

California Elder Abuse Statewide Summit
Speaker Bios

Assistant Secretary Kathy Greenlee

Kathy Greenlee was nominated by President Barack Obama on May 4, 2009 and was unanimously confirmed by the United States Senate as the 4th Assistant Secretary for Aging at the Department of Health and Human Services on June 25, 2009. Ms. Greenlee served as Kansas' Secretary of Aging, heading a cabinet-level agency whose mission is to promote the security, dignity and independence of Kansas seniors. KDOA is responsible for administration of Older Americans Act programs, distribution of Medicaid long-term care payments and regulation of nursing home licensure and survey processes. Ms. Greenlee had previously served as the State Long-Term Care Ombudsman in Kansas, as well as the state's Assistant Secretary of Aging, with the responsibilities of legislative liaison and chief budget officer. Ms. Greenlee also served as general counsel at the Kansas Insurance Department (KID). During her tenure at KID, she led the team of regulators who evaluated the proposed sale of Blue Cross/Blue Shield of Kansas. While there, she also oversaw the Senior Health Insurance Counseling for Kansas program, more commonly known as SHICK. That program is now part of the Department on Aging. Kathy Greenlee recently served on the board of the National Association of State Units on Aging (NASUA). NASUA represents the nation's 56 officially designated state and territorial agencies on aging. Ms. Greenlee is a graduate of the University of Kansas with degrees in business administration and law.

Assembly Member Mariko Yamada

Mariko Yamada represents California's 8th Assembly District, which includes portions of Solano and Yolo counties and the cities of Benicia, Davis, Dixon, Fairfield, Rio Vista, Suisun City, Vacaville, West Sacramento, Winters and Woodland. Assembly Member Yamada is Chair of the Assembly Aging and Long-Term Care Committee, a position that reflects her professional background as a social worker and her longtime work advocating for seniors and persons with disabilities. She is also a member of the Assembly Committees on Agriculture; Labor and Employment; Water, Parks and Wildlife; and Veterans Affairs. In addition, she holds a seat on the following Assembly Select Committees: Foster Care; the 2010 Census, and Regional Approaches to Addressing the State's Water Crisis. As a member of these committees, she continues her work to protect vulnerable populations and those who care for them; precious farmland and open space; and the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta, the largest freshwater estuary in North America. Prior to becoming an Assembly Member, Mariko served for five years on the Yolo County Board of Supervisors, representing a portion of the City of Davis and surrounding unincorporated county lands. Her education and experience as a social worker marked her as a leader on issues affecting the poor, elderly, and disabled. As a Supervisor, she became the first Chairperson of the Yolo County Commission on Aging and Adult services and helped to plan the first Aging Summit in Yolo County's history.

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Benjamin, Lin

Lin Benjamin, MSW, MHA, is the Geriatric Mental Health Specialist for the California Department of Aging (CDA.) This position is funded by Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) funds through a Memorandum of Understanding with the California Department of Mental Health (DMH) to promote the goals of MHSA on behalf of seniors and adults with disabilities. Ms. Benjamin represents the interests of older adults, adults with disabilities and their families in state-level MHSA activities and engages aging services providers to participate in the local MHSA stakeholder process to promote the development of older adult mental health services.

