

CHELAN CONFERENCE FACULTY BIOS

Stephanie Beebe, RN, BSN, CHPN is a Michigan native who moved to Seattle in 2009. After graduating from University of Washington with her Bachelors of Science in Nursing, she started her nursing career at EvergreenHealth Hospice. During her tenure at EvergreenHealth, she has worked a variety of roles, including float RN, case manager, inpatient unit case manager, triage, charge RN, and most recently as the Hospice Quality and Regulatory Program Manager.

Jennifer Blechman, MD joined Partners in Care Hospice in Bend in 2014. Dr. Blechman completed her Family Medicine residency at Swedish Medical Center in Seattle. In 2012, she completed a Hospice and Palliative Care Fellowship at Stanford University. As a long-time resident of Bend, Dr. Blechman has worked in both private family practice and at St. Charles as a Palliative Care Physician. Together with Partners In Care Medical Director Dr. Lisa Lewis, Dr. Blechman assists patients, and their families, who are dealing with serious chronic illness or end of life care.

Sandra Bochonok currently works as a bereavement counselor for Franciscan Hospice, providing grief follow up care for hundreds of clients annually. She is the founder of the Grief Yoga quarterly mini-retreat pilot program offered in 2018-2019. Sandra served in the US military first as a USAF Nurse, and later as an active duty US Navy Chaplain. In the hospice world, she has worked for several hospices as a nurse, a chaplain, and for the past 9 years, as a bereavement counselor. She is a Yogafit Level 1 teacher and teaches a weekly early morning yoga class at her local YMCA.

Christy Bork is Pet Peace of Mind's Program Manager. She has daily operational responsibility for executing program operations, fundraising, marketing, and communications. During Christy's career, she has held a variety of positions in marketing and merchandising for Fingerhut, an industry leading provider of products to customers throughout the world. She is Co-Founder, Secretary and Treasurer of Iron Athletics, a non-profit organization whose mission is to develop student athletes in basketball, leadership and team play at a national level at a reduced cost. Christy graduated cum laude from the University of St. Thomas. She holds a B.A. in Business Administration with a major in Marketing and minor in Spanish.

Raleigh Bowden, MD is a physician who founded and runs the Lookout Coalition; a volunteer house-call based palliative care service whose mission is to help people facing difficult health challenges including aging and end of life in Twisp, WA. The Lookout Coalition has 7 health trained professionals and sees approximately 100 patients each year in the Methow Valley. The work is highly collaborative with the two clinics in the Valley, hospice, Aero Methow, and various agencies providing support for seniors. Trained as an oncologist, her work over the last 10 years with the Lookout Coalition has included work to help make system changes so the most vulnerable in the community have access to appropriate health services. Dr. Bowden is also the Director of the Okanogan Palliative Care team, working together in collaboration with the WA State Department of Health Palliative Care Initiative. The Okanogan Palliative Care team is developing a county-wide palliative care service for patients with complex, non-curable medical conditions in Okanogan County.

Meredith Brass, MD is Board certified in Internal Medicine, Pediatrics, and Hospice and Palliative Care Medicine. She has been a member of the Evergreen Hospice team since completing a Hospice and Palliative Care fellowship in 2012. She has practiced with a focus on inpatient care and acute symptom management, currently providing medical oversight in Evergreen's 15 bed hospice care center.

Lee Burnside, MD, MBA is a geriatrician and palliative care physician at University of Washington and Providence Hospice of Seattle. He has extensive experience in hospice care coordination as well as inpatient palliative care services.

Stephanie Carpenter has been a Registered Nurse since 2001 and has worked in the medical field since 1993. She has worked in Western New York, Alaska, and now WA. Since moving to WA, she has worked for Columbia County Health System in Dayton. In 2017 she started working on development of a Palliative Care Program for Columbia County. The program started seeing patients in early 2018 and has continued to grow. She also chairs the Aging and Long Term Care Advisory Council for Columbia County, and is Vice Chair for the Hospital Auxiliary.

