**Updates from Health and Aging Policy Fellows during COVID-19**

- **Heidi Allen, MSW, PhD** co-authored the article, Medicaid Work Requirements Shift to New Terrain, published in JAMA on April 21, 2020.

- **Lauren Bangerter, PhD**
  - joined UnitedHealth Group in April 2020 as a Senior Research Scientist. Lauren is leading a research program in complex care and looks forward to bringing her health and aging policy skills into this role. Additionally, she is currently working on optimizing telemedicine for complex patients amidst COVID-19.

- **Julie Bobitt, PhD; Julie Carter, JD; and Jamie Kuhne, MSW, LISW** published a manuscript – Using diffusion of innovations framework to examine the dissemination and implementation of the adult protective services national voluntary consensus guidelines – based on research they conducted on Adult Protective Services that was funded by the Borchard Foundation and with HAPF seed funding.

- **Melissa Batchelor, PhD, RN-BC, FNP-BC**
  - was a guest on the two radio shows and quoted in a CNBC article:
    - HealthCetera. COVID19 and older adults in nursing homes. Interview with Dr. Diana Mason, April 22, 2020.
    - CNBC Make It. How to talk with your older parents about the COVID-19 pandemic – and have them actually listen. Reported by Cory Stieg, March 13, 2020. [https://cnb.cx/2Uj5x0P](https://cnb.cx/2Uj5x0P)
  - hosted a webinar on COVID-19: Nasdaq Employee Assistance Program. How to talk to your older relatives about the COVID-19
pandemic – and actually have them listen! Webinar presentation on May 7, 2020.

- hosted several This is Getting Old: Moving Towards an Age-Friendly World podcasts featuring other Health and Aging Policy Fellows, and Dr. Terry Fulmer, President of The John A. Hartford Foundation, including: (Link to YouTube Channel where they are live; And the link to them on Melissa’s website: https://MelissaBPhD.com/podcastblog/)
  - EP2: Health and Aging Policy Fellow Experience (Melissa Batchelor)
  - EP3: Age-Friendly Health Systems: Interview with Dr. Terry Fulmer
  - EP4: Lack of Dental Coverage by Medicare: Interview with Tanieka Duhaney, Alumni Health and Aging Policy Fellow
  - EP5: Coronavirus and Older Adults (Melissa Batchelor)
  - EP8: COVID Scams and the Older Adult: Interview with Dr. Lisa O’Neill, Current Health and Aging Policy Fellow
  - EP12: Aging with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities - Interview with Lieke van Heuman

**Ken Brummel-Smith, MD**

Ken has been consulting for the Keck School of Medicine at The University of Southern California about the School’s approach to the COVID pandemic. His role has been to advise the Dean, and to run Zoom conferences for the department chairs and faculty of the departments. So far, he has had meetings with the departments of anesthesiology, critical care medicine, emergency medicine, internal medicine, family medicine, otolaryngology, psychiatry, and emergency medicine. Dr. Laura Mosqueda, Dean, wanted for faculty and chairs to have a forum to talk about their concerns, free from oversight of senior leadership, and to bring back those concerns to her and her leadership team so that they may best respond to the needs of the faculty and residents.

Topics discussed have changed over the course of the pandemic. Initially here were concerns about personal protective equipment, communication across departments and facilities (faculty and residents often serve in both the Keck hospitals and the Los Angeles County hospital), and ethical dilemmas such as residents or faculty excusing themselves from care for fear of infections being taken home to family or disaster-related allocation of scarce resources. With feedback from these meetings, the School developed a crisis management ethical guideline and has instituted an extensive communication plan and resource center, established housing for faculty who need to quarantine, a wellness and stress management program, and access to counselors.

**Pamela Cacchione, PhD, CRNP, BC, FGSA, FAAN**

- Authored chapters on Long-Term Services and Supports Policy Issues, Caregiver Policy, Family Caregiving and Social Policy, and Dual Eligibles: Challenges and Innovations in Care in the book, "Policy & Politics in Nursing and Health Care, 8th Edition" by Diana J. Mason, fellow HAPF
Alumna G. Adriana Perez, Monica R. McLemore, and Elizabeth Lynne Dickson.

