

Religious Leaders Gathering - August 23, 2018

Presenter Bios



Shannon Chaney, MSW, is the Family Care Specialist for the North Bay Alzheimer's Association, San Rafael office. She received her Masters of Social Work from the University of Denver, concentrating in Adulthood and Late-Life Challenges and Animal Assisted Social Work. Prior to working for the Northern California and Northern Nevada chapter of the Alzheimer's Association, Shannon worked for the Western New York Chapter in Buffalo, NY overseeing Helpline and Care Consultation. When she moved to California in 2012, she volunteered for the North Bay office while she worked for Canine Companions for Independence, and then again while she worked as Memory Care Director at an Assisted Living facility. Shannon has a therapy dog, Pancho, who enjoys coming to work and greeting everyone who comes to the office. In her spare time, she and her husband, Bill, enjoy running, hiking, movies, and games.



Chloe Cook is a 3rd generation West Marin resident living on the last four acres of her family's farm. She studied Gerontology, Physiology and Psychology interning with the National Institute on Aging. Chloe has extensive experience developing programs for older adults. Most recently she was a Director at West Marin Senior Services and now is a Supervisor with Marin Health and Human Services Aging and Adult Services. She has been recognized regionally and nationally for her Rural Transportation programs and the 911 First Responder Referral program and will present at the National Area Agency on Aging conference, this year, on Elder Justice.

No photo available

Rachel Gila – Mental Health RN, Marin County Health & Human Services

Rachel Gila is a Mental Health Registered Nurse for the County of Marin and has been working for the past 10 years with Older Adults in the Hope and Senior Peer Counseling Program. She does intake and referrals for the program, administers injections for Hope team clients, trainings for volunteers, outreach to community agencies and is a Supervisor for the Senior Peer Counseling Program.

She has an extensive background as a psychiatric nurse and has worked in many psychiatric hospitals and out-patient facilities in the Bay Area.



Amanda Hartery, MA, LMFT is a Family Consultant with Family Caregiver Alliance, Amanda Hartrey, MA, LMFT #80314, is a Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist who has worked in the area of elder care and caregiving for the past 10 years. In her role as a Family Consultant for Family Caregiver Alliance, she helps families navigate the emotional, physical and financial challenges of caregiving. She also facilitates a monthly caregiver support group, teaches psychoeducational classes that focus on caregiving topics and has run art therapy workshops for caregivers. Additionally, Amanda has a private psychotherapy practice in Berkeley specializing in issues related to caregiving, including stress management, life transitions and grief and loss.



Linda M. Jackson is Program Director of the Aging Action Initiative, which is a collaboration of over 100 public sector agencies, nonprofits, and health organizations working together for the well-being of older adults in Marin. Linda is a planner with over 30 years experience with various nonprofits, the Transportation Authority of Marin, and the cities of San Rafael and Austin, TX. Linda holds an M.S. (Community and Regional Planning) and M.A. (Latin American Studies) from the University of Texas in Austin and a B.A. from Wellesley College. Linda served in the Peace Corps in Ecuador, and she and her husband live in San Rafael.



Michelle D. Javid, MSW, is the Manager of Business Development for Seniors At Home, a division of Jewish Family and Children's Services. Michelle earned her master's degree in social work from the University of Southern California and a bachelor's degree in psychology from the University of San Francisco. Since 2009, she has served as a community liaison for Seniors At Home in the San Francisco and Marin regions, organizing and participating in community events. Michelle has more than 10 years of experience in care management, medical social work, healthcare, business development, and event planning. Michelle currently serves as the chair for the Marin unit of the National Association of Social Workers (NASW-CA), is an active member of both the American Society on Aging and the Bay Area Social Workers in Healthcare, and serves on the steering committee for the Aging Action Initiative.



Christine Ness is a social services professional whose diverse positions have included hospice social worker, director of a refugee settlement program and manager of a psycho-educational program for families going through divorce. She has degrees in social work and law. She currently directs the Home Match Marin and San Rafael Rotary Home Team programs for Covia (formerly Episcopal Senior Communities).



Rev. Scott Quinn, M.Div., MA, was ordained a Lutheran minister and served for five years as an associate pastor of a congregation in Dallas, Texas. His career includes working seven years in Austin, Texas as an educator and spiritual director at an interfaith spirituality center, which is affiliated with a large Catholic hospital system. After moving to California, he became the Director of Community for The Chaplaincy Institute, an interfaith seminary and community in Berkeley, where he serves as Core Faculty in the Spiritual Direction Program. He has been ordained as an interfaith minister and has served on the boards of both Marin Interfaith Council and Interfaith Center at the Presidio. He also has a private practice as a spiritual director and supervisor of spiritual directors. He is currently the Executive Director of the Marin Interfaith Council. He and his partner reside in San Rafael, where they care for a large garden, bee hives, and several pets.