Dr. Devyani Chandran is an Associate Professor in the Human Services Program housed in the Department of Health and Community Studies in Western Washington University. Dr. Chandran received her PhD in Social Welfare from the University of Kansas. Her doctoral dissertation explored the experiences of older adults living with HIV/AIDS. She currently teaches courses on Aging and health, interpersonal and small group systems and diversity and social justice dynamics. Dr. Chandran's research focuses on community based approaches to chronic illness, aging, end of life and palliative care. Her research findings have been published in "Social Work and Health Care"; Journal of Palliative and End of Life Care, Social Work Education, and AIDS and Behavior. Prior to joining the faculty in Western Washington University, she was an Assistant Professor at St. Olaf College in Northfield Minnesota.

Christine Clement, MSW, LICSW lives in Fall City, Washington and is a manager with EvergreenHealth Hospice Care. She graduated in 1990 with a Master of Social Work degree with specialty tracks in geriatrics and health care. Her work with EvergreenHealth Hospice began in 1993 as a social work case manager (14 years) then transitioned to management (12 years). Chris served several years on the EvergreenHealth Ethics Committee. She enjoys photography as a hobby.

Stephanie Crow, BSN, RN, CPHQ, Providence Hospice Director of Quality obtained her bachelors of Science and Nursing through Seattle University. Stephanie has 17+ years quality improvement experience in acute care and hospice settings.

Dr. Marie Eaton is the Community Champion for the Palliative Care Institute (PCI) at Western Washington University. She was the founding Director of PCI, which partners with other community agencies and volunteers to transform palliative care in Whatcom County and support our human responses to living and dying. Dr. Eaton is also Chair of the Northwest Life Passages Coalition, which builds collaborative networks between agencies that provide care for those facing serious or terminal illness in our region. During her 40 years at Western Washington University, Marie served in a number of other faculty, leadership and administrative roles. As a faculty member at Fairhaven College she taught courses on Death and Dying, which provided the grounding for her current work at the Palliative Care Institute.

Leslie Emerick, MPA, has 23 years of public policy experience. She has represented WSHPCO since 2007 as a lobbyist and now as the Director of Public Policy. She was a Douglas County Commissioner and a legislative liaison for the state Department of Agriculture and the Department of Health. She has a Master of Public Administration degree, a BA in Speech Communication and Secondary Education with a minor in Political Science. Leslie started her contract lobbying business in 2006 and currently has five health care association clients.

Sharmon Figenshaw, RN, MN, ARNP, ACHPN-BC is a Palliative Care Nurse Practitioner working with families facing end-of-life transitions for over 30 years, She is active in end-of-life community education and outreach, including state and nation-wide projects on advance directives and end-of-life choices. She has served as Co-chair for the statewide POLST task force since its inception in Washington State and now is the program manager for POLST/Serious Illness Clinical Skills project with Honoring Choices Pacific Northwest.

Adie Goldberg, PhD, LICSW, M.Ed has spent her entire career in the medical field, exploring the interface of health, family and psychology. She spent over a decade as an embedded LICSW in an Ob-Gyn clinic, as founding member of an inpatient palliative care service and most recently as the psychologist/social worker in an advanced heart failure and transplantation program. She has presented at the local, regional and national levels on a variety of topics, most recently at the 2019 SWHPN conference. In addition to her clinical practice, Adie is a published author and teaches part time at the School of Social Work at Eastern Washington University.

Barb Hansen, MA, RN

Celia Harper, RN, BSN, CHPN has been a hospice nurse since 1991. During this time she has worked in both inpatient and outpatient hospice. She is currently the manager of the Evergreen Hospice Care Center.