- **Taneika Duhaney, MHAP**
  - The April 2020 Center for Consumer Engagement in Health Innovation newsletter featured an “Eldercare Voices” perspective from Taneika: Older Adults and Access to Health Care During COVID-19.

- **Jamie Davis, PhD**
  - was re-appointed, part time, to the VA Maryland Health Care System to engage in direct clinical care for employees, through the Employee Assistance Program, and Veterans, via telehealth.
  - authored an article related to her current job on a Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) partnership with CaringBridge: VA partner CaringBridge helps keep Veterans from feeling isolated during social distancing.
  - is in the process of authoring a number of additional articles that highlight the great work VA is doing with other partners such as Pet Partners, Hospice and Palliative Care, Recreation Therapy, Humane Society of the United States, Compensated Work Therapy, and Heroes Foundation.

- **Lori Frank, MPH, PhD; Sharon Inouye, MD, MPH; Gary Epstein-Lubow, MD; Lewis Lipsitz, MD** along with their colleague, Robyn Stone, DrPH (LeadingAge):
  - published an article in PBS News Hour in March 2020 on guidance for those concerned about loved ones in long-term care facilities during the COVID-19 pandemic: Worried about COVID-19 for a loved one in long-term care? Here’s what to consider.
  - published a similar article in Next Avenue in March 2020: Should You Consider Taking a Loved One Out of a Long-Term-Care Facility Now?.

- **Carrie Graham, PhD, MGS**
  - In addition to her regular job at the UCSF Institute for Health and Aging, Carrie has been working for the California Department of Aging (CDA) on COVID response for older adults. Carrie started as a Policy Consultant for CDA on the Master Plan for Aging, a stakeholder engaged process that was intended to transform aging services in California. But when COVID-19 hit in March, the Master Plan was put on pause, and the CDA pivoted to working on the state’s efforts to ensure older adults have food, social engagement, and health services during the shelter in place. In particular, Carrie has been working to help with the state’s response to the outbreak in nursing homes. Additionally, she has been helping to organize weekly Friends & Family Check-in Calls that cover topics for caregivers such as “Caring for a Loved One at Home During COVID-19”, “Caring for Someone in Senior Living”, “Advanced Care Planning and End of Life”, and “Grief and Loss During COVID-19”. Recordings of all of these webinars can be found on the www.engageca.org webpage. The series is now also beginning in Spanish and Mandarin.
• **Marie Gualtieri, PhD**  
  - Current residential Fellow, Dr. Marie Gualtieri (placement: Office of U.S. Congresswoman Rosa DeLauro) tracked and flagged issues on senior nutrition for the *Families First Act* and *CARES Act*, and was the lead on senior nutrition issues for the House *HEROES Act*. In the current form of this legislation, Marie worked on the inclusion of additional funds for *Older Americans Act* programs, such as senior nutrition programs, supplemental supportive services, and evidence-based health promotion and disease prevention services. Additionally, she worked on the inclusion of a SNAP minimum benefit increase from $16 to $30, a 15% SNAP boost, and the suspension of all rulemaking that would eliminate SNAP eligibility and reduce benefits.

• **Alison Hernandez, RN, PhD**  

• **Sharon Inouye, MD, MPH**  
  - is currently an Encore Public Voices Fellow with Encore and the OpEdProject.  
  - served as moderator for the National Academy of Medicine (NAM)-American Public Health Association (APHA) COVID-19 Conversations Webinar titled, "The Science of Social Distancing: Part 2" on April 1, 2020, attended by >6,000 viewers.  
  - gave a lecture at Harvard College for Global Health and Health Policy 50, entitled "Improving Health Care Quality for an Aging America" on April 2, 2020.  
  - participated as an Advisory Board member on the APHA/NAM COVID-19 Conversations on April 9, 10, 15, 22, 24, 29.  
  - participated as Associate Editor at the JAMA Network Open Editor’s meeting on April 14, 2020.  
  - participated as a Board member at the National Academy of Science, Engineering and Medicine’s Board on Health Care Services Spring 2020 Board Meeting on April 21, 2020.  
  - The Hospital Elder Life Program (HELP) team led by Dr. Inouye developed resources for delirium prevention during COVID-19 hospitalization, located at [https://hospitalelderlifeprogram.org/for-clinicians/covid19-resources](https://hospitalelderlifeprogram.org/for-clinicians/covid19-resources).  
  - published:

Delirium-related media:
- Neurology -What’s Trending: Joining Forces against Delirium — From Organ-System Care to Whole-Human Care—a podcast with Dr. Sharon Inouye. April 2020. Available at: http://traffic.libsyn.com/neurology/April_28_2020_Neurology_Podcast_ver3.mp3

- quoted in COVID19-related media:
  - Health in Aging Blog. During the Coronavirus Crisis: Things to Consider if Someone You Care for is in Long-Term Care. April 2020. Available at: https://www.healthinaging.org/blog/during-the-coronavirus-crisis-things-to-consider-if-someone-you-care-for-is-in-long-term-care/

- **Teri Kennedy, PhD, MSW, LCSW, ACSW, FGSA, FNAP**
  - initiated a Wellness learning site for University of Kansas School of Nursing students, staff, and faculty to address timely COVID-19 data, area resources, scholarship, and self-care recommendations. The site will live on after the pandemic focusing on the fourth element of the Quadruple Aim, improving the experience of the provider, advancing self-care and team-care practices to foster resilience and retention of our healthcare workforce. Faculty and students facilitate weekly webinars through this site entitled, “Living and Learning through the Pandemic”.
  - published two articles:
    - Kennedy, T. (2020). Rooted in strengths: The branching of interprofessional practice and education. In A. Mendenhall & M. M. Carney (Eds), Rooted in Strengths: 30 years of the strengths

Kennedy, T. (2020, February 24). Preparing the healthcare workforce for interprofessional practice in sustainable age-friendly health systems. Schools of the Health Sciences (Dental Medicine, Health and Rehabilitation Sciences, Medicine, Nursing, Pharmacy, Public Health), School of Social Work, Pitt Center for Interprofessional Practice and Education, Working Group on Interprofessional Education, and Pitt Interprofessional Center for Health Careers, University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA

Kennedy, T. (2020, April 27). Searching for meaning: Living through the Pandemic. Spiritual Gathering, The University of Kansas Medical Center, Kansas City, KS


Prepared the 2020 Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) Advisory Committee on Interdisciplinary, Community-Based Linkages (ACICBL) report: Promoting the Inclusion of Population Health at the Nexus of Primary Health Care Delivery and Public Health (18th Annual Report to the Secretary of the United States Department of Health and Human Services and to the Congress – 2020)

Fazal Khan, MD, JD did an interview with NPR regarding the legal implications of Georgia Governor Kemp’s decision to reopen the state: https://www.npr.org/2020/04/25/845026634/legal-implications-of-georgia-gov-kemp-s-decision-to-reopen-state.

Jamie Kuhne, MSW, LISW-S is currently detailed to the VA Ann Arbor Health Care System, where they have enacted the VA’s 4th Mission—caring for the community during a time of emergency. The VA Ann Arbor Health Care System has cared for 36 Non-Veterans over the course of the last 5 weeks, primarily accepting community patients from Detroit, which was hit very hard by COVID-
19. Jamie’s role is Acting Associate Director/Chief Operating Officer, and she has also filled in as the Medical Center Director for over a week.