Benson, Bill

Bill Benson has worked in the aging field and with the aging network for 33 years. He established The Benson Consulting Group in 1998. In 2002 he joined with Sue Andersen to form Health Benefits ABCs (HBABCs), an independent consulting practice specializing in aging and health policy & services, program development and assessment, and training. Their clients include a number of national, state and private organizations, including n4a, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Consumer Reports Best Buy Drugs initiative, the American Health Quality Foundation, National Adult Protective Services Association, American Society on Aging, the Population Association of America & the American Planning Council, Institute for Health & Aging at the University of California, San Francisco, the Maryland Department of Aging, the New York State Office for the Aging, and others. From 1993 to 1998 Mr. Benson served as the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Aging at the Administration on Aging (AoA) at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. He was the acting Assistant Secretary for Aging in 1997. Mr. Benson spent eight years in various staff capacities in the U.S. Congress including staff director of the Subcommittee on Aging of the Senate Labor and Human Resources Committee, staff director of the Subcommittee on Housing and Consumer Interests of the House Select Committee on Aging, and with the Senate Special Committee on Aging. During that time, Mr. Benson played a major role in the 1987 and 1992 amendments to the Older Americans Act including the creation of Title VII, the OBRA '87 nursing home reform legislation, numerous Medicare and Medicaid provisions, women's health, pension and other notable legislative initiatives. Prior to moving to Washington, D.C., Mr. Benson was with the California Department of Aging including serving for more than five years as the State Long-Term Care Ombudsman. Mr. Benson spent three years with an AoA-funded demonstration project to train paralegals and other advocates for the elderly, founded a community-based Retired Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) and directed a senior citizens center. He is the immediate past president of the National Citizens Coalition for Nursing Home Reform and president of the Environmental Alliance for Senior Involvement. He is presently in his 6th season as host of First Person, a weekly series of interviews with Holocaust survivors before live audiences at the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, D.C.

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Conger, Julie

Superior Court Judge Julie Conger retired from the bench of Alameda County in 2008 after 26 years of service and currently sits on assignment in numerous California courts in northern California. In 2001, Judge Conger initiated the Elder Abuse and Protection Court at the Rene C. Davidson Courthouse in Oakland, a concept that has evolved into the Elder Access Program, which won a Kleps award from the Judicial Council of California for innovative programs facilitating access to the courts. The Elder Access program has brought together numerous participants from the legal profession, law enforcement, government entities and community organizations in order to provide community outreach and education and an immediate response from the courts to the problems of Elder Abuse. After retirement, Judge Conger has continued her efforts to create Elder Protection Courts in all California counties. Judge Conger has held numerous positions within the Alameda County Superior Court and the California Judges Association. She has been active in the field of Judicial Ethics, having served for almost 15 years on the Judges Association Ethics Committee, twice as Chair; in addition, she has been responsible for two treatises on Judicial Ethics, and has taught in that field for over ten years. She also has edited the Humor column in the Judges' newsletter from 1995 to 2008. In 2005 Judge Conger was awarded the Jefferson Award from the California Judges Association for contributions to the judiciary in judicial education. Judge Conger received her JD from the University of California, Berkeley's Boalt Hall School of Law; she also holds a BS (magna cum laude) from Smith College and a Masters' in Mathematics from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Judge Conger is married to Dr. Bruce Hoadley and has three grown children. She and her husband live in Sonoma County, where they raise and love Portuguese Water Dogs and work on a hobby vineyard.

Counihan, Mary

Mary Counihan, MSW, was Director of Adult Protective Services (APS) for San Francisco from 1992 until retirement in May 2009. Under her direction, APS grew from 4 to nearly 60 social workers and nurses, developing into a model for provision of quality services through effective collaborations and partnerships. At the state level she led the multi-county collaborative that wrote successful legislation creating a comprehensive APS program and increasing its funding by 50%. Ms. Counihan has extensive experience building coalitions between public and private agencies (e.g., police, attorneys, medical and mental health providers, banks, CBOs); developing partnerships; creating innovative service-delivery approaches; facilitating groups; and developing protocols, policies, and training manuals to provide the highest quality services to elderly and disabled-adult victims of abuse/neglect.

Falk, Erika

Dr. Erika Falk is Director of Institute on Aging's Geriatric Assessment and Psychological Services. She is a licensed clinical psychologist with specialized training in geropsychology and refugee mental health. Prior to joining the IOA in 2006, she provided training in mental health to refugees in West Africa. She currently directs the San Francisco Elder Abuse Forensic Center, a public/private partnership with SF's Police Department, District Attorney's Office and Adult Protective Services. Dr. Falk provides training on such topics as neglect, financial abuse, and violence awareness and prevention in late life.

