senior Policy Associate focusing on aging policy research. She is adjunct faculty at the University of New England where she teaches undergraduate Health Care Policy and graduate level Public Health Law, Public Health Policy, and Health Law & Ethics. She participated in the Gerontological Society of America's Reframing Aging Facilitator Training in 2020.

Julie Fralich, Community Member, Maine Council on Aging

Julie Fralich is a resident of New Gloucester, Maine and has been a member of the town's Comprehensive Planning Committee. Prior to retirement in 2016, she was director of the Aging and Disability Unit at the Muskie School at the University of Southern Maine. Since retirement, she has remained active in her community working on many local and regional issues.

Elizabeth Gattine, Senior Policy Associate, Muskie School of Public Service, University of Southern Maine

Elizabeth Gattine is a Senior Policy Associate for the Disability and Aging Program at the Muskie School of Public Service at the University of Southern Maine. Before joining the Cutler Institute in 2015, Elizabeth spent over fifteen years in state government in Maine working in aging and disability program areas. For the last five years of her tenure, she served as program director its Department of Health and Human Services managing long term services and supports for older adults and adults with physical disabilities. Prior to moving to Maine, Elizabeth practiced as an associate attorney at the law firm of Davis Polk in New York City. Elizabeth graduated from Dartmouth College and received her J.D. from Columbia Law School.

Marilyn Gugliucci, Professor & Director, Geriatrics, University of New England

Marilyn Gugliucci, MA, PhD, is a Professor and the Director of Geriatrics Research at the University of New England College of Osteopathic Medicine (UNECOM). She is also the Founding Director of U-ExCEL (UNE~Exercise and Conditioning for Easier Living) Fitness/Wellness Program for older adults. Her unique Learning by Living Research Projects offer two tracks: (1) The Nursing Home Immersion that "admits" medical students into nursing homes to live the life of an elder resident for 2-weeks; and (2) The 48 Hour Hospice Home Immersion that immerses pairs of medical students into an 18 bed inpatient acute

care hospice home for 48 hours to conduct patient care, family support, and post-mortem care. She also conducts research on older adult falls prevention.

Marilyn is a Fellow of four National Associations. She serves on national and state boards and committees, and was the former president for the Association for Gerontology in Higher Education.

Although not a nurse, she was a mentor for the International Honor Society of Nurses/Hartford Foundation Geriatrics Nursing Leadership Academy. Marilyn has been recognized with a number of state and national awards. She lectures both nationally and internationally and has multiple publications in the field of aging.

Don Harden, Vice-Chair, Maine Council on Aging

Don Harden is a founding Board Member of the Maine Council on Aging where he currently serves as Vice Chair and as Coordinator of the Council's initiatives on reframing aging and addressing ageism. He has been affiliated with Catholic Charities Maine for over 41 years most recently as Director of Aging Services. He was co-convenor of the Maine Aging Initiative's Workgroup on Workforce and the Economy, served on the Legislative Commission to Study Long-term Care Workforce Issues, and is a member of Maine's Department of Labor Committee on Older Workers.

Ruta Kadonoff, Vice President for Programs, Maine Health Access Foundation

Ruta Kadonoff joined MeHAF as Senior Program Officer in December 2016. In addition to coordinating the work of the program team, she oversees MeHAF's Healthy Older People strategic focus area and staff's the foundation's Grants Committee. Ruta came to this position with over 20 years of experience in fostering and advocating for quality improvement and person-centered approaches in long term services and supports for older people. She has held leadership roles in a diverse set of national organizations focusing on policy, research and practice change. She serves as a volunteer with the Olympia Snowe Women's Leadership Institute and Hospice Volunteers of Waldo County. Ruta grew up in Connecticut and moved to the Washington, DC area to attend The Catholic University of America where she received a B.A. in political science. She subsequently completed a Masters of Health Science degree in Health Policy from Johns Hopkins University's Bloomberg School of Public Health and a Master of Arts degree in the Management of Aging Services from the Erickson School of Aging Studies at the University of Maryland Baltimore County. Ruta, her husband, and their cats re-located from the Washington suburbs to Belfast in 2016, realizing a long-standing dream. She spends as much of her spare time outdoors as possible, and particularly enjoys walking and hiking, sailing, kayaking and photography.

Kelly LaFlamme, MPA, Consultant

Kelly currently works as a consultant as connector and collaborator partnering with mission-driven nonprofits. Prior to her consultant work, Kelly worked as Program Director at the Endowment for Health and led the Endowment's Healthy Aging Initiative. For ten years, she led that foundation's work to advance health equity. Kelly previously served as the Coordinator for the New Hampshire Child Advocacy Network (NH CAN), based at the Children's Alliance of New Hampshire. Prior to moving to New Hampshire in 2003, she worked as a Program Assistant for the Annie E. Casey Foundation's Civic Investments Team. While at Casey, Kelly launched a neighborhood grants program for a set of low-income, communities of color in East Baltimore and worked to strengthen the foundation's collaboration with neighborhood leaders. Early in her career, Kelly served as an AmeriCorps*VISTA in the South Bronx and a volunteer teacher in Greenville, MS. Kelly holds a Master of Public Administration at the Wagner School of Public Service at New York University. She received her Bachelors of Arts in Communication from La Salle University in Philadelphia.

