



LONG TERM CARE: PART I NURSING HOMES: WHAT POLICY (AND DECISION) MAKERS NEED TO KNOW NOW

SPEAKERS' BIOGRAPHIES

Barbara Bowers is currently Helen Denne Schulte Professor and Associate Dean for Research in the School of Nursing at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. For over 25 years, she has conducted research in long term care and supervised nursing students learning to care for older adults. Dr. Bowers has also served on many state and national long term care policy advisory groups. Dr. Bowers' research has been focused on workforce development, turnover in long term care settings, perspectives of nursing home residents, their families and the staff who provide care. She was one of the researchers evaluating the Wisconsin grown Wellspring Nursing Home Culture Change model and is currently leading a team of researchers evaluating a new model of long term care.

Amy Jo Haavisto Kind, M.D. is a geriatrician and health services/clinical effectiveness researcher at the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health. Dr. Kind's research focuses on patient safety during transitions between health care settings, particularly for highly vulnerable older adult populations. Dr. Kind completed her undergraduate training at the University of Wisconsin, and was awarded a Harry S Truman Scholarship. As a Truman Scholar Fellow, she served as an advocate for rural veterans health care within the Department of Veterans Affairs Central Office. Upon completion of her appointment as a Truman Fellow, Dr. Kind returned to the University of Wisconsin for Medical School. She subsequently completed an Internal Medicine residency at Massachusetts General Hospital, a clinical Geriatrics fellowship at the University of Wisconsin and an Older Women's Health Research Fellowship within the Department of Veterans Affairs. Dr. Kind is currently an Assistant Professor within the Division of Geriatrics, Department of Medicine at the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health and Madison VA GRECC, Director of the Madison VA Coordinated-Transitional Care (C-TraC) Program and Co-Director of the Madison VA Memory Assessment Clinic. She receives research funding through the National Institute on Aging (Paul B. Beeson Career Development Award [K23]), the John A Hartford Foundation, the American Federation for Aging Research, and the Department of Veterans Affairs.

Kim Marheine holds a bachelors degree in music therapy and a masters' degree in Community/Agency Counseling, both from UW-Oshkosh, where she also taught in the Music Therapy Division. Kim has worked extensively in the area of long term care and dementia, first as a long term care provider for 20+ years, then as Program Director for the Alzheimer's Association of Greater WI, and currently as Ombudsman Services Supervisor for the State of Wisconsin Board on Aging and Long Term Care. At the national level, Kim served on several committees of the Alzheimer's Association, primarily structured around long term care staff development and family caregiver support. Kim has been a frequent presenter on both state and national levels, speaking on a wide array of topics related to maturing adults, dementia and caregiving.



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Kitty Rhoades, Wisconsin Department of Health Services Deputy Secretary, has a long history of active involvement in health care issues. Prior to being appointed to her current position in January of 2011, Deputy Secretary Rhoades served in the Wisconsin State Assembly from 1999 until her retirement in 2011. During her legislative service, Deputy Secretary Rhoades served as the chair of the Assembly Aging and Long-Term Care Committee and the co-chair of the Joint Legislative Committee on Finance. She has received numerous awards from advocacy groups in recognition of her leadership on long-term care issues, including her support for the development of consumer driven programs.

Jody Rothe, RN, WCC, serves as a lead Quality Consultant for MetaStar's nursing home quality improvement initiatives. She also serves on the Transition of Care team and several advisory boards and steering committees. Jody has been the facilitator for the Wisconsin Pressure Ulcer Coalition since March 2009. She has been integral in educational planning and implementation of quality improvement interventions related to pressure ulcers across all settings. In addition to the pressure ulcer work, Jody provides consultation and coaching to teams and actively works on all clinical and organizational areas to improve teamwork and outcomes. She develops quality improvement strategies and tools and assists nursing homes with statewide community building initiatives. Jody has a wide variety of clinical nursing and management experience in the long-term care setting. For over 15 years she worked in one skilled nursing facility holding several management positions: Director of Nursing, MDS Coordinator, Charge Nurse, and Certified Nursing Instructor. Her current career as a quality consultant, coupled with her background, allows her to understand the day-to-day successes and struggles in healthcare settings.

Tracy Schroepfer is an associate professor at the University of Wisconsin-Madison's School of Social Work and is affiliated with the University's Institute on Aging, Comprehensive Cancer Center, Center on Patient Partnerships, and Department of Population Health Sciences. She is a recipient of the Hartford Geriatric Social Work Faculty Scholar Award, president of the national Association for Gerontology Education in Social Work, and an executive committee member of the national Social Work and Hospice Palliative Care Network. Dr. Schroepfer's research focuses on improving the care provided to those who are terminally ill. Her goals include determining the best strategies for meeting the psychosocial, cultural and spiritual needs of terminally ill elders, as well as reducing the health disparities faced by medically underserved communities in Wisconsin. She has authored or co-authored 21 journal articles and 2 book chapters.

Robyn Stone, PhD, a noted researcher on health care and aging policy, established and serves as executive director of the Institute for the Future of Aging Services, housed within the American Association of Homes and Services for the Aging. Dr. Stone has held senior research and policy positions in both the U.S. government and the private sector. She was a political appointee in the Clinton Administration, serving in the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services as deputy assistant secretary for disability, aging, and long-term care policy from 1993 through 1996 and as assistant secretary for aging in 1997. Dr. Stone took part in the 1989 Bipartisan Commission on Comprehensive Health Care (the Pepper Commission) and the 1993 Clinton Administration Task Force on Health Care Reform. Dr. Stone's doctorate in public health is from the University of California, Berkeley.

Sarah Thompson, PhD, RN, FAAN. Over the last 12 years, Dr. Thompson's research has focused on issues related to end-of-life care in nursing homes. In addition to state and locally funded projects, she has received two federally funded grants from the National Institute of Health, National Institute of Nursing Research. Her most recent grant focuses on examining key organizational attributes and palliative care and their impact on quality end-of-life care for nursing home residents and their family members. Findings from the study will drive the development of interventions, aimed at variations in organizational leadership, communication, teamwork, and palliative care, to improve end-of-life care. In addition to research, Dr. Thompson has practiced as a hospice nurse and developed interdisciplinary graduate level course work focused on care at the end-of-life. Dr. Thompson received her BSN from the University of Oklahoma College of Nursing and both her MS and PhD from the University of Kansas School of Nursing.

Nathan F. Williams, III, MS has provided statistical leadership and analytical input to planning, development and implementation for many of the health care quality improvement projects in which MetaStar has been engaged since 1991. This work has included a wide range of statistical methods, including risk adjustment, cost savings, sampling strategies, study design, data methodology validation and intervention effectiveness evaluations. He regularly trends data gathered in MetaStar's hospital and nursing home setting projects. Mr. Williams has led technical development and reporting for Medicaid, Medicare and private projects. He has extensive experience leading the definition, evaluation, and analysis of large data sets and development of reporting methodologies that are both statistically viable and understandable to the reader. Mr. Williams earned his MS in Experimental Psychology from Tulane University. He holds a Bachelor of Science from the University of Wisconsin, Madison and he currently teaches statistics courses to college undergraduates and to graduate students.