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Freeman, Iris

Ms. Freeman is Adjunct Faculty at the Center for Elder Justice & Policy (CEJP) and co-teaches the Elder Justice Policy Keystone with CEJP Director, A. Kimberley Dayton. She coordinates the Vulnerable Adult Justice Project, which is administratively housed and supported at the Center, and has worked extensively on laws that address financial exploitation. She is currently completing a Model Protocol and manual for care facility staff to use as a resource for identifying and responding to perceived financial exploitation of a resident (Anticipated completion date: June 2010). Ms. Freeman brings her students more than 30 years of expertise on the state and national level in advocating for seniors. She directed the Advocacy Center for Long-Term Care from 1977-1999 and was Director of Public Policy at the Alzheimer's Association, Minnesota-Dakotas chapter from 2000-2003. Her social work career has focused on public policy to protect vulnerable adults. She has taught Community Practice courses at the University of Minnesota, School of Social Work Graduate Program since 2003. She continues to serve on local and national working groups and publishes widely in professional journals.

About the Vulnerable Adult Justice Project: Since 2007, the Center has facilitated the collaboration and work of the Vulnerable Adult Justice Project, whose mission is safeguarding and advocating for vulnerable adults. This collaboration of elder and disability organizations, health care providers, governmental agencies, attorneys and academic members conducts ongoing work that draws expertise from multiple perspectives and professions. Its successful 2009 legislative initiative revised pertinent state civil and criminal laws in protective services and banking.

Hill, John

John Hill was a newspaper reporter for 23 years before going to work last July for the newly created California Senate Office of Oversight and Outcomes. His last eight years in newspapers were as an investigative reporter at The Sacramento Bee, where he won the George Polk Award and several other honors. Since coming to the Senate, Hill has written two reports on elder abuse. One, on the state's long-term care ombudsman program, described how conflicting laws and duties hamper elder abuse reporting. The other, released in March, showed how nurse assistants who lost their certifications for misconduct, usually in nursing homes, were allowed to work in a different kind of facility for the elderly because state departments failed to cross-check disciplinary records.

Jimenez, Marina

Marina Jimenez has over fifteen years of experience in the criminal justice system, working for private law firms, non-profit agencies, the Courts, and as a Victim Witness Advocate with the Alameda County District Attorney's Office. Ms. Jimenez was instrumental in establishing the first ever Elder Justice Court in Alameda County with Judge Julie Conger. She knows the Court system from the inside out and continues to be an invaluable resource for all parties involved in elder abuse cases, both criminal and civil. Ms. Jimenez is completing coursework at Holy Names College and plans to enter graduate school, studying psychology, law and the criminal justice system. She currently is a member of the DA Elder Abuse Team in Oakland, California.

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Karr, Helen

Helen Karr, JD, was determined to do something about helping older women prevent becoming victims of financial exploitation, so she attended law school instead of retiring (from the business world), and was sworn in to practice California law on her 64th birthday. Now, she is a senior citizen advocate at the local, state and national level. Ms. Karr served six years as a California Senior Assembly Member and chaired its Joint Rules Committee. She is member of the San Mateo County Long-Term Care Ombudsman Board and a member of the Elder Financial Protection Network. She is a past member of the State Bar of California's Senior Lawyer's Committee, and was appointed by Senator Dianne Feinstein (D-Cal) as her Delegate to the 2005 White House Conference on Aging. She received a 2005 National Spirit of Service Award from the Corporation of National and Community Service. Former State Assembly Member Gene Mullin named Karr as the Woman of the Year 2007 for the 19th Assembly District. The Elder Financial Protection Network honored her with its 2007 "Sentinel Award"; a lifetime achievement award for an individual who has successfully advocated for positive change in public policy or in the judiciary concerning the protection of elders from financial abuse and exploitation. Her Alma Mater, San Francisco Law School, honored her as the Alumni of the year 2007. As a legal consultant, Ms. Karr researched the law and worked with the author to develop the California State Bar's public education material *Seniors and the Law*. Over two million *Seniors and the Law* have been distributed in California. In 2003, the State Bar of California awarded Ms. Karr for "Outstanding Service". In May 2010, Ms. Karr will again provide her services to the San Francisco District Attorney's Elder Abuse Unit. She has developed outreach material for the SFDA Elder Abuse Unit and presented to hundreds of seniors at senior centers and senior agencies, and provided professional trainings. She researches and analyzes state and federal bills and laws pertaining to elders including elder abuse. She also writes proposals for elder abuse legislation.