Dr. Becca Levy, Professor of Public Health (Social and Behavioral Sciences) and Psychology, Yale University

Dr. Levy's research explores psychosocial factors that influence older individuals' cognitive and physical functioning, as well as their longevity. She is credited with creating a field of study that focuses on how positive and negative age stereotypes, which are assimilated from the culture, can have beneficial and adverse effects, respectively, on the health of older individuals. Her studies have been conducted by longitudinal, experimental, and cross-cultural methods. She has received numerous awards for her research including a Brookdale National Fellowship for Leadership in Aging, the Baltes Distinguished Research Achievement Award from the American Psychological Association, the Richard Kalish Innovative Publication Award from the Gerontological Society of America and the Ewald W. Busse Research Award in the Social Behavioral Sciences from the International Association of Gerontology and Geriatrics that is given once every four years. She is an Associate Editor of the *Handbook of Psychology of Aging*, a consulting editor for *Psychology and Aging*, is on the founding editorial board of *Stigma and Health*, and serves on the editorial boards of *GeroPsych* and *Journal of Gerontology: Psychological Science*. Dr. Levy has given invited testimony before the United States Senate on the effects of ageism and contributed to briefs submitted to the United States Supreme Court in age-discrimination cases. She received her Ph.D. in psychology from Harvard University and held a National Institute on Aging postdoctoral fellowship at the Division of Aging and Department of Social Medicine at Harvard Medical School.

Jess Maurer, Executive Director, Maine Council on Aging

Jess Maurer is the Executive Director of the Maine Council on Aging. Jess leads and manages a broad, multidisciplinary network of more than 100 organizations, businesses, municipalities and community members working to ensure we can all live healthy, engaged and secure lives as we age in our homes and in community settings. In this role, she advances statewide public policy initiatives, provides leadership within Maine's aging network, and supports Maine's Legislative Caucus on Aging. Her areas of specific focus include housing, transportation, workforce, "aging in place," and care across all settings. She leads the Maine Healthy Aging Initiative (Maine Data Across Sectors for Health) and the Tri-State Learning Collaborative on Aging, a regional learning collaborative aimed at increasing the collective impact of community-driven aging initiatives. She annually organizes statewide and regional events that advance aging policy, including the Maine Wisdom Summit. She co-authored Building a Collaborative Community Response to Aging in Place and Maine's Blueprint for Action on Healthy Aging. A licensed Maine attorney, Jess worked for 17 years in the Maine Office of the Attorney General. She graduated from the University of Maine School of Law and the University of Massachusetts at Amherst.

Gabriel J. Martinez, Director, FQHC Champion Program and Community Engagement, UnitedHealthcare, Medicare Health Plan. Gabriel (Gabe) Martinez is UnitedHealthcare's Director of the FQHC Champion Program and Community Engagement for the New England Medicare Health Plan. In this role, Gabe is responsible to support the success and issue resolution among the Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs) that are in UnitedHealthcare's Medicare Network. Gabe works to ensure that the FQHCs in New England are able to find success within UnitedHealthcare's Medicare Incentive Programs which are based on STAR and Risk Adjustment performance. Gabe also assumes the role of Community Engagement Leader in New England. In this role, Gabe works to partner UnitedHealthcare and the many Community Based Organizations, such as MCOA, that jointly support the aging population in our communities. UnitedHealthcare strives to actively engage within the community and provide support through relationship development and collaboration. Gabe currently has 10 years of experience

within the healthcare field first beginning with direct patient care while working in both a Transitional Living Center as well as Community Support Services for a community mental health center in New Mexico. He then relocated to New Hampshire in 2012 where he gained further direct care experience working for Greater Nashua Mental Health Center. From there Gabe entered the health insurance industry beginning in Network Management for a behavioral health benefit vendor serving NH's Medicaid population and later joined UnitedHealthcare in 2017 as a Provider Advocate. In 2019 he piloted the FQHC Champion Program in Northern New England. This successful program was then expanded to all 6 New England states after joining the Medicare Health Plan team in April of 2020.

Jennifer Rabalais, Co-Director, Center on Aging and Community Living, University of New Hampshire

Jennifer Rabalais is Co-Director for the Center on Aging and Community Living and Project Director for the Institute on Disability, both at the University of New Hampshire. Jennifer received a Master's Degree in Psychology from Pepperdine University. She joined the staff of the Institute on Disability (NH's University Center for Excellence in Disability) in 2010 and provides leadership, project management, and facilitation across multiple projects focused on providing supports to older adults that allows them to live and age in communities of their choice. Jennifer has over 20 years experience working on programs for older adults, individuals with developmental disabilities, as well as chronically and acutely ill populations in community based settings. Her responsibilities have included program design, implementation, evaluation and general oversight. Jennifer currently serves as Coordinator for the NH Alliance for Healthy Aging and is a member of the NH Coalition for Substance Abuse, Mental Health and Aging, and the NH Elder Rights Coalition and serves on the Board of Directors for NAMI NH.

