

Illinois Pioneer Coalition

Wednesday, November 2nd, 2022

The Pavilion – Marion, IL

8:30am -10:00am

Bringing Cultural and Physical Change to Long-Term Care – *Rikki Brady, Vice President of Health Services, Clark-Lindsey Village and Alex Spanko, Director of Communications, The Green House Project*

Turning an institutional nursing facility into a warm, caring home takes a combination of people and design. For nearly 30 years, The Green House Project and Pioneer Network have been at the forefront of cultural and physical change in nursing homes, from designing small-home nursing communities to implementing elder-directed care at traditional nursing homes.

Join Alex Spanko of The Green House Project/Pioneer Network and Rikki Brady of Green House adopter community Clark-Lindsey Village in Urbana, Ill. for an in-depth look at how every long-term care provider can transform both the physical space and the care.

10:15am -11:45pm

The Artifacts of Culture Change: More Than a Measurement Tool – *Joan Devine, Consultant, Former Director of Education Pioneer Network*

Over the past years, as LTC communities have faced the challenges presented by the COVID-19 pandemic, there have been numerous stories shared of positive outcomes achieved related to non-traditional environments and person-directed practices. The fact that person-directed practices, such as dedicated staffing and knowing the resident, have made a difference in so many communities is not surprising to those who have been working to support the mission and vision of Pioneer Network for over 20 years.

As we look for ways to grow and strengthen person-directed practices, Pioneer Network considers the Artifacts of Culture Change to be a valuable tool for care communities as they identify and grow a person-directed culture post-pandemic. It supports quality improvement in any organization with not only the data needed to identify and drive practices, but the process to bring the team together in this work.

11:45pm – 12:45pm Lunch and Exhibit Show



12:45pm - 2:15pm

Understanding Dementia and Medications Used for Treatment– *Craig M. Sever BS, R.PH. Clinical Director Everspring Pharmacy St. Louis, MO*

As a disease dementia is as confusing and frustrating for the individual suffering from it as it is for their family and healthcare providers. Understanding the disease and the medications used to treat it will allow everyone to make better decisions on the best approach for treatment and care. Knowing which medications are used, their effects, side effects and when their use is appropriate is essential. It is also imperative to have reasonable expectations about possible outcomes and increase familiarity with new options available to provide the best possible quality of life for everyone involved.

2:30pm – 3:30 pm

Building Dementia Friendly Communities – *Tracy Barczewski, Executive Director, Nancy Hinton, Program Coordinator, Judy Kleine, Program Coordinator Midland Area Agency on Aging, and Becky Salazar Executive Director Egyptian Area Agency on Aging*

Dementia Friendly Illinois is about working with persons with dementia and their support systems. All too often, persons living with or at risk for dementia feel alone and unheard. They feel left out from the activities in their community that promote well-being. Dementia Friendly Illinois and building Dementia Friendly Communities is about reversing the narrative. Communities, big and small, can see the value in making their communities more dementia friendly. Dementia Friendly Illinois is about improving the journey of persons with dementia and their support systems.

Building dementia friendly communities in Illinois is of significant importance to the families and persons living with or at risk for dementia. Based on the [2017 Alzheimer's Association Facts and Figures report](#), it is estimated that 220,000 people in Illinois have dementia due to Alzheimer's disease and by 2025 the number will increase by 18% to 260,000 people. If all the people with dementia lived in a single Illinois city, it would be the second largest after Chicago. When we take into account that each person with dementia has multiple informal caregivers, another 588,000 persons living in Illinois are impacted by dementia. Of course, all the people with dementia and their family do not live in a single community; they are living in every community in Illinois. Every one of these individuals has to navigate through their communities to support the well-being of a person living with or at risk for dementia. If they do not feel supported by their community, they start becoming isolated. Isolation leads to worsening well-being along with poor physical and mental health.

3:30pm – 4:30 pm

Understanding Behavior and Learning to Be with People Living with Dementia- Partnering with Family Members in the Care of Their Loved Ones with Dementia – *Leslie Pedtke, MHA, LNHA, Dignity Quotient*

In order to understand how to be with and have meaningful interactions with a person living with dementia, we have to understand the behavior. Long-term care staff members will learn techniques to enable family members to interact with their loved ones with dementia. As the disease progression occurs, family members have difficulty dealing with and are upset by the changes in the behavior of their loved ones. Staff must learn the role of care-partner, teacher, and support system. Learn how to better support families when mom and dad react in a way they don't recognize or understand. Staff plays a critical role with the family as co-caregivers by teaching these techniques to change the family's approach.

