

THE ARIZONA GWEP MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2024



ABOUT

The mission of the Arizona Geriatrics Workforce Enhancement Program (AZ-GWEP) is to provide the best possible care through an interprofessional approach to individual, system, community and population level education, training and models of care innovations.

The AZ-GWEP Newsletter is an important forum to share AZ-GWEP activities and highlight your valuable work. Please use this form by the 10th of each month to be featured in the next issue:

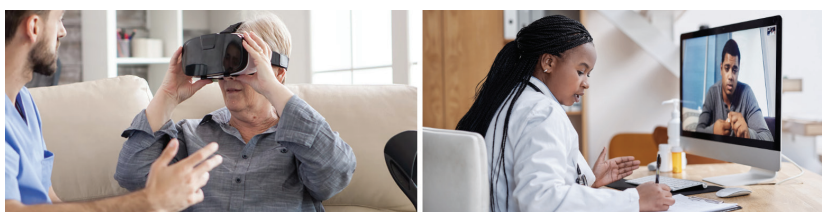
[SUBMIT INFO FOR
OUR NEXT ISSUE](#)



We are excited to recognize American Telemedicine Association's annual [Telehealth Awareness Week](#) (TAW), which highlights the many ways virtual care improves access to quality healthcare services for all communities including those comprised of older adults. TAW features national and regional events, educational resources on omnichannel care, and the voices of patients and healthcare professionals who depend on telehealth.

Throughout the week, telehealth solution providers, hospital systems, medical practices, patient advocacy leaders, policymakers, and other stakeholders come together to promote an omnichannel care model that integrates both in-person and virtual care.

Join us in celebrating the future of healthcare!



See Page 2 for additional calendar recognitions in October

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AZ-GWEP PARTNER MEETING

Thursday, October 10th
11:00 am - 12:30 pm



It's Health Literacy Month!

IHA HEALTH LITERACY MONTH
Building Awareness Through Action

How are you taking action to build awareness about health literacy? Share with the community today!

#healthliteracymonth
healthliteracymonth.org



Connect with our AZ-GWEP Community Group Page on LinkedIn

MARK YOUR CALENDARS



ADVANCES IN AGING LECTURE SERIES

OCTOBER 14TH
12 - 1 pm (MST)

The Medicare Annual Wellness Visit and the "4Ms"
Dr. Mindy Fain

[VIEW PRESENTATION](#)

View archived presentations [here](#)

Download the event flyer

Mindy Fain, MD
Senior Lecturer
Associate Professor of Medicine
Chief, Division of Geriatric Medicine, Palliative Care, and Palliative Medicine
Director, Arizona Center on Aging

INTERPROFESSIONAL PANEL DISCUSSION
Cheryl LaCourse (PharmD), Joannita Lee (PharmD), Mindy Fain (MD)

ADVANCES IN AGING LECTURE SERIES

The Medicare Annual Wellness Visit and the "4Ms"

LIVESTREAM
[HTTPS://STREAMING.BI.COM.ARIZONA.EDU/STREAMING/2024/EVENT](https://streaming.biocom.arizona.edu/streaming/2024/event)

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- Describe the Annual Wellness Visit, including benefits and challenges
- Discuss strategies to increase number of Annual Wellness Visits
- Explore the Annual Wellness Visit from an Interprofessional Perspective

VIEW ARCHIVED PRESENTATIONS
[HTTPS://STREAMING.BI.COM.ARIZONA.EDU/STREAMING/2024/ARCHIVED-PRESENTATIONS](https://streaming.biocom.arizona.edu/streaming/2024/archived-presentations)

Accreditation Statement:
The University of Arizona College of Medicine - Tucson is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education to provide continuing medical education for physicians.

Disclosure Statement:
All faculty, CME planning committee members, and the CME office members have disclosed that they have no financial relationships with commercial entities that would constitute a conflict of interest concerning the CME activity.

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PARTNER HIGHLIGHTS

BANNER ALZHEIMER'S INSTITUTE AND PROJECT ECHO

[BANNER ALZHEIMER'S INSTITUTE](#)



Alzheimer's disease is a common neurodegenerative disease that poses a huge social and economic burden on patients, families and for society at large. The number of people with Alzheimer's disease is expected to increase to 12.7 million by 2050. Primary care providers are often on the frontline and most

are not comfortable diagnosing and treating dementia, prompting referrals to a specialist. We have a shortage of dementia specialists able to provide comprehensive care required for all people and families living with dementia.