Nate Rudy, Town Manager, Town of Gray, Maine

Nate serves as Town Manager for the Town of Gray, having recently served as Hallowell City Manager and the Director of Planning and Development for the City of Gardiner. Nate has been active with the AARP Network of Age Friendly Communities since 2016 and currently serves on the board of directors for the Maine Council on Aging, as well as on the Governor's Commission for Volunteer Maine. Nate attended Virginia Tech for a B.S. and graduate studies in Environmental Science and Engineering, and he earned a M.B.A. from Thomas College. Nate's tri-sector experience includes arts non-profit management, health care IT project management, software development, real estate, and business development working for the Maine DECD.

Rani Snyder, Vice President, Program, The John A. Hartford Foundation

Rani Snyder is Vice President, Program at The John A. Hartford Foundation, a private philanthropy with the vision of a nation where all older adults receive high-value, evidence-based health care, are treated with respect and dignity, and have their goals and preferences honored. With more than 25 years of experience in working with pre-eminent health care institutions across the nation, Rani has demonstrated experience in identifying and guiding health care programs that have set the standard for medical best practices, increasing medical education opportunities, and maximizing resources to improve health care broadly. Prior to joining The John A. Hartford Foundation, Rani served with the Donald W. Reynolds Foundation for 14 years, starting as a program officer with a promotion to director for the Foundation's Health Care Programs. Rani's career has been directed toward creating opportunities to improve the health of older adults through increased access to quality health care, enhanced health care delivery, improved medical education, collaborative partnerships, and expanded nursing and caregiver training. She brings that experience to The John A. Hartford Foundation to coordinate initiatives that will foster collaboration among academic institutions, health systems and health care providers to improve care for

all older adults. Rani is the board chair for Grantmakers in Aging, and a board member of the national American Society on Aging

Martha Tecca, President and Interim Executive Director, Community Care of Lyme

Martha Tecca is a consultant, connector, and community volunteer with a passion for ensuring that all individuals and families can lead healthy lives in compassionate, engaged, and improving communities. She is president of CommunityCare of Lyme, a Village-model organization. She is a member of the Tri-State Learning Collaborative on Aging advisory board, the Well-being in the Nation (WIN) Measurement Collaborative, and the Health Ministry of the Lyme Congregational Church, a Trustee of the Lyme Foundation, a cook, a singer, and a Wild Mountain Mama – one of fifteen 25+ year friends who are hiking, sharing, and growing older together.

Janine Vanderburg, Director, Changing the Narrative, Colorado

An encore champion and longtime community activist, Janine Vanderburg is in her encore career leading Changing the Narrative in Colorado, a campaign started in 2018 to change the way people think, talk and act about aging and ageism. In 2019, Janine created the Age-Friendly Workplace Initiative, to “reframe” older workers to businesses and to make businesses more aware of the benefits of intergenerational workplaces, and On the Same Page, a campaign to encourage intergenerational conversations about ageism. Committed to leveraging the talents of people of all ages to benefit community, Janine currently chairs the Encore Network Leadership Council, and is an Encore Public Voices Fellow. Her favorite saying: “We are the leaders we are looking for.”

Sylvia von Aulock, Executive Director, Southern New Hampshire Planning Commission

Sylvia von Aulock is the Executive Director for Southern NH Planning Commission (SNHPC). Her career has been focused in the public sector working for such agencies as Washington State DOT, City of Seattle’s Drainage and Wastewater Utility, and as Town Planner in Exeter, NH.

Sylvia earned a Bachelor’s Degree in Civil Engineering from Rutgers University in 1981 and a Master’s Degree in Landscape Architecture from SUNY in Syracuse in 1985. Sylvia’s solid education, optimistic disposition, and years of experience are the foundation from which she approaches her work with SNHPC’s fourteen communities and local and state agencies. She enjoys weaving together her years of experience and education with her skills as an artist, comedian, gardener, garage sale negotiator, and team captain to bring about positive solutions to the challenges she encounters as the director of SNHPC.

Dr. Erin Yelland, Associate Professor and Extension Specialist, Kansas State University

Dr. Yelland is an associate professor and Extension specialist in adult development and aging in the College of Health and Human Sciences at Kansas State University. Her primary foci for her outreach and Extension work are promoting health and well-being across the lifespan to encourage optimal aging and exploring methods of implementing policy, systems, and environmental changes that positively influence the social determinants of health. Yelland also has research expertise in program evaluation and sexual well-being among older adults. During her time at K-State, Yelland has been designated a University Civic Engagement Fellow and is currently serving as a national eXtension fellow in health and wellness and an associate editor of the Journal of Extension.

