



HEALTH AND AGING POLICY FELLOWS

Fall 2024 Updates

Professional Accomplishments, Awards, and Publications

- ◆ **Heidi Allen (2014-2015 Fellow)** – Recent publication: [When the Bough Breaks: The Financial Burden of Childbirth and Postpartum Care by Insurance Type \(The Milbank Quarterly\)](#)
- ◆ **Poki’I Balaz (2024-2025 Fellow)** – [Click here for a full list of updates.](#)
- ◆ **Melissa Batchelor (2017-2018 Fellow)**
 - Received a promotion to Professor at The George Washington University School of Nursing.
 - Podcast, [This is Getting Old](#), has amassed 30k subscribers, and recently surpassed the 200-episode milestone.
- ◆ **Arlene Bierman (2012-2013 Fellow)**
 - Contributed to [AHRQ Strategic Plan for Health System Transformation To Optimize Health, Functional Status, and Well-Being Among Older Adults](#).
 - Updated AHRQ’s e-careplan website: <https://ecareplan.ahrq.gov/>, and published [HL7 implication guide](#).
 - Recent publications:
 - [Person-Centered Care Planning for People Living With or at Risk for Multiple Chronic Conditions](#) (JAMA Network Open) – co-authored with **Maria Carney and Trisha Milnes (2022-2023 Fellows)**
 - [Establishing data elements and exchange standards to support long COVID health](#) (JAMIA Open)
- ◆ **Christine Bishop (2012-2013 Fellow)** – Recent publication: [Changes in the Aging Policy Landscape Since the 2020 Election](#), by Lipson, D., C. E. Bishop and L. Beedon (Public Policy & Aging Report)

- ◆ **Robert Burke (2017-2018 Fellow)** recently led a panel discussion on Age Friendly Health Systems. Watch it [here](#).
- ◆ A new book, "The Aging Revolution" by Michael J. Dowling, Charles Kenney, and **Maria Torroella Carney (2022-2023 Fellow)** tells the story about the progress in how older adults are cared for, and the people who nurtured that progress over time. Read Northwell Health's press release [here](#).
- ◆ **Steffany Chamut (2021-2022 Fellow)** was interviewed for The Harvard Brain – [The Aging Mouth: A Conversation on the Epidemiology of Oral Health and Alzheimer's Disease With Dr. Steffany Chamut](#), which has earned the prestigious Harvard Brain distinction.
- ◆ **Keith Chan (2020-2021 Fellow)**
 - Currently serves as Co-chair of the Aging Curriculum and Interim Chair of the Policy Curriculum at Silberman School of Social Work at Hunter College.
 - Recognitions:
 - Invited Member, National Advisory Panel, Oregon Center of Excellence in Behavioral Health and Aging
 - Invited Member as Health Equity Clinician, National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA), Person-Centered Outcome Measures Panel
 - Recent publications:
 - Chan, K., Marsack-Topolewski, C., Ratnayake, M., Kaplan, D., Voet, K. A., Riemenschneider, M., & Graves, J. (2024). [The impact of an intergenerational service learning program on psychological distress for homebound older adults](#). *Journal of Gerontological Social Work*.
 - Liu, M., & Chan, K. (2024). [Addressing Anti-Asian Racism with Social Work Advocacy and Action](#). Oxford University Press. Available for pre-order and will ship October 11, 2024.
- ◆ **Julia Driessen (2016-2017 Fellow)** – Recent publication: [Elevating Quality, Outcomes, and Patient Experience Through Value-Based Care: CMS Innovation Center's Quality Pathway](#), by Susannah M. Bernheim, Noemi Rudolph, Jacob K. Quinton, Julia Driessen, Purva Rawal, and Elizabeth Fowler (NEJM Catalyst)
- ◆ To shape effective dementia care policy, centering caregivers' perspectives is essential. Roberta Cruz, who cared for her mother throughout her journey with dementia, now works alongside medical experts to improve

dementia care nationwide. **Gary Epstein-Lubow (2016-2017 Fellow)**, Distinguished Medical Scholar at EDC, is a geriatric psychiatrist and national leader in dementia-related research and policy. Together they delve into the challenges and opportunities in dementia caregiving, highlighting the Guiding an Improved Dementia Experience (GUIDE) Model, which aims to increase access to much-needed support for people living with dementia and their caregivers. [Learn more about the GUIDE Model and its potential to transform dementia care here.](#)