Laurie Jackson is the Senior Director of Compass Care at Virginia Mason Memorial Hospital in Yakima, Washington. Originally from Washington State, Laurie completed her Bachelor degrees at Whitworth University in Spokane, and her Master of Divinity degree at Princeton Theological Seminary in Princeton, New Jersey. She later earned a Masters Certificate in Clinical Ethics at Columbia University in New York. She is trained in Critical Incident Stress Management and is a Grief Recovery Specialist. An ordained Presbyterian Minister, Laurie moved into healthcare a decade ago, first working in hospice; then moving to the hospital as a chaplain; then growing the chaplain program to twelve paid, staff chaplains throughout the Memorial organization; then participating and later chairing the clinical ethics committee; growing the bereavement program; creating a robust advance care planning program in the community (we have distributed over 70,000 Five Wishes and train our community members and clinicians to understand and implement advance directives); instituting The Surprise Question into the hospital inpatient setting and now implementing The Surprise Question in ancillary programs; gathering all of home care and the aforementioned programs to become Compass Care, a service line for all advancing illness and end-of-life care. This year, Laurie published a faith-based book, "Little White Lies and the Seven Deadly Sins: A Faith-Fun Look at Daily Life" (Westbow Press, a Division of Zondervan and Thomas Nelson Publishing). Laurie has presented regionally and/or nationally on several topics, including advance care planning, The Surprise Question, Funeral Planning Made Fun, Clinical Ethics, Grief Recovery, etc. She and her husband travel and bike regularly. They are recent empty-nesters and are trying to figure out that new role; so far, it's going well.

Pat Justis, MA leads a team of 10 professionals focused on improved health for rural and underserved communities. Responsible for oversight of four federal grants, general state funds, and over 50 contracts. She initiates and facilitates innovative new practices. A current initiative integrates palliative care using telehealth in rural communities. In her last position as a Program Manager, Pat directed Washington's patient-centered medical home collaborative for the Department of Health. She has held positions with Providence Health System as a Performance Improvement Consultant, teaching CQI and facilitating teams, worked as a Program Planner developing new services, and worked clinically in a busy acute inpatient psychiatric unit as a Mental Health Specialist where she also provided Emergency Department psychosocial evaluation and crisis intervention. Pat has nearly 40 years of experience in public health, health care, and human services settings working on healthy changes with individuals, couples, families, organizations, communities, systems and statewide policies. Pat holds a Master of Arts in Counseling and Community Psychology from St. Martin's University and a BA from the Evergreen State College in Health and Human Development.

Natasha White Marsh has been a Board Certified Chaplain with the Association of Professional Chaplains since 2010. She received a Masters in Theological Studies from Vanderbilt University in 2000, and a Post-Masters in Pastoral Counseling at Seattle University in 2008. In the past, she was Director of a non-profit mental health chaplaincy program, providing spiritual and emotional support to those struggling with mental illness, and connecting them to community resources. She has 16 years experience as a hospice and palliative care chaplain, and currently serves at Franciscan Hospice & Palliative Care. Natasha has long had a passion for bringing trauma-informed wisdom to EOL care. Early in her vocation, she recognized a need for more advanced methods of attending to post-traumatic stress-- beyond the usual pastoral approaches of empathetic listening and non-judgmental compassion. Through her studies and clinical practice, she has developed evidence based ways to help patients and their family members heal from trauma, and move toward "soul retrieval." She is excited to share what she has learned at the WSHPCO conference.

In March 2017, **Claire Nassutti** collaborated with medical leadership to launch the Mobile Renal Supportive Care Team as the Program Coordinator and clinical Social Worker. With a foundation of 5 years of inpatient social work at Harborview Medical Center, she strives to create an innovative palliative care model that addresses social disparities in healthcare. Claire has completed the University of Washington Cambia Center of Excellence certificate in palliative care.

Megan Nolan comes to her role at Northwest Kidney Centers with 15 years of trauma critical care experience including positions as Educator, Assistant Manager, and Program Manager. As the RN and Education Coordinator for the Mobile Renal Supportive Care Team, she is passionate about improving care across settings for vulnerable patient populations. Megan has completed the University of Washington Cambia Center of Excellence certificate in palliative care.

Dr. Darrell Owens is an international expert in palliative care who has been with UW Medicine for the past 15 years where he is the current Section Chief for Supportive Care at Northwest Hospital and Medical Center. He is an advanced registered nurse practitioner with board certifications in Adult Health – Primary Care, Geriatrics/Gerontology – Primary Care, and Hospice/Palliative Care. He holds BSN from Emory University in Atlanta, an MS in Health Services Administration from St. Mary's College, and an MSN (Palliative Care CNS) and postmaster's NP (Adult Health and Geriatrics) from Seattle Pacific University. He earned his Doctor of Nursing Practice in Geriatrics and Palliative Care at the University of Alabama at Birmingham and in 2015 was honored by UAB Alumni Association with the Joanne Barnett Award for Compassionate Care. Over the past 15 years with UW Medicine, he founded the Inpatient and Outpatient Palliative Care Services at Harborview Medical Center and Northwest Hospital in Seattle, WA. He is a Clinical Assistant Professor of Medicine and Nursing at the University of Washington. Dr. Owens practices full time inpatient and outpatient primary supportive and palliative care for Northwest Hospital and for the Seattle Cancer Care Alliance on the Northwest Hospital Campus. In 2011 Dr. Owens was selected as the American Academy of Nurse Practitioner's Nurse Practitioner of the Year for the State of Washington, and in 2012 was the first nurse practitioner to receive the Cambia Health Foundation's Sojourn Award for Excellence in Clinical Leadership in Palliative Care. For the past four years Dr. Owens has been selected as one of Seattle's Top Doctors and Nurses by the Seattle Metropolitan Magazine. His palliative care international work includes lecturing teaching in both Vietnam and China. He has published over 20 articles and book chapters on various palliative care topics. Dr. Owens also served two terms as a Commissioner for the Washington State Nursing Care Quality Assurance Commission (formerly the Board of Nursing), having been appointment by Governor Gregoire. The last year of his appointment he was the Chair of the ARNP subcommittee, responsible for addressing legal and legislative issues related to advanced practice nurses in Washington. In 2017 he was reappointed as a Commissioner Pro-tem, serving as a technical advisor and expert witness for issues related to opioid prescribing.

Dr. Mimi Pattison is a palliative medicine physician with more than two decades of clinical experience in the field. She is the medical director for Franciscan Hospice and Palliative Care. In 2008, she was appointed by Governor Christine Gregoire to the Medical Quality Assurance Commission for Washington State and served as chair between 2010 – 2012. In 2014, Dr. Pattison was selected to participate in a 32-member Alzheimer's Disease Working Group to develop a plan for the care of persons diagnosed with Alzheimer's and other dementias. Dr. Pattison's medical interests include ethical issues at end of life, systems integration of palliative care, and access for persons with dementia to palliative care and hospice.

Anne Rogerson, Kline Galland Hospice

Lauren Smilde, DNP, ARNP has been working as a nurse, primarily with older adults, since she completed her BSN from the University of Pennsylvania in 2012. For the the last three and a half years, she has been a home hospice nurse at EvergreenHealth. She completed the Graduate Certificate in Palliative Care and her Doctorate of Nursing Practice at the University of Washington in March 2019.

Penny Smith, BSN, RN, CHPN, Providence Hospice Quality Specialist RN obtained her bachelors of Science and Nursing through Western Governors University. She is certified in Hospice nursing 8+ years with 11 years hospice experience including direct patient care inpatient hospice, hospice case management and hospice quality.

Deb Watson is an experienced nursing leader with more than 16 years practice in a variety of hospital nursing leadership roles and 35 years' experience in health care. She is currently working as a clinical project manager for Pullman Regional Hospital. In 2018-current, she assisted with the development and implementation of palliative care services for the hospital to include, building and supporting a core consultative team that provides this new hospital service. Deb is also assisting the WA DOH in their Palliative Care Initiative as the Clinical Coordinator where she helps gather, screen and refine cases, ensures patient privacy and prepares the consulting panelists for the telehealth event. Deb holds a BS in Nursing from Washington State University and a MBA with an emphasis in Health Care Management from Capella University.

Sharon Whyte, RN has extensive experience in advanced heart failure care including inpatient palliative care for persons with heart failure. She has been involved with the multidisciplinary heart failure team at University of Washington which includes pre and post transplant patients, ventricular assist devices, inotrope treatment, as well as outpatient palliative care of heart failure patients and their families.

Kurt Williams is a pioneer in the customer experience software industry. He was the technology co-founder of Inmoment, a leading experience management platform. Kurt has deep experience leveraging digital surveys, natural language processing, and predictive analytics to understand and improve experiences. He has helped top-tier companies like Comcast, Hertz, Marriott, McDonalds, and Salesforce listen to the voice of their customer.