Malks, Betty F.

Betty F. Malks has over 30 years experience in the field of Aging. Since 1997, as department director, she has spearheaded the creation of the Santa Clara County Social Services Agency's Department of Aging and Adult Services (DAAS), bringing together all adult programs under one umbrella, including Adult Protective Services, Public Administrator/Guardian/Conservator, In-Home Supportive Services, and Senior Nutrition. Most recently, Ms. Malks has been appointed as the North American Regional Representative for the International Network for the Prevention of Elder Abuse (INPEA) and is a member of the Education Committee of the National Committee for the Prevention of Elder Abuse (NCPEA). Ms. Malks is a member of the National Advisory Panel of the Hartford Partnership Program for Aging Education of the New York Academy of Medicine's Social Work Leadership Institute, 2005 - present. She is the lead of the California Social Work Education Center's Northern Collaborative, consisting of 10 California counties and 4 Universities, 2005 – present. This project is funded by the Archstone Foundation. Ms. Malks is the Project Director of the "Enhancing the Capacity of a Diverse Faith Community to Address Elder Abuse", funded by the Archstone Foundation, 2006 – present. She has also published several articles, one appearing in Journal of Gerontological Social Work entitled *Elder Abuse Prevention: A Case Study of the Santa Clara County Financial Abuse Specialist Team (FAST) Program, 2002* and another in the Journal of Elder Abuse and Neglect entitled *Combating Elder Financial Abuse – A Multi-Disciplinary Approach to a Growing Problem 2005*.

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Marson, Daniel

Daniel Marson, JD, PhD is a tenured Professor in the Department of Neurology at the University of Alabama at Birmingham where he serves as Director of the Alzheimer's Disease Center and of the Division of Neuropsychology. Dr. Marson graduated magna cum laude from Carleton College in 1976, earned a JD degree in 1981 at the University of Chicago Law School, and completed his PhD in clinical psychology in 1990 at Northwestern University Medical School. Research interests include medical decision-making capacity, financial capacity, and testamentary capacity in AD and related dementias. At the national level, Dr. Marson is a member of the newly formed Committee on Human Research of the American Psychological Association. He serves as a chartered member of a study section at the NIH Center for Scientific Review. He is a member and former Chair (1999-2007) of the Internal Ethics Committee of the NIA-funded Alzheimer's Disease Cooperative Study. He is an elected Member of the American Neurological Association and a Fellow of the National Academy of Neuropsychology.

Mosqueda, Laura

Laura Mosqueda, M.D. is the Director of Geriatrics at the University of California, Irvine School of Medicine where she is also a Professor of Family Medicine, the Ronald W. Reagan Endowed Chair in Geriatrics and Medical Director of the UC Irvine SeniorHealth Center. Dr. Mosqueda is involved in clinical care, research, and medical education. Her areas of special interest are in dementia, disability, and elder abuse. Dr. Mosqueda is the co-director of UC Irvine Center of Excellence on Elder Abuse and Neglect, founded a forensic center on elder abuse which brings together people from APS (Adult Protective Services), Vulnerable Adult Services Team (VAST, a medical response team), the District Attorney's office, law enforcement, the Public Guardian's office, Older Adult Services, the Ombudsman's office, and a domestic violence shelter for seniors. Dr. Mosqueda has extensive experience in developing, implementing, and teaching courses on elder abuse for health care providers, social workers, law enforcement officers, judicial personnel, and prosecutors. She is also the founder of an Elder Abuse Prevention Coalition. Dr. Mosqueda's areas of research include abuse of persons with dementia and forensic markers of elder mistreatment and she was on the National Academies Panel that produced the book entitled *Elder Mistreatment: Abuse, Neglect, and Exploitation in an Aging America*. She has been the principal investigator on multiple grants focusing on Elder Abuse in the areas of prevention, forensic markers and education and has published numerous peer-reviewed articles.