Project ECHO is a tele-mentoring program designed to bring community providers and specialists together to improve outcomes. Project ECHO's mission is to democratize medical knowledge and bring best clinical practices to people all over the world. The story of Project ECHO began in 2003 when Dr. Sanjeev Arora, a liver disease specialist, was frustrated that he could serve only a fraction of the hepatitis C patients needing care. He made it his mission to increase access to effective liver disease care by developing a free educational model, mentoring community providers across New Mexico. This model proved effective, showing disease-related outcomes by ECHO-trained community providers was similar to care provided by specialists.

Banner Alzheimer's Institute (BAI) partnered with Project ECHO in creating the BAI Dementia ECHO. This was made possible due to philanthropic support from the Edson family. It supports BAI in meeting our goal setting a new national standard of care by widely disseminating dementia care best practices and supporting local providers. The program has trained over 500 providers across Arizona helping them improve quality of care to patients with dementia and their families.

Dementia ECHO series consists of twelve sessions over a 6-month period. Each session includes a didactic addressing an area of best practice in dementia care, followed by case presentations and discussion. Participants are strongly encouraged to submit their own cases for review to take advantage of the opportunity to apply knowledge acquired and collaborate with specialists on difficult cases. We seek feedback from participants through surveys assessing confidence, knowledge, and attitude regarding dementia at pre and post program to help us evaluate the program.

There is no cost to participate in the program, CME and CEU credits are available. We are actively seeking multidisciplinary providers to participate in our ECHO as we expand to elevate the standard of care for people and families living with dementia.

To learn more or register for an upcoming program visit: www.bannerhealth.com/DementiaECHO

See Page 4 for information about BAI's upcoming Conference on Alzheimer's Disease and Dementia in Native Americans

MEET MEGAN, OUR PARTNER FROM NORTHERN ARIZONA UNIVERSITY

[MEGAN C. McCOY](#)

Megan C. McCoy (she/her/hers) is an Assistant Professor of Social Work at Northern Arizona University. She brings 22 years of social work practice, non-profit management, and community-based research experience in settings serving older adults to her role. Prior to joining NAU in 2022, she most recently served as the Director of Grant Research and Development at Center in the Park, a nationally accredited senior community center in Philadelphia, and was involved in LGBTQ+ aging advocacy and program initiatives in both Philadelphia, PA and Portland, OR. Dr. McCoy's scholarship addresses the intersection of aging with health equity for older adults, specifically in LGBTQ+ communities, and the potential for community-based settings to function as identity-affirming spaces which promote resilience. Her current projects include [AZALEA](#) which is a community-based participatory approach to building LGBTQ2S+ aging equity in Arizona, a policy analysis of LGBTQ+ inclusion in state plans on aging, and the Northern Arizona Memory Study, which involves partnerships with senior centers in Northern Arizona to support brain health. Hobbies/interests include playing guitar, sports, and creative writing. She is excited to be involved with the AZ-GWEP and to support the next generation of social workers trained to work with older adults!



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What:

18th Annual Pre-Conference and Conference on Alzheimer's disease in Native Americans

Pre-Conference:

ECHO descriptions, discussion, case presentation

Conference:

Progression & Research Updates

Cultural Perspectives on Alzheimer's

Brain Health Risk

Legal / Financial Considerations

Caregiver Stress

Who:

Preconference: Training for Professionals working in tribal communities

Conference: General Public, Caregivers, Professionals

When:

Preconference:
Wednesday, October 23
10:00 AM to 3:15 PM

Full Day Conference:
Thursday, Oct 24
8:30 AM to 3:30 PM

Where:

Vee Quiva Hotel & Casino

15091 S. Komatke Ln.
Laveen Village, AZ 85339

Limited Seating Available!

Preconference Cost: \$25
Conference Cost: \$25

Mark Your Calendar!

Questions? Contact Nicole Lomay at 602.839.6858 or bannerhealth.com/calendar