

THE ARIZONA GWEP MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2026



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](#)



This month, we observe two important recognitions that impact older adult health and wellbeing. February is [Age-Related Macular Degeneration \(AMD\)](#) and [Low Vision Awareness Month](#), bringing attention to the leading cause of vision loss in adults over 50. AMD affects more than 11 million Americans, with prevalence increasing significantly with age. We also celebrate [Ambulatory Care Nurses Week](#) (February 9-13), honoring the nurses who provide essential outpatient care to our aging population. As older adults navigate vision changes and chronic health conditions, ambulatory care nurses play a vital role in education, prevention, and management. Together, these observances remind us of the importance of early detection, adaptive support, and dedicated healthcare professionals in maintaining independence and quality of life for older adults.

You may also be interested in:

- [AMD: At a Glance](#)
- [Aging and Your Eyes](#)
- [Patient-Centered Priorities for Older Adults in Ambulatory Care](#)

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PARTNER SPOTLIGHT

MEET LISA O'NEILL FROM THE AZ-GWEP LEAD TEAM

Dr. Lisa O'Neill is the AZ-GWEP Program Manager, Associate Director of Education and Policy at the University of Arizona Center on Aging, and a Clinical Assistant Professor in the College of Medicine, Division of General Internal Medicine, Geriatrics and Palliative Medicine



In addition to grant management and developing geriatric educational materials for community and academic audiences, she serves on several statewide councils and workgroups, including the Governor's Advisory Council on Aging, Senator Kelly's Senior Citizen Advisory Group, and the Arizona Department of Health Services Suicide Prevention for Older Adults Workgroup. She also developed and facilitated a bi-annual 10-week workshop for community members struggling with Hoarding Disorder for 5 years (2015-2020) and continues to be a resource for professionals and community members. In 2015 she was named Gerontologist of the Year by the Arizona Geriatrics Society and was a 2019-2020 Health and Aging Policy Fellow, completing her fellowship with the National Alliance for Caregiving.

Lisa has lived in Tucson for 25 years and enjoys spending time with friends and family, long walks in our beautiful deserts and National Parks, and attending local events like the Gem Show or Fourth Ave Street Fair.

LinkedIn

[Connect with our
AZ-GWEP Community
Group Page on LinkedIn](#)

MARK YOUR CALENDARS



ADVANCES IN AGING LECTURE SERIES

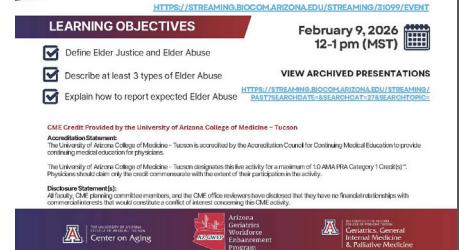
February 9th
12 - 1 pm (MST)

Elder Justice
Mindy Fain, MD

[VIEW PRESENTATION](#)

[View archived presentations here](#)

[Download the event flyer](#)



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TrialMatch: Find Clinical Research for Alzheimer's and Other Dementia

Alzheimer's Association TrialMatch® connects individuals living with cognitive impairment, Alzheimer's disease or another dementia, caregivers and healthy participants with current research studies. This free, easy-to-use service helps you find clinical research that may be a good fit, whether you're focused on treatment, diagnosis, care or prevention. Confidentially search hundreds of drug and non-drug studies, sign up, receive email notifications about new opportunities and connect directly with research teams.

trialmatch
ALZHEIMER'S  ASSOCIATION®



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**Banner
Alzheimer's
Institute**

Dementia Friends Champion Training

Does the Dementia Friends philosophy speak to you? Are you interested in being trained to facilitate sessions in your networks or the broader community?

NEXT TRAINING: 03/04/2026 10:00 - 11:30 AM

[**Learn More & Register Now**](#)