Nerenberg, Lisa

Lisa Nerenberg has been actively involved in the field of elder abuse prevention since 1984. She chairs the California Elder Justice Workgroup, teaches at City College of San Francisco, and is a consultant to local, state and national organizations. Her clients have included the National Committee for the Prevention of Elder Abuse, the National Center on Elder Abuse, the National Indian Council on Aging, the Police Executive Research Forum, and the California Medical Training Center. She recently assisted the San Francisco Probate Court conduct a study of undue influence in conservatorships. She was the founding director of the San Francisco Consortium for Elder Abuse Prevention, which piloted the nation's first elder abuse multidisciplinary team and other innovative, widely-replicated services, including a support group and shelter for elderly victims and culturally-specific outreach programs. She has presented at hundreds of professional forums, testified before Congressional committees, served on

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governmental advisory committees, and provided training and technical assistance to state and local programs. She has authored numerous articles, chapters and publications. Her book, *Elder Abuse Prevention: Emerging Trends and Promising Strategies* (Springer, 2008) describes what agencies, communities, tribes, states, and national organizations are doing to prevent abuse, treat its effects, and ensure justice.

Ochoa, Laurinda

Laurinda Ochoa has been Deputy District Attorney with Alameda County District Attorney's Office since 1989, and started the Elder Abuse Prosecution Team in 1998. Her cases include everything from caretaker theft, physical and sexual abuse; elders targeted by nomadic families; complex financial abuse cases; to robberies and bank employee thefts. Ms. Ochoa works closely with APS, Public Guardian, local fiduciaries and local police departments. She participates in police officer training and public education/outreach on Elder Abuse Issues. She received a Political Science degree from UCLA in 1981 and a JD from Boalt Hall, UC Berkeley School of Law in 1985.

Park, Kathy

Kathy is a Senior Program Specialist with the National Council on Crime and Delinquency and also serves as Assistant Director of its division, the Children's Research Center. Kathy works with state and local social service agencies across the U.S., Canada, and Australia to develop and implement Structured Decision Making Systems that include research-based decision support tools for use by front line staff in child protection, adult protection, and economic support programs. Prior to joining NCCD, Kathy worked for the State of Georgia as a child protection investigator and caseworker, a supervisor of a blended adult and child protection unit, and at the state level in the policy and consultation unit. As a practitioner at heart with an appreciation for research, Kathy is committed to supporting social service agencies in their use of evidence-based, research-driven assessments to support decision making and improve outcomes for clients.

Prevratil, Joseph F.

Joseph F. Prevratil, President and CEO of the Archstone Foundation, has been a board member since 1987 and chief executive since 1995. He was instrumental in moving Archstone Foundation from grants in general health to focusing on aging with a current emphasis in the following areas: elder abuse prevention, fall prevention, end-of-life issues, and responsive grantmaking to address emerging needs within society's aging population. Mr. Prevratil has been an active member of Grantmakers in Aging. He served on the board of directors during 1998 – 2004 and held the position of president from October 2002 to October 2004. Additionally, he has been actively involved with several annual conferences for Grantmakers in Aging. In 1998, he served as the Co-Chair for the Program Planning Committee and in 2002 he was the conference chair. Mr. Prevratil was a group vice president with Six Flags, Inc., (1970-1975) and president of his own turnaround consulting firm (1975-1982) before taking the reins as president of Wrather Port Properties, Ltd. (1982-1988). At Wrather, he was responsible for turning the Queen Mary/Spruce Goose hotel and entertainment complex into a successful operation and assisting in the sale of the assets of Wrather Port Properties, Ltd., to the Walt Disney Company. In May 1988, Mr. Prevratil was appointed chief executive officer of the Port of Long Beach, where he negotiated major

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trade contracts throughout the Pacific Rim. He then moved on to a four year contract as project manager for the successful \$100 million expansion of the Long Beach Convention and Entertainment Center. He returned to the Queen Mary in 1993 as president and CEO. He retired as President and CEO of the Queen Mary in July 2006. Mr. Prevratil holds a BA degree from Loyola University of Los Angeles and a JD degree from Southwestern University School of Law. He has served as chairman of the board of the Long Beach Area Chamber of Commerce, the Long Beach Area Convention and Visitors Bureau and the Downtown Long Beach Associates. From 1990-1997, he was a member of the Board of Directors of the \$2 billion HMO-FHP International Corporation. Mr. Prevratil is the recipient of numerous civic, community and service awards including the Forum for Corporate Directors Award in 1989, the Jewish National Fund Tree of Life Award, the American Lung Association Humanitarian Award, the 1999 Entrepreneur of the Year Award from the Long Beach Chamber of Commerce, in 2000 the Humanitarian Award from NCCJ, and in 2004 from APHA the Philip G. Weiler Award for Leadership in Aging and Public Health. Mr. Prevratil and his wife, Joan, have four children and nine grandchildren.

