

# ***Oklahoma Program for Continuing Education in Social Work***

***You Are Invited***

## ***Caring for the Caregiver***

***1-4 p.m.***

***Friday, July 26, 2019***

***Anne and Henry Zarrow School of Social Work***

***JJ Rhyne Community Room***

***3 hours of CEU credits***

### ***Facilitators:***

Robyn Boswell, Sooner SUCCESS

Jenny Countess, DHS Foster Care and Adoptions

Terry Mulkey, Aging Services, Inc.

Donald Pyeatt, Full Circle Adult Day

Vicki Thomas, DHS Developmental Disabilities

Nadine Walter, Lifespan Respite Grant

Marie Williams-Vaught, Oklahoma City VA Health Care System

Mashell Sourjohn, AARP Oklahoma

“There are only four kinds of people in this world – those who have been caregivers, those who currently are caregivers, those who will be caregivers, and those who need caregivers.” former First Lady Rosalynn Carter. At a time when everyone will be called on to provide care or will need care, it is critically important that we do all we can to support both family and professional caregivers. This presentation will provide some tools to survive the demands of caregiving.

### ***Master Presenters***

***Robyn Boswell, MS***, Robyn received her bachelor’s degree in Sociology from Oklahoma State University in 1980 and then her master’s degree from the University of Central Oklahoma in 1994 in Human Development.

She worked for Sooner SUCCESS for the past 5 ½ years. I currently work on two Statewide programs: Sibshops, which is a program for school-aged children that have a brother or sister with special health care needs and I also work on the respite voucher program which funds respite for full-time unpaid caregivers that could use a break from their caregiving responsibilities.

**Jenny Countess**, MSW, DHS Foster Care and Adoptions. Jenny is a program field representative in Foster Care and Adoption Programs for DHS. Jenny received her Bachelor's Degree in Social Work from East Central University in 2007. Jenny then began her career as a child welfare specialist working in the foster care. In 2010, Jenny graduated from the University of Oklahoma with her Master's Degree in Social Work. For the past 12 years she has worked in the foster care and adoption field. Jenny has a strong sense of devotion to families and youth.

**Terry Mulkey** has been serving caregivers in the Respite Voucher Program with Aging Services Inc. for six years. Terry is certified in Respite Care Assessment and is a member of the Oklahoma Caregivers Coalition. Before that Terry was in the restaurant business for many years. Terry has also been a caregiver for many years with her mother and friends. Terry is a master gardener and loves animals.

**Donald Pyeatt**, BS, serves as the director of Full Circle Adult Day Center. The mission of Full Circle Adult Day Center is to provide day services that optimize the cognitive and physical abilities of seniors and adults with disabilities so they can remain as independent as possible in their homes. Donald holds a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration with minors in Management and Marketing and a M.S. in Human Resources with a concentration on Administration.

Donald has spent 18 years working in the not-for-profit arena. After graduate school he worked in Community Mental Health for Five years working with adult males diagnosed with Schizophrenia and providing school-based services for children and adolescents. He then moved onto an Administrative position, where he supervised Mental Health services for two counties and developed one of the first wrap-around service programs in the state.

Donald then moved onto an Executive Director position for a not-for-profit Developmental Disabilities sheltered workshop and activity center. The organization provided employment for developmentally disabled, job coaching and community based activities. The organization also had a team that competed in the Special Olympics of which Donald was a Coach. During this time, he worked with HUD to build a housing project for Developmentally Disabled Community members.

An opportunity came up to be a coordinator for a state grant. Donald worked with low income families to teach health and safety to parents with children newborn to age six. With this grant and other funding, a program was developed to provide infant and toddler car seats, and car seat safety, to these families. During this period over 500 car seats were provided to families in need.

**Vickie Thomas**, BS, in Sociology from the University of Central Oklahoma. She is currently a program field representative in DHS's Developmental Disabilities Respite Voucher Program. Her previous positions at DHS/jobs at DHS was with the division of Children & Family Services and DHS Office of Public Guardian, YMCA as Child Care Coordinator

**Nadine Walter**, BS, grew up in Kansas on her family's farm. She attended Kansas State University where she earned dual degrees in Human Ecology and Gerontology. Nadine began her career in the field of aging in 1990 at ASCOG Area Agency on Aging in Duncan, where she monitored programs funded by the Older Americans Act in an eight-county area.

From 1996 to 2005, Nadine was employed by DHS Aging Services. She monitored Area Agencies on Aging; served as the senior housing and legislative liaison; developed and interpreted policies and procedures; developed the State Plan on Aging; and performed other duties as assigned.

Nadine took a break from public service for approximately eight years to raise her two children. In 2013, Nadine was asked to return to Aging Services to serve as the Lifespan Respite Grant Manager. As the Lifespan Respite Grant Manager, Nadine's primary responsibility is to develop, expand and sustain respite programs for Oklahoma caregivers. Nadine believes it is a privilege to support and advocate for Oklahoma caregivers!

**Marie Williams-Vaught**, MSW, LCSW, CCM is the Respite Coordinator for the Oklahoma City VA Hospital. She is a graduate of the University of Oklahoma School of Social Work. In her role, she works with veterans and their families to coordinate supportive services for elderly and disabled veterans as well as the caregivers of Veterans. By providing non-institutional care, the goal is to allow Veterans to remain in the home setting as long as possible and to support the caregivers who provide significant care to our Veterans. This helps us fulfill our mission to "honor Veterans' preferences for health, independence, and well-being in the face of aging, disability, or illness by advancing expertise, programs, and partnerships."

**Mashell Sourjohn**, MJur, currently serve as AARP's Associate State Director of Community Outreach Director of Oklahoma where her focus is enhancing the quality of life for all Oklahomans as we age in areas of Native American outreach, caregiving, hunger, livable communities, transportation, protecting social security, financial asset protection, fraud prevention and encore entrepreneurship.

Mashell currently serves on the Pottawatomie County Community Market Food Resource Center Board, Oklahoma's REI Women's Business Center Advisory Board and the Oklahoma Healthy Aging Initiative of Oklahoma. She is a current member of the Native American Journalists Association, American Society on Aging, and the American Public Health Association. She has formerly served on the national American Diabetes Association's Awakening the Spirit Native American Committee, the Oklahoma Federation of Indian Women committee, and the New Mexico Shared Strategic Plan for Prevention and Control of Chronic Disease 2012-2016.

Mashell is a proud citizen of the Muscogee Creek Nation and is of Cherokee Nation heritage. She is a graduate of the University of Oklahoma with a Bachelor of Arts in Administrative Leadership and holds a Master of Jurisprudence in Indian Law from the University of Tulsa College of Law. She is also an alumna of the Oklahoma Public Health Leadership Institute. In 2017, Mashell was awarded the national AARP Sherrie Gordon Award for Excellence in Multicultural Leadership. She a Certified Aging in Place Specialist accredited by the National Home Builders Association in the state of Oklahoma. With a matching employee giving program from AARP, Mashell proudly established the Kenneth Sourjohn, Sr. Memorial Scholarship fund via the Muscogee Creek Nation Scholarship Foundation to assist any citizen of the Muscogee Creek Nation in their own purpose driven journey and higher education attainment goals.

Prior to AARP, she was employed at the American Heart Association and American Stroke Association for eleven years in roles such as the Regional Health Equity Director for American Indian and Alaska Native Outreach, State Health Alliance Director, Affiliate Cause Consultant and Interim Vice President of State Health Alliances and Research.

**3 CEUs available to LCSW/LMSW  
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