- ◆ **Alex Federman (2021-2022 Fellow)** was involved in the Moving Forward Coalition's work on nursing home survey reform after completing his fellowship year. [Click here](#) to read the *Health Affairs* blog on the topic.
- ◆ **Karen Fortuna (2023-2024 Fellow)** was featured in a Clin-STAR Journey Story – [Bridging Disciplines: Combining Behavioral Sciences with Gerontology to Shape Health Outcomes for Underserved Older Adults](#)
- ◆ **Emily Franzosa (2022-2023 Fellow)** recently received the [Dan Gilden Creative Investigator Award](#) from the American Academy of Home Care Medicine.
- ◆ **Deborah Freeland (2021-2022 Fellow)** – Recent publication: [When Dysuria Is More Than Just a Urinary Tract Infection: A Teachable Moment](#) (JAMA)
- ◆ **Christian Furman (2022-2023)** was promoted to Chief, Division of Palliative Medicine at University of Louisville. The Department of Internal Medicine created a new Division and Christian was appointed the first Chief.
- ◆ **Matthew Goldman (2018-2019 Fellow)**
 - Interviewed for Psychiatry Online – [Psychiatrist Helps Lead Historic Crisis Services Investment.](#)
 - Recently began two new positions as Clinical Assistant Professor in the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences at the University of Washington, and Medical Director for the Crisis Care Center Levy Implementation Planning.
- ◆ **Carrie Graham (2018-2019 Fellow)** began a new position as a Research Professor at Georgetown University, McCourt School of Public Policy. She is directing the new Medicare Policy Initiative, as part of the Center on Health Insurance Reforms. She will be working on policy

analysis, technical assistance and research on Medicare Advantage reform.

- ◆ **Tracie Harrison (2011-2012 Fellow)** recently began a new position as Associate Dean for Research at The University of Iowa College of Nursing.
- ◆ **Alison Hernandez (2019-2020 Fellow)** was inducted into the American Academy of Nursing in November 2024. Read more about it [here](#).
- ◆ **Sharon Inouye (2016-2017 Fellow)**
 - Recent publications:
 - [Adverse Consequences of Legalization of Edible Cannabis in Older Adults](#) by Lona Mody and Sharon K. Inouye (JAMA)
 - [Why Do We \(and Still Do!\) Need the National Institute on Aging—50 Years of Innovation](#), by Kenneth E. Covinsky, MPH; Lona Mody, and Sharon K. Inouye (JAMA)
- ◆ **Jason Johanning (2014-2015 Fellow)** was recently honored with the prestigious [John M. Eisenberg Patient Safety and Quality Award](#) for his pioneering innovation of “the Surgical Pause”.
- ◆ **LaCinda Jones (2021-2022 Fellow)** was recently elected to the [Board of Directors for the Council on Social Work Education \(CSWE\)](#).
- ◆ **Teri Kennedy (2015-2016 Fellow)** was awarded the Age-Friendly Kansas Forum (Kansas 4M) grant by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA). Teri has been championing the Age-Friendly Health Systems Framework from a policy perspective for several years and will now work to infuse the framework through interprofessional practice and education across the state.
- ◆ **Sarah Khasawinah (2015-2016 Fellow)** participated in her second reauthorization of the Older Americans Act (OAA) in August 2024. OAA is the foundational law that helps Americans age at home in their communities and provides safeguards for those in institutional settings.
- ◆ **Clifford Ko (2024-2025 Fellow)** was involved in developing, proposing, and finalizing the CMS Age Friendly Hospital measure for the Inpatient Quality Reporting Program. The measure began implementation on January 1 2025. There are payment implications for acute care hospitals and the results will be publicly reported on the CMS website. We think this inpatient hospital measure is an important first step for advancing older adult care in the acute hospital setting.

- ◆ **Nancy Kusmaul (2019-2020 Fellow)**
 - Recently received the “Outstanding Individual in Academia” award from the Congressional Research Institute for Social Work and Policy. [Read more here.](#)
 - Received the 2024 Gerontological Society of America (GSA) Elaine M. Brody Thought Leader Award, which acknowledges outstanding contributions in social research, policy, and practice. [Read more here.](#)
 - Recent article: [Let’s cut out ageism, idea of getting “too old”](#)

- ◆ **Bruce Leff (2010-2011 Fellow)** – Recent publication: [The Acute Hospital Care At Home Waiver And The Future Of Hospital At Home In The US](#) (Health Affairs)

- ◆ **Terri Lewinson (2017-2018 Fellow)** – Recent publication: [Tobacco in hotels: A study of smoke exposure and resident risk](#)

- ◆ **Marian Liu (2023-2024 Fellow)** was featured by her home institution, Purdue University, for her work during her HAPF fellowship year. [Read it here.](#)

