

Understanding Recent Federal and State Changes on Aging and Healthcare Policy



Agenda

1:15 p.m. Welcoming Remarks

Dean Leticia Diaz, *Barry University Dwayne O. Andreas School of Law*,
The Honorable Jose R. Rodriguez, *Ninth Judicial Circuit Court*,
and Bonnie Yegidis, PhD, *Director, University of Central Florida
School of Social Work*

1:28 p.m. Introduction of the Speakers

Tracy Wharton, PhD, *Assistant Professor, University of Central
Florida School of Social Work*

1:30 p.m. Federal Aging and Healthcare Policy Changes

Robert Blancato, *MPA; Matz, Blancato & Associates*,
*Board Member of the American Society on Aging and
Member of the AARP National Board of Directors*

2:15 p.m. State of Florida Aging and Healthcare Policy Changes

Anne Swerlick, *Policy Attorney and Analyst*,
Florida Policy Institute

Barry University

Dwayne O. Andreas | School of Law



COUNCIL ON SOCIAL WORK EDUCATION



Presenters

Robert (Bob) Blancato
Matz, Blancato & Associates
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Bob Blancato is the President of Matz, Blancato & Associates, the National Coordinator of the bipartisan 3000-member Elder Justice Coalition, and the Executive Director of the National Association of Nutrition and Aging Services Programs. Bob has more than 20 years of service in the Congressional and Executive branches, including the senior staff of the U.S. House Select Committee on Aging and an appointment by President Clinton to be Executive Director of the 1995 White House Conference on Aging. Most recently, Bob is the Immediate Past Chair of the Board of the American Society on Aging and on the National Board of AARP. He also serves on the Advisory Panel on Outreach and Education of the Centers for Medicaid and Medicare Services. He was recently selected by Next Avenue as a 2016 Influencer on Aging. Bob is a contributing blogger to Next Avenue, writing on aging issues. He holds a BA from Georgetown University and an MPA from American University. Bob has won numerous awards for advocacy, including being knighted by the Italian Republic in 2011.

Anne Swerlick
Florida Policy Institute
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Since 2017, Ms. Swerlick has worked as a health policy attorney and analyst for the Florida Policy Institute (FPI)- an independent, non-partisan non-profit dedicated to promoting widespread prosperity for all Floridians. Prior to her employment with FPI, she served as policy director for Florida CHAIN, a statewide grassroots health advocacy organization promoting access to affordable and quality health care for all Floridians.

Strongly informing her policy advocacy work is Ms. Swerlick's over 30 years of experience as a public interest attorney representing indigent clients throughout Florida. Her legal work has focused on health and disability issues requiring practice before multiple forums, including state and federal courts, the Florida Legislature, and executive agencies. Ms. Swerlick received her B.A. from the University of Virginia and her J.D. from the University of Virginia School of Law. She was admitted to the Florida Bar in 1977.

Amy Cameron O'Rourke
The Cameron Group Aging Life Care Services
407-896-2010 * www.thecamerongroup.us

Amy Cameron O'Rourke is founder and President of the Cameron Group, an Aging Life Care Management Company established in 1999 in Orlando, Florida. The Mayor of Orlando proclaimed Friday, August 25, 2000, as The Cameron Group Day in the City of Orlando, a very special honor.

Amy has spent her 35 year career working in the field of aging. She holds a Master's Degree in Public Health Administration and a Master's Certificate in Gerontology from the University of South Carolina. Amy is a certified Aging Life Care professional.

She has won many awards: *National Entrepreneurial Achievement Award* sponsored by American Express for her vision and innovation, named one of the 15 "Women Who Mean Business" by the Orlando Business Journal. She was selected to be a part of *Athena Powerlink*, a yearlong program that guides female business owners in defining and achieving tangible goals. Her passion is proactive advocacy and she has taken her advocacy to the media through local television and radio programs, as a featured Ted X speaker in 2012 and 2015, and most recently developed a video series with Growing Bolder called the "Art of Caregiving." She has been asked to speak at local, state and national aging related conferences.

Social Work Healthcare Education And Leadership Scholars (HEALS)
Tracy Wharton, PhD, LCSW, Principal Investigator
tracy.wharton@ucf.edu

The University of Central Florida Social Work Healthcare Education and Leadership Scholars (UCF-HEALS) program is a skills and leadership training program for senior BSW students and clinical year MSW students interested in delivering healthcare services and/or being involved in healthcare policy advocacy. In each year of the five-year program, four HEALS Scholars are selected to receive interprofessional training opportunities, focused policy mentorship, a scholarship, and paid travel to attend a policy and education event at NASW headquarters in Washington DC.

The NASW Foundation and Council for Social Work Education provided additional funding this year for UCF to sponsor critical healthcare policy dialogue in our community. It is through this support that the HEALS scholars have engaged in dialogue with over 350 healthcare scholars, practitioners, leaders, and legislators about cultural barriers to care at the Global Health Policy Conference at UCF College of Medicine earlier this year, and in the dialogue that we will have today, in partnership with Barry Law School, Orange County, and our colleagues from the 9th Circuit Court.