



**LONG-TERM SERVICES
AND SUPPORTS:
POLICY SOLUTIONS FOR A
CHANGING LANDSCAPE**

**NCIOM 2024
ANNUAL MEETING**

November 21, 2024
8:00 am - 4:00 pm
McKimmon Center
Raleigh, NC

2024 NCIOM ANNUAL MEETING

For McKimmon information, full session descriptions, and speaker bios, please scan the QR code



LOBBY

beginning at 8:00 am

REGISTRATION

ROOM 2

8:00 - 9:00 am

NETWORKING BREAKFAST

Assorted muffins, mini burritos, fruit, coffee, hot water, and tea

PLENARY SESSIONS

9:00 - 9:15 am

WELCOME

Michelle Ries, MPH, President and CEO, North Carolina Institute of Medicine

Adam Sholar, JD, Chair of the Board of Directors, North Carolina Institute of Medicine and President and CEO, North Carolina Health Care Facilities Association

9:15 - 10:00 am

KEYNOTE:

Investing in Direct Care Workers: A Critical Step Toward a Sustainable Long-Term Care System

Robert Espinoza, MPA, CEO of the National Skills Coalition and Board Chair of the American Society on Aging

Robert Espinoza, MPA, is a prominent advocate and thought leader in the fields of workforce, aging, and caregiving. As CEO of the National Skills Coalition, Robert promotes access to inclusive, high-quality skills training so that more people have access to a better life, and more local businesses see sustained growth. Prior to his role at the National Skills Coalition, Robert served as the Executive Vice President of Policy at PHI, the nation's foremost organization focused on the direct care workforce. For nearly a decade, he directed the organization's award-winning national advocacy, research, and public education division. Under his leadership, the division produced over 100 original publications and launched multiple high-profile national and state-based initiatives. Since 2023, he has hosted *A Question of Care*, an award-winning podcast exploring the many challenges facing our country's caregiving system.

Robert was selected for the inaugural CARE100 list in 2020, recognizing him as one of the most forward-thinking individuals reshaping the landscape of caregiving in America. Robert also serves as board chair for the American Society on Aging.

10:00 - 11:00 am

PLENARY PANEL:

Ensuring Robust Long-Term Services and Supports for a Changing State

Moderated by **Paul L. Delamater, PhD**, Faculty Fellow, Sheps Center for Health Services Research and Associate Professor of Geography, UNC Chapel Hill

Erin Kent, PhD, MS, Associate Professor and Associate Chair for Research in Health Policy and Management, Gillings School of Global Public Health, UNC Chapel Hill

Sabrena Lea, BS, Deputy Director, NC Medicaid and LTSS, Division of Health Benefits, NC Department of Health and Human Services

Tracy Hayes, JD, CHC, Area Director and Chief Executive Officer, Vaya Health

11:00 - 11:15 am

BREAK

MORNING BREAKOUT SESSIONS

Pathways to Strengthening the Direct Care Workforce

Room 1D | 11:15 am - 12:15 pm

Moderated by **Andy MacCracken, MPA**, Director, NC Center on the Workforce for Health, NC AHEC

Trish Farnham, JD, MPA, Coordinator of *Essential Jobs, Essential Care-NC*, NC Coalition on Aging

Kezia Scales, PhD, Vice President of Research & Evaluation, PHI

Denise Lugo, CNA, Home Health Aide, Progressive Home Health Care

Improving Delivery and Experience of Care

Room 7 | 11:15 am - 12:15 pm

Moderated by **Corye Dunn, JD**, Director of Public Policy, Disability Rights NC

Ted Goins, BA, President and CEO, Lutheran Services Carolinas

Julie Ghurtskaia, MPH, Vice President, Population Health, Carolina Complete Health

Navigating the Caregiving Journey: Tools for Family and Community Support

Room 8 | 11:15 am - 12:15 pm

Moderated by **Mark Hensley, MA**, Associate State Director, AARP NC

Julian Montoro-Rodriguez, PhD, Professor of Sociology and Gerontology, School of Social Work, UNC Charlotte

Amanda Biggs, Specialist, Project C.A.R.E. ("Caregiver Alternatives to Running on Empty"), Mid-East Commission Area Agency on Aging

Steve Freedman, Caregiver and Former Service Operations Section Chief, NC Division of Aging

Session for members and staff of the NCGA: *Investing in a sustainable long-term care system* with Robert Espinoza, MPA

Room 1C | 11:15 am - 12:15 pm

LUNCH & NETWORKING

ROOM 2

12:15 - 1:20 pm

Lunch buffet includes grilled chicken, steak kabobs, falafel, basmati rice, baked veggies, Greek salad, hummus, tzatziki, and baklava. Please visit the NCIOM website for allergy and dietary restriction-specific information.

Please join us at 12:50 for remarks from **Susan Mims, MD, MPH, FAAP**, President & CEO of the Dogwood Health Trust, and the **WNC Bridge Foundation** regarding Hurricane Helene response in Western NC.



1:20 - 1:30 pm

BREAK

AFTERNOON BREAKOUT SESSIONS

Innovations in Funding & Financing Long-Term Services and Supports

Room 1D | 1:30 - 2:30 pm

Moderated by **Courtney Van Houtven, PhD**, Professor, The Department of Population Health Science, Duke University School of Medicine and Duke-Margolis Institute for Health Policy

Alicia Stokes, MHA, Vice President, Strategy, Planning & Performance, Government Markets, Blue Cross NC

Bill Lamb, MSW, MPA, Executive Committee Member, Friends of Residents in Long Term Care

Louise Noble, MSW, Senior Research Associate, NC Center for Health & Wellness, UNC Asheville

Advancing Home- and Community-Based Services: Solutions for Access and Equity

Room 7 | 1:30 - 2:30 pm

Moderated by **Shannon Pointer, DNP, RN, CHPN**, Senior Vice President of Hospice and Home Health Services and Professional Development Director, Association for Home & Hospice Care of North Carolina (AHC)

Jenny Hobbs, BS, Board Chair, Advocates for Medically Fragile Kids NC

Lee Dobson, MPA, CPHQ, Deputy Executive Director, BAYADA Hearts for Home Care

Ursula Robinson, MSW, Executive Director and Program Director, Program of All-inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE) of the Triad

Rural Issues in Long-Term Services and Supports – Discussions to foster collaboration and policy opportunities

Room 1C | 1:30 - 2:30 pm

Caregiver Support facilitated by **Angela Caraway, BA**, Founder and Executive Director, Caraway Foundation and Mayor of Ansonville, NC

Food Access and Nutrition Support facilitated by **Carolyn Bird, PhD, AFC, RFC**, William Neal Reynolds Distinguished Professor and Family Resource Management Specialist, NC State University

Workforce Challenges and Solutions facilitated by **Kimberly Delgado, PhD, RN, CDP, CADDCT**, Clinical Assistant Professor, East Carolina University

2:30 - 2:45 pm

BREAK

CLOSING SESSIONS

ROOM 2

2:45 - 3:30 pm

NC's Multisector Plan for Aging: All Ages, All Stages

Jill Simmerman Lawrence, MPH, Deputy Director, Division of Aging

Mary Bethel, MEd, Chair, NC Coalition on Aging's Board of Directors

3:30 - 3:50 pm

What's Next From NCIOM and Closing Remarks

Michelle Ries, MPH, President and CEO, North Carolina Institute of Medicine

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