- **Nancy Kusmaul, PhD, MSW**
  (Current non-residential Fellow, placement: Office of U.S. Senator Ron Wyden, and the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services)
  - was named a Fellow of the Gerontological Society of America in May 2020.
  - published two articles:

- **Joanne Lynn, MD, MS, MA**
  (Current residential Fellow, placement: Office of Congressman Thomas Suozzi)
  - Blog posts:
    - Medicaring.org
      - March 28, 2020: A Pragmatist's Advice for Nursing Homes
    - Health Affairs Blog, April 1, 2020: Getting Ahead Of COVID-19 Issues: Dying From Respiratory Failure Out Of The Hospital
  - Webinars:
    - For Practical Bioethics: COVID Ethics Update - A Pragmatist's Guide to Nursing Homes in a time of COVID-19
    - For Grantmakers in Aging (GIA): COVID-19 and Long-Term Care: Preparing and Supporting Families and Family Caregivers
  - Interviews:
  - Quoted:
    - in the April 6, 2020 Politico article, How public health failed nursing homes
    - in the May 11, 2020 Washington Post article, Adult Children Pay the Price of Keeping Aging Parents at Home
• in the May 27, 2020 Politico article, *A lottery for ventilators? Hospitals prepare for ethical conundrums*

• **Rebecca Mabe, MSW, LCSW** has completed her Master’s degree in Public Policy at the University of Utah. Congratulations, Rebecca!

• **Angela Mattie, Esq., MPH**  
  (Current non-residential Fellow, placement: Office of U.S. Congresswoman Rosa DeLauro)  
  o Accepted for publication with an interdisciplinary team of Quinnipiac alumni - Samuel Sondheim, MD/MBA; Angela Mattie JD/MPH; Julie Vigil, MSOL; Christina McCullogh, MBA. Richard Feinn, PhD.  
  Abstract: Hospital rating agencies exist to inform consumers through publicly available patient safety data. The large number of rating agencies, the variability in their methodologies and data presentations leave few consumers considering these data in making healthcare decisions. The objective of this study was to analyze the comparability of data from four different healthcare rating agencies to understand whether there exists a correlation among the rating agencies’ published data. Four well-known rating agencies’ data were gathered for 30 Connecticut hospitals and analyzed using correlation methods. The overall rating score was used for comparison accounting for patients’ probability of referencing this score in determining a hospital’s safety. The results indicate little or no correlation between ratings of Connecticut hospitals among the reviewed rating agencies. The only statistically significant correlation was between CMS and Leapfrog. The lack of correlation among rating agencies’ publicly available data identified in this study leads to consumer confusion. This research provides support for the need for a valid, reliable, and transparent healthcare rating system to inform patient decision making.

• **Diane Meier, MD, FACP**, co-authored the article, *Proactive Integration of Geriatrics and Palliative Care Principles Into Practice for Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease*, published in *JAMA Internal Medicine* on April 27, 2020.

• On May 22, 2020, The University of Texas at Austin School of Nursing is hosting a webinar on *COVID-19’s disproportionate impact on black Americans*. **Toni Miles, MD, PhD** and **Steven Starks, MD** are panelists for this event.

• **Rajean Moone, PhD, LNHA, FGSA**  
  o accepted a position as the Faculty Director for Long Term Care Administration and Associate Director for Education at the Center for Healthy Aging & Innovation at the University of Minnesota.  
  o was appointed to the Minnesota Governor's Council on an Age-Friendly Minnesota.
Madeline A. Naegle, PhD, CNS-PMH, BC, FAAN is a Visiting Professor this year at the School of Nursing, University of Pennsylvania. She was recently named to the Board of Directors of The Floating Hospital, a federally qualified health care center serving homeless families, seniors living in NYCHA housing and others in need. Founded 150 years ago on a ship in New York harbor, this agency now has sites in three boroughs of New York City. Dr. Naegle is co-author of the online article *Make treatment accessible for opioid use disorders during the COVID-19 pandemic.* see Tierney, M, Delaney, K., Finnell, D., Naegle, M.& Shattell, M in *American Nurse, May 11, 2020* @ myamericanurse.com.

Lisa O’Neill, DBH, MPH (Current non-residential Fellow, placement: The National Alliance for Caregiving, and the Elder Justice Initiative, Department of Justice (DOJ))
- Served on an expert panel for community forum hosted by Tucson City Council Member Steve Kozachik on “COVID19 and Older Adult Social Isolation”
- The Arizona Governor’s Advisory Council on Aging celebrated our successful Sunset Review (2009-2019) when the Governor recently signed SB 1049 authorizing our continuation. The in-depth Sunset Review process took over a year to complete, and our 500 page report was submitted to the Governor and State Legislature in early January. As Chair of the Council since 2017, I advocated for the Council in numerous meetings with State Senators (Brophy-McGee, Carter, Alston, Dalassandro, Fann, Mesnard) and Representatives (Barto, Bowers, Cobb, Jermaine, Lawrence) and testified before both the House and Senate Health and Human Services Committees on behalf of the Council.

Joseph Ouslander, MD
- published two papers directly related to his work as a Health and Aging Policy Fellow:
  - Evaluation of a Multicomponent Care Transitions Program for High-Risk Hospitalized Older Adults
  - Thirty-Day Hospital Readmissions in a Care Transitions Program for High-Risk Older Adults
- engaged in COVID-19 related work:
  - Co-authored two papers:
    - Coronavirus Disease 2019 in Geriatrics and Long-Term Care: An Update
    - Coronavirus Disease 2019 in Geriatrics and Long-Term Care: The ABCDs of COVID-19
  - Given several webinars and interviews related to COVID in long-term care
  - Participated in the writing of AGS policy statements on COVID in nursing homes and COVID in Assisted Living (now online in JAGS)
- Reviewed many papers for JAGS fast-track COVID section
  - serves on two federal panels:
    - The CMS Nursing Home Five Star Panel
    - The Federal VA Geriatrics and Gerontology Advisory Committee

- **G. Adriana Perez, PhD, RN, CRNP, ANP-BC, FAAN, FGSA**

- **Tia Powell, MD**
  - On Sunday, March 22nd, Dr. Powell was interviewed by Ted Koppel on CBS Sunday Morning regarding hospital care during the COVID-19 pandemic. There are critical and urgent considerations related to hospital capacity and care for older adults during this public health crisis, with the ultimate goal of saving the greatest number of lives. Dr. Powell discusses this in more detail during the interview, which you can view and read the transcript of here: [Physicians and bioethicists on a pressing question: Who lives, and who dies?](#).

- **Beth Prusaczyk, PhD, MSW** published a commentary on how to disseminate COVID-related information to rural areas: [Strategies for Disseminating and Implementing COVID-19 Public Health Prevention Practices in Rural Areas](#).

- **Aditi Sen, PhD** co-authored the article, [Health Care Spending by Enrollees With Substance Use and Mental Health Disorders in High-Deductible Health Plans vs Traditional Plans](#), published in JAMA Psychiatry on April 15, 2020.

- **Lori Simon-Rusinowitz, MPH, PhD** submitted a letter of intent earlier this year for the Mayer-Rothschild Foundation RFA to develop a Designation of Excellence in Person-Centered Long-Term Care. Lori formed a team with Anne Montgomery and Sarah Slocum (Altarum) to work with a nursing home provider (as required by the RFA) and a nursing colleague at The University of Maryland. They had been looking for an opportunity to address the need for person-centered services in nursing homes, and this RFA was a great match.

- **Erica Solway, PhD, MSW, MPH** continues as an associate director of the University of Michigan [National Poll on Healthy Aging](#). Erica recently contributed to a piece in [JAMA Health Forum](#) highlighting findings from the university’s [March 2020 report](#) on dental care among adults age 65-80. The university’s [May 2020 report](#) focused on food insecurity among older adults.

- **Gary Stein, JD, MSW**
  - published the findings of his study on the “Experiences of Patients and Families in Hospice and Palliative Care” in the [Journal of Palliative Medicine](#). It was published on-line in January 2020
This study of 865 palliative care social workers, physicians, nurses, and chaplains provide strong evidence that LGBT patients and their families are more likely to receive discriminatory care as compared with those who are not LGBT. He and his research team plan to continue this study through focus groups with providers, and interviews of patients and family members.

- **Eileen Sullivan-Marx, PhD, CRNP, FAAN**
  - Recent media appearances:
    - MSNBC: Coronavirus Pandemic (3/15/20)
    - Yahoo! Finance: NYC Mayor: New Yorkers should prepare for a "shelter in place" order (3/17/20)
    - CNN: CNN: Coronavirus in the U.S. (3/19/20)
    - HealthLeaders Media: Nurses Take COVID-19 Concerns to President Trump (3/19/20)
    - MSNBC: Hospitals Face Critical Supply Shortages (3/22/20)
    - WABC-TV: Coronavirus News: Nurses fear supply, worker shortages amid COVID-19 pandemic (3/24/20)
    - Newsmax: Nurses, Doctors on the Frontline (3/24/20)
    - WPIX-TV: NYC nurse dies of COVID-19; healthcare workers on the front lines (3/26/20)
    - Buzzfeed: This Nurse Is Speaking Out Against Coronavirus Rumors And Hoaxes That Are Putting Him And His Colleagues In Danger (4/28/20)
    - Inside Higher Ed: Student Debt Cancellation Proposed for Front-Line Medical Workers (5/5/20)
    - American City Business Journals: Covid-19 changes nursing, resurrects discussion of public health needs (5/5/20)
    - QNS: Congresswoman Maloney introduces bill to forgive student loans for COVID-19 frontline health workers (5/6/20)
    - NBC News: We Cheer for Nurses and Other Health Workers. Would We Forgive Their Debt? (5/6/20)
    - Upworthy: Healthcare workers could get student loans forgiven in new bill (5/6/20)
    - Long Island Post: Bill Would Forgive Student Debt For COVID-19 Healthcare Workers (5/7/20)
    - Cardiovascular Business: Proposed legislation would forgive student loan debt for frontline healthcare workers battling COVID-19 (5/7/20)
Queens Gazette: Bill Forgives Student Loans For Frontline Health Workers (5/13/20)

Fei Sun, PhD
- wrote a blog with his colleague, Dr. Li (Shanghai Mental Health Center), on Shanghai’s experience of assisting elders in the community during the COVID-19 pandemic, published in the BMJ-Global Health Blog on April 24, 2020: Elder Care during COVID-19: Reflections from Shanghai.
- co-authored: Gao, Y.N., Sun, F., Jiang, W.W., Yuan, F., Yue, L., Lin, Xiang, & Li, X. Beliefs toward the COVID-19 pandemic among patients with emotional disorders in China. (In press). General Psychiatry. (If the version comes out in advance, the link will be provided.)

Laurie Traylor, MSW
(Current non-residential Fellow, placement: National Family Caregiver Support Program with the Administration for Community Living (ACL), and Eldercare Workforce Alliance)
- was spotlighted in the Eldercare Workforce Alliance newsletter on March 10, 2020 – Spotlight: Health and Aging Policy Fellow Laural Traylor.
- The RAISE Family Caregiver Act became law on Jan. 22, 2018, directing the Secretary of Health and Human Services to develop a national family caregiving strategy. Administration on Community Living (ACL) was charged to lead the implementation of both the RAISE Family Caregiver Act and the Supporting Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Act.
In April 2020, a report was published detailing the progress, congressional recommendations and next steps of ACL and the RAISE Family Caregiver Advisory Council. Health and Aging Policy Fellows (HAPF) Lauren Bangerter, PhD and Kelly O’Malley, PhD were primary authors. Contributors included: Laural Traylor, MSW, FNAP – Health and Aging Policy Fellow and Federal Liaison to the ACL Family Caregiving Advisory Council; Greg Link, MA – Director of the Office of Supportive Care Services, Administration on Community Living; Wendy Fox-Grage; MSG, MPA – Project Director with the Chronic and Vulnerable Populations Team at the National Academy for State Health Policy (NASHP); Rani Snyder, MPA – Vice President, Program at the John Hartford Foundation and Scott Bane, JD – Program Officer at the John Hartford Foundation. The report may be accessed here: Administration of Community Living (2020). RAISE Family Caregiver Act: Progress toward a national strategy to support family caregivers

Thomas Tsai, MD, MPH was on MPR News with Dr. William Schaeffer (Professor in the Division of Infectious Diseases at Vanderbilt University) on May 11, 2020, discussing the need for a proactive testing strategy around contact tracing and surveillance for COVID-19. The interview can be accessed here: Experts share latest knowledge about COVID-19 science and policy.
- **Kathleen Unroe, MD, MHA**
  - Kathleen's start-up, Probari, has a contract with the Indiana State Department of Health to support outreach efforts to nursing homes and assisted living facilities during the pandemic. Read more about it here: [https://probarisystems.com/probari-inc-will-provide-support-for-indiana-nursing-homes-during-covid-19/](https://probarisystems.com/probari-inc-will-provide-support-for-indiana-nursing-homes-during-covid-19/). Additionally, her team has been developing resources targeted to the nursing home setting and continue to add to them to their website: [www.optimistic-care.org](http://www.optimistic-care.org). Please refer to COVID-19 page.

- **Lieke van Heumen, PhD**
  - (Current non-residential Fellow, placement: U.S. Senate Special Committee on Aging in the Office of Ranking Member, Senator Bob Casey)
  - co-authored the article, *Photovoice with Individuals with Intellectual and/or Developmental Disabilities: Lessons Learned from Inclusive Research Efforts*, published on April 15, 2020.
  - was interviewed by Art in America magazine on the topic of art and ageism: [A Millenial Gerontologist and a Baby Boomer Painter Discuss Art and Ageism](https://www.artinamerica.com/features/2020/a-millennial-gerontologist-and-a-baby-boomer-painter-discuss-art-and-ageism/).

- **Latrice Vinson, PhD, MPH** is currently serving on a COVID-19 Task Force for the Gerontological Society of America (GSA). She is specifically working on a workgroup putting together a fact sheet addressing ageism, but the task force is working on a number of projects including webinars, decision aids, tip sheets, and more.

- **Victoria Walker, MD, CMD** was elected to the board of AMDA-PALTC. She has been leading the development of a clinical resource guiding anticoagulation of COVID-19 patients in PALTC.

- **Jennifer Wolff, PhD**
  - In January 2020, Jennifer published a study in JAMA Open Network, which found that nearly one-half of caregivers were never asked by older adults' clinicians about whether they needed help in managing care: *Family Caregivers’ Experiences With Health Care Workers in the Care of Older Adults With Activity Limitations*. This research was also highlighted by [AARP](https://www.aarp.org/). 

- **Jennifer Wong, PhD, MA**
  - In March 2020, [Jennifer](https://www.jennifer-wong.com) shifted from California Master Plan for Aging activities to assist the CA Department of Aging to rapidly respond to COVID-19. This has included: the expansion of [Friendship Line CA](https://friendshiplineca.org) – a 24/7 statewide warmline; addressing social engagement with the creation of an [activity guide](https://greatplatesdelivered.org); implementing innovative data collection and reporting strategies of programs and services (e.g., [Great Plates Delivered: Home meals for seniors](https://greatplatesdelivered.org/); and contributions to bridge the digital divide in older Californians and caregivers.

- **Patricia Yu, PhD, LCSW** has been working with Massachusetts’ Governor Baker’s COVID-19 Command Center providing thought leadership, creating workforce policy, and providing organizational structure to the response for staffing challenges at post-acute centers addressing the COVID-19 surge of cases in the Commonwealth. Her work has included:
  - Organizing the recruitment efforts of generating thousands of new workers into the system, getting them trained, matched, and deployed across the Commonwealth.
  - The establishment of a long-term care staffing portal that funnels the supply of healthcare workers to the most acute staffing needs amongst 500 LTC facilities across the state.
  - Supporting the development of the clinical Rapid Response Teams deployed to address emergency staffing needs at facilities.
  - The creation of two new roles to respond to the staffing shortages at facilities: Patient Care Technician for healthcare students with clinical training; and Resident Care Assistants for those with non-clinical backgrounds but a desire to help at facilities with ADLs.