

# AGENDA



## Aging with HIV

### Strengthening the Circle of Care

CSU SPUR HYDRO CONFLUENCE THEATER | DENVER, CO  
WEDNESDAY, JULY 16, 2025 | 8:45A-4:00P

#### 01 REGISTRATION

Check in, meet and greet your fellow attendees, and grab a light breakfast before we start the forum.

8:00 AM

#### 02 WELCOME & LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Our keynote speaker will open the day with reflections on the unique experiences, challenges, and resilience of older adults living with HIV.

8:45 AM

#### 03 AGEISM & HIV

Facilitated by Phil Nash, this session is dedicated to discussing the intersectionality of ageism and the stigma of living with HIV.

9:00 AM

#### 04 GERIATRIC 5 Ms

Our panel of experts will present about the Geriatric 5 Ms: Multicomplexity (Alison Abraham, PhD, MHS, MS), Mentation (Jacob Walker, MD), Mobility (Kristine Erlandson, MD, MS), Medication (Charlotte Ricchetti, PharmD), and Matters Most (Eileen Doherty, MS), followed by a discussion on the context of the Geriatric 5 Ms within Aging with HIV.

9:30 AM

#### 05 BREAK

Get up, stretch your legs, and peruse our resource fair for Adults 50+ Living with HIV.

10:45 AM

# AGENDA

06

## ADVANCING HIV & AGING PROGRAMS

The CHN Healthy Aging Staff (Erin Burk-Leaver, MPH, MA & Haley Sanner, BS) will give an overview of Colorado Health Network's two aging programs: PATH2Wellness and iCHANGE.

11:15 AM

07

## LUNCH

Mix, mingle, and grab a bit to eat. Lunch is included with registration.

12:15 PM

08

## iCHANGE CLIENT EXPERIENCE DISCUSSION

Robert Riester, the iCHANGE Patient Liaison, will facilitate a discussion with current clients in the iCHANGE program. There will be a Q&A for the audience to engage with the clients at the end of the session.

1:15 PM

09

## BREAK

Get up, stretch your legs, and peruse our resource fair for Adults 50+ Living with HIV.

2:15 PM

10

## CALL TO ACTION

Using the Social Ecological Model (SEM) to identify next steps for improving the lives of older people living with HIV. We will break out into four groups. With each group focusing on one of the following SEM levels: Individual, Provider, Organizational/Community, and System/Policy.

2:45 PM

11

## CLOSING REMARKS

Long-term survivor of HIV, community leader, and advocate, Calvin Lavan Gipson delivers closing remarks for the forum.

3:45 PM

12

## SUNSET SOCIAL

Join us for happy hour, networking, hors d'oeuvres, and live music provided by Skylark Jazz at the CSU Spark Hydro Center with its spectacular view of the Front Range at sunset.

4:00 PM



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# LANGUAGE

As a community, we want to center “person-centered language” by avoiding stigmatizing language that emphasizes decline or suffering and ultimately, value people’s individuality and personal connection to language more than strict language rules. We want to center a person’s choice to identify and uphold that in communication. Below are some helpful contexts to guide our language today.

## **ELDERLY VS ELDER**

Elderly emphasizes ageist stereotypes of decline and frailty, while elder typically refers to wisdom, virtue and experience that comes with age. Especially among many communities of color and LGBTQ+ people, elder is used to both signify respect and amplifies resilience despite living through histories of discrimination.

## **HIV/AIDS**

AIDS is a diagnosis that occurs when the immune system is weakened by the HIV virus, it can’t be transmitted. Thus, the sector starting using HIV, which though technically correct, diminished those who continue to live with an AIDS diagnosis - a unique experience of resilience and historical stigma. HIV/AIDS can be inclusive of both.

## **USE THIS...**

- ✓ Person with or living with HIV/AIDS
- ✓ Older Adult or Elder (when appropriate)
- ✓ Community
- ✓ Person who uses drugs
- ✓ Gender-affirming care, Transitioned

## **...NOT THIS**

- ✗ HIV infected person, HIV/AIDS victim
- ✗ Elderly, Senior Citizen, the Aged
- ✗ Population
- ✗ Drug-user, Addict
- ✗ Sex change surgery, changed gender



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#### KEYNOTE SPEAKER

**JEREMY MARTINEZ** (HE, HIM, HIS)

HEALTH CARE ACCESS UNIT SUPERVISOR, STATE DRUG ASSISTANCE  
PROGRAM COORDINATOR

[JEREMY.MARTINEZ@STATE.CO.US](mailto:JEREMY.MARTINEZ@STATE.CO.US)

**Jeremy Martinez** passionately dedicates himself as the Health Care Access Unit Supervisor and State Drug Assistance Program Coordinator, tirelessly working to transform lives through improved healthcare access. Since joining the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment in 2015, he has shown an unwavering commitment to breaking down barriers that prevent people from receiving the care they deserve. Jeremy provides technical assistance and expertise to contracted agencies statewide. As Co-Chair of the State Drug Assistance Program Committee, Jeremy advocates for health equity, striving tirelessly to expand access to care and essential support services for every individual, regardless of their circumstances. With over a decade of dedicated service at CDPHE and more than 20 years in supportive roles, Jeremy's mission is clear: to empower individuals to overcome obstacles to medical care with compassion and unwavering dedication. His genuine love for community health makes meaningful difference in countless lives.



#### LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

**PATRICK ROBERTS, BA, CRA** (HE, HIM, HIS)

EPIDEMIOLOGY CLINICAL RESEARCH ASSOCIATE

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**Patrick Roberts** is an enrolled member of the Hopi Nation, Sun Forehead Clan, Sipaulovi Village, Second Mesa, AZ, and currently serves as a Clinical Research Associate at Vitalant Research Institute (VRI) in San Francisco. He supports research on transfusion medicine, donor and recipient epidemiology, and blood safety policy. Patrick began his research career at Genentech, Inc., and now plays a key role in VRI's research operations, including participant engagement, protocol compliance, and research administration. He serves on VRI's Institutional Biosafety Committee and supports post-award efforts. Patrick was a contributor to the landmark ADVANCE Study, which helped inform the FDA's decision to remove the blood donation deferral for MSM. The study was conducted with UCSF CAPS, the FDA, LGBTQ+ centers, and national blood banks. He continues to support qualitative research focused on blood donor motivation and infectious disease risk reduction to help shape equitable public health policies.



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# BIO



## AGEISM & HIV

**PHIL NASH (HE, HIM, HIS)**

**FREELANCE AUTHOR, "LGBTQ DENVER"**

**[PHILNASH@COMCAST.NET](mailto:PHILNASH@COMCAST.NET)**

**Phil Nash** made Denver his home in 1976, launching a career in LGBTQ activism, journalism, and nonprofit leadership. He was a founding member and the first staffer of the Gay Community Center of Colorado (now The Center on Colfax) and later served as editor of Out Front, Colorado's leading LGBTQ publication in the early 1980s. Nash also contributed to The Advocate, Westword, and other outlets. He helped found and served as the first board chair of the Colorado AIDS Project. Over the years, he held senior communications roles in civic and philanthropic organizations, including advising Denver Mayor Federico Peña. His book LGBTQ Denver chronicles over five decades of local LGBTQ history—much of which he witnessed, reported, and photographed.



## GERIATRIC SMS - MULTICOMPLEXITY

**DR. ALISON ABRAHAM, PHD MHS MS (SHE, HER, HERS)**

**PROFESSOR OF EPIDEMIOLOGY, UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH; PROFESSOR OF OPHTHALMOLOGY,**

**UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO SCHOOL OF MEDICINE (ANSCHUTZ MEDICAL)**

**[ALISON.ABRAHAM@CUANSCHUTZ.EDU](mailto:ALISON.ABRAHAM@CUANSCHUTZ.EDU)**

**Dr. Alison Abraham, PhD, MHS, MS** is a Professor and Vice Chair of Education in the Department of Epidemiology at the Colorado School of Public Health, with a secondary appointment in Ophthalmology at the University of Colorado School of Medicine. She holds an MS in Biomedical Engineering from California State University, Sacramento; an MHS in Biostatistics; and a PhD in Epidemiology from Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health. Dr. Abraham has over 15 years of experience leading large, multi-site observational cohort studies, with a focus on chronic kidney disease, HIV, cognitive health, substance use, and sensory loss. Her current research centers on aging and sensory health, particularly how hearing and vision loss impact healthy aging and quality of life. She is a passionate advocate for building resiliency, supporting aging in place, and centering health outcomes that matter most to individuals. She is the Principal Investigator of several large studies on eye disease and sensory loss in older adults, with a particular emphasis on people aging with HIV. Dr. Abraham also collaborates with CHN to integrate geriatric care models into HIV services, including onsite vision and hearing screenings and improved access to assistive devices.



## GERIATRIC SMS - MOBILITY

**DR