Schneider-Homeier, Diana

Dr. Diana Schneider-Homeier received her M.D. from the University of Southern California School of Medicine where she graduated with highest distinction. She completed a residency in Family Medicine at David Grant Medical Center, Travis Air Force Base and after serving four years as a family physician, she entered a two-year fellowship in Geriatric Medicine at Oregon Health Sciences University. Dr. Schneider is an Assistant Professor of Internal Medicine and Family Medicine at the Keck School of Medicine at USC. In this role, she cares for elderly and disabled patients at LAC+USC Medical Center and teaches geriatric medicine to internal medicine residents, medical students and gerontology students. She also serves as the Assistant Program Director for the Fellowship in Geriatric Medicine. Dr. Schneider is additionally the Medical Director of the Adult Protection Team, a project of the Violence Intervention Program located at LAC+USC Medical Center. This program was established to treat and protect victims of elder and dependent adult abuse. In April 2007, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office and its Victim-Witness Assistance Program recognized Dr. Schneider for her dedication to assisting elderly crime victims. In January 2006, Dr. Schneider opened the Los Angeles County Elder Abuse Forensic Center with support from the Archstone Foundation and Unihealth Foundation. Dr. Schneider serves as Director of the Los Angeles County Elder Abuse Forensic Center.

Sellers, Mark

Mark Sellers received his B.A. in Philosophy (1987) and M.A. in Marriage, Family and Child Counseling (1991) from the University of San Diego. While in private practice, he specialized in providing individual and group treatment services to men who were sexually abused as boys and to men struggling with domestic violence. In 1994, he began work with Child Protective Services (C.P.S.) in San Diego County as a social worker, moving to Riverside County C.P.S. in 1996. While with C.P.S. in Riverside, he worked as a social worker for two years, a supervisor for two years and a regional manager for five years. For the past 5 years, he has been with Adult Services in Riverside County as a Regional Manager, overseeing the Adult Protective Services and In Home Supportive Services programs. He is presently the 2009/2010 Chair of the Protective Services Operations Committee, a sub-committee of the CWDA Adult Services Committee. Mr. Sellers is a participating member of the statewide committee in California regarding the

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development of a statewide risk assessment tool. As a member of NAPSA/NCPEA, he participates on their Research Committee. When not working, he enjoys spending time with his wife and two daughters, cooking, listening to his wife play the harp and in his dreams, anything whatsoever to do with the ocean.

Svare, Tristan

Tristan Svare works as an advocate and prosecutor for victims of crime in the areas of elder abuse, abuse of people with disabilities, child abuse, domestic violence and sexual assault. He prosecutes cases in court from assault to theft to financial exploitation to rape and murder. He advocates for increased training and awareness of the needs of special victims in the criminal justice system - from improved training for law enforcement to increased public awareness of victims of crime and crime prevention, to advocating for more victim-centric laws and policies. Tristan specializes in: prosecution of special victim cases; policy advancement in criminal justice system; and education and training of prosecutors, law enforcement, judicial officers, social services and medical professionals.

Twomey, Mary

Mary Twomey, MSW is the Co-director of the Center of Excellence on Elder Abuse and Neglect at the University of California, Irvine. Before coming to UCI, Mary was director of the San Francisco Consortium for Elder Abuse Prevention, a program of the Institute on Aging from 2000-2007. Formerly, she was Director of Social Services at the Volunteer Legal Services Program of the Bar Association of San Francisco. She spent eleven years with the national office of AARP in Washington, DC where she coordinated the National Guardianship Monitoring Program. Mary has her MSW with a concentration in gerontology and mental health from Catholic University in Washington, DC.