- ◆ **Jane Lowers (2023-2024 Fellow)**
 - Recent publications:
 - [When People Facing Dementia Choose to Hasten Death: The Landscape of Current Ethical, Legal, Medical, and Social Considerations in the United States](#), by Emily A. Largent, Jane Lowers, et. al. (The Hastings Center)
*Part of [Facing Dementia: Clarifying End-of-Life Choices, Supporting Better Lives](#) (Hastings Center Report)
 - [Assisted dying: first-hand accounts of what it’s like to help a loved one die](#), by Nancy Preston and Jane Lowers
 - [“How do You Take that Much Time for One Person’s Life?” Experiences of Dementia Caregivers Who are Not Immediate Family](#), by Jane Lowers et. al. (Journal of Applied Gerontology)

- ◆ **Hillary Lum (2015-2016)**
 - Interviewed for “From the Mentor’s Desk” – [An Interview with Hillary Lum, MD, PhD, expert in geriatric and palliative medicine.](#)
 - Recent publication: [Embedding Authorship Identity into a Portal-Based Agenda Setting Intervention to Support Older Adults and Care](#)

[Partners](#), by Hillary Lum, Jessica Cassidy, Chen-Tan Lin, Catherine DesRoches, Prajakta Shanbhag, Kelly Gleason, Danielle Powell, Danielle Peereboom, Catherine Riffin, Jamie Smith, Aleksandra Wec, **Jennifer Wolff (2013-2014 Fellow)** (Journal of General Internal Medicine)

- ◆ **Angela Mattie (2019-2020 Fellow)** and [Teresa Tai](#) recently presented their research, "Mitigating Age Discrimination: Addressing Ethical and Legal Challenges," at the International Academy of Business & Public Administration Disciplines' summer virtual conference. Their presentation explored potential legislative solutions and strategies to combat age discrimination in the workplace. The research highlights the challenges that an aging workforce will bring to the labor market. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, by 2032, 8.55% of the American workforce will be age 65 or older, yet current policies fall short in protecting these workers. Age discrimination not only hinders older employees' ability to keep their jobs and advance in their careers, but it also accounts for approximately 25% of Equal Employment Opportunity Commission claims.
- ◆ **Celeste Peay (2022-2023 Fellow)** recently started two new positions as Medical Director for Bridges to Recovery, and an Assistant Clinical Professor of Psychiatry at USC Keck School of Medicine.
- ◆ **Adam Perry's (2022-2023 Fellow)** geriatrics practice, Healthspan Partners of SWFL, participated in the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation (CMMI) GUIDE Dementia Care Model in the 2024 Established Track cohort. Adam welcomes the opportunity to discuss the program with HAPF colleagues.
- ◆ **Courtney Polenick (2023-2024 Fellow)** organized and moderated a virtual Congressional briefing sponsored by the U.S. House Long-Term Care Caucus titled, "The Social and Community Context of Long-Term Care in the United States: Considerations for Home and Community-Based Services," on Thursday, April 25, 2024. This briefing presented recent findings about social and community factors that impact the long-term care of older adults in the United States, along with the implications of these findings for home and community-based services. Panelists included four members of the University of Michigan Institute for Healthcare Policy and Innovation: Drs. Jeff Kullgren (Internal Medicine), Hwajung Choi (Internal Medicine and Health Management and Policy), Xiaoling Xiang (School of Social Work), and Sheria Robinson-Lane (School of Nursing).

- ◆ With her partners at NORC, **Melinda Power (2022-2023 Fellow)** was involved in the development and recent launch of the [Dementia DataHub](#), which provides the first public tool for U.S. surveillance for diagnosed dementia, including interactive maps of state and county data, summary reports, and public use files.
- ◆ **Nicholas Reed (2023-2024 Fellow)** started a new position as Associate Professor in the Optimal Aging Institute at NYU Grossman School of Medicine.
- ◆ **Lynn Reinke (2016-2017 Fellow)** recently became Director of the Center for Integrated Healthcare (CFIC) at the University of Utah College of Nursing. The Center champions a family-centered approach across the lifecourse, emphasizing collaborative partnerships between patients, families, and healthcare professionals/systems. Through healthcare education, practice, and research, we strive to elevate the quality of life and end-of-life care, ensuring that every journey is met with understanding, respect, and unparalleled support.
- ◆ **Tiffany Riser (2017-2018 Fellow)**
 - Featured in the American Nurses Association (ANA) podcast (Episode 113 - Nurses On The Hill) sponsored by Johnson and Johnson, called “See You Now” during her attendance at the ANA Hill Day 2024 (June 27). Tiffany attended the event as part of a group of students from JHSON who were briefed by the Senior Health Policy Adviser at JHSON. Tiffany was briefed further on the bills by the ANA's policy staff who coordinated the event, and had the opportunity to visit two representative's offices to advocate for CMS Long Term Care Staffing Final Rule, HR 7546/S 3860 Restricting Mandatory Overtime for Nurses, HR 7002/S 2815 Nurse Faculty Shortage Reduction Act, and S 2418/HR 2713 Improving Care and Access to Nurses (ICAN) Act. Click [here](#) to listen to the podcast episode.
 - Recently received funding from the Veterans Administration’s [Quality Enhancement Research Initiative](#) (QUERI) for her project, Predicting risk of Long term Institutionalization Plus Leveraging Use of Social data (PLI PLUS). Read more about QUERI ‘s Advancing Diversity in Implementation Research initiative [here](#).
 - Part of a pilot project focused on using the RN:CHW dyad to bring preventative care to high-risk/high-need older adults and their families where they live. [Click here](#) to watch the PBS News Hour video about Neighborhood Nursing partnership in Baltimore, MD.

- ◆ **Sarguni Singh (2021-2022 Fellow)** co-authored publications with **Hillary Lum (2015-2016 Fellow)**:
 - [Respect for the Patient-Oncologist Relationship May Limit Serious Illness Communication by Acute and Postacute Care Clinicians after Discharge to a Skilled Nursing Facility](#) (JCO Oncology Practice)
 - [A Process Evaluation of a Palliative Care Social Work Intervention for Cancer Patients in Skilled Nursing Facilities](#) (Journal of Palliative Medicine)

- ◆ As a continuation of one of the projects from his fellowship year, **Laurence Solberg (2022-2023 Fellow)** coordinated a collaboration between the Pension & Fiduciary Services office in the Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA) and the National Social Work Office in the Veterans Health Administration (VHA) to cross train the offices and front line workers (social workers and Fiduciary Field Investigators) to improve the understanding of how they can work together and highlight the process for referrals to each office.

- ◆ **Ilana Stol (2024-2025 Fellow)** – Recent publication: [Seeing clearly: A novel model for low vision screening and evaluation in hospitalized older adults](#) (JAGS)

- ◆ Recent AHRQ Issue Brief by **Quratulain (Annie) Syed (2023-2024 Fellow)** and **Arlene Bierman (2012-2013 Fellow)**: [State of the Science and Future Directions To Improve Diagnostic Safety in Older Adults](#)

- ◆ **Pamela Teaster (2023-2024)**
 - Interviews:
 - Specifically for Seniors podcast episode, '[A Conversation About Mental and Physiological Aging with Ben Katz and Pamela Teaster](#)'.
 - [Call for US government to better protect the elderly](#)
 - Recent publication: [Top Ten Tips Palliative Care Clinicians Should Know About Caring for Patients Under Guardianships](#)

- ◆ **Salom Teshale (2018-2019 Fellow)** – Recent publication: [How States Use Data to Inform Family Caregiving Policy](#) (ASA Generations)

- ◆ **Doua Thor (2013-2014 Fellow)** started a new position as Chief Impact Officer at Everyday Impact Consulting.

◆ **Mary Tinetti (2010-2011 Fellow)**

- Recent publications:
 - [Carta of Florence Against Ageism; No Place for Ageism in Health Care](#), by Andrea Ungar, et. al. (The Gerontologist)
 - [Clinical and Behavioral Research at the National Institute on Aging—50 Years of Innovation](#), by Andrew B. Cohen, Kalisha Bonds Johnson, and Mary E. Tinetti (JAMA)

◆ **Lieke van Heumen (2019-2020 Fellow)**

- Appointed to serve as an [Associate Editor](#) for [Inclusion](#), one of the journals of the American Association on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (AAIDD).
- Serves as the leader of the ‘Issues of Adulthood (life transitions, reproductive health, aging)’ strand of the 2025 *AAIDD National Goals on Health Equity*.
- Presented a keynote titled: “Transforming Higher Education: Possibilities for Engagement between Disability Studies and the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning” and moderated various discussion sessions at the third edition of the Utrecht Summer School 'The Politics of Disablement' in the Netherlands. The Politics of Disablement Summer School is open to researchers, practitioners and students from a range of disciplines, including those who work in fields like sociology, anthropology, cultural studies, literature, philosophy, political science, and social work. It is particularly relevant for those interested in disability studies, social justice, human rights, and diversity and inclusion. Participants hailed from various European countries as well as North America, Australia and Africa. The summer school offered participants the opportunity to engage with other scholars in the field of disability studies, and to share their own research with a wider audience.
- Participated in the opening keynote panel "The Method is the Message - Inclusive Research Today" at the World Congress of the International Association for the Scientific Study of Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities in Chicago in August.
- Recently featured by University of Illinois-Chicago for her disability studies research – [Lieke van Heumen and Courtney Krueger promote inclusivity in disability studies research](#).

◆ **Jennifer Wolff (2013-2014 Fellow)**

- Recent publications:
 - [Co-Designing an Initiative to Increase Shared Access to Older Adults’ Patient Portals: Stakeholder Engagement](#), by Vadim

Dukhanin, Jennifer Wolff, et. al. (Journal of Medical Internet Research)

- [Patient Portal Messages to Support an Age-Friendly Health System for Persons with Dementia](#), Kelly Gleason, Danielle Powell, Athena DeGennaro, Mingche Wu, Talan Zhang, Jennifer Wolff (Journal of the American Geriatrics Society)
- [Profile of Older Dual-Enrollees Living in Areas with Managed Long-Term Services and Supports](#), by Andrew Jopson, Chanee Fabius, Karen Shen, Katherine Ornstein, Jennifer Wolff (JAMDA)
- [Directory of Contextual Measures for Person- and Family-Oriented Long-Term Services and Supports](#), by Andrew Jopson, Chanee Fabius, M.J. Wu, Katherine Ornstein, and Jennifer Wolff (The Center website)
- [Emergency Department Length of Stay for Older Adults with Dementia](#), by Stephanie Nothelle, Eric Slade, Junyi Zhou, Phillip D Magidson, Tanya Chotrani, Laura Prichett, Halima Amjad, Sarah Szanton, Cynthia Boyd, and Jennifer Wolff (Annals of Emergency Medicine)
- [‘Caregiving is Teamwork...’ Information Sharing in Home Care for Older Adults with Disabilities Living in the Community](#), by Chanee Fabius, Aleksandra Wec, M. Abshire- Saylor, M.J. Smith, J.M. Gallo, and Jennifer Wolff (Geriatric Nursing)
- [Feasibility of Using Simulation to Evaluate Implementation Fidelity in an Advance Care Planning Pragmatic Trial](#), Valerie Cotter, Danetta Sloan, Daniel Scerpella, Kelly Smith, Martha Abshire Saylor, Jennifer Wolff (American Journal of Hospice and Palliative Medicine)
- [Qualitative evaluation of the SHARING Choices trial of primary care advance care planning for adults with and without dementia](#), by Sydney Dy, Danny Scerpella, Valecia Hanna, Kathryn Walker, Danetta Sloan, Chase Mulholland Green, Valerie Cotter, Jennifer Wolff, Erin Rand Giovannetti, Maura McGuire, Naaz Hussain, Kelly Smith, Martha Abshire Saylor (Journal of the American Geriatrics Society)
- [Use of the Patient Portal to Discuss Medications Among People with Dementia and Their Care Partners](#), by Ariel Green, Aleksandra Wec, Kelly Gleason, Mary Jo Gamper, MJ Wu, Jennifer Wolff (Journal of General Internal Medicine)
- [Documentation of hearing difficulty by providers amidst cognitive concerns: A study of the Medicare Annual Wellness Visit](#), Danielle Powell, MJ Wu, Stephanie Nothelle, Kelly Gleason, Jamie Smith, Danielle Peereboom, Esther Oh,

Nicholas Reed, Jennifer Wolff (Journal of the American Geriatrics Society)

- [The Medicare annual wellness visit: An opportunity to improve health system identification of hearing loss?](#) Danielle Powell, MJ Wu, Stephanie Nothelle, Jamie Smith, Kelly Gleason, Esther Oh, Hillary Lum, Nicholas Reed, Jennifer Wolff (Journal of the American Geriatrics Society)
- [Sharing health care wishes among older adults with cognitive impairment in primary care: Results from a randomized controlled trial](#), Jennifer Wolff, John Cagle, Valecia Hanna, Sydney Dy, Diane Echavarria, Erin Giovannetti, Cynthia Boyd, Martha Abshire Saylor, Naaz Hussain, Jenni Seale Reiff, Danny Scerpella, Talan Zhang, Vishaldeep Kaur Sekhon, David Roth (Alzheimer's & Dementia)

- ◆ **Kara Zivin (2013-2014 Fellow)** was a panelist for the Health Affairs Briefing: [Perinatal Mental Health & Well-Being](#). Check out the video abstract for Kara's publication and presentation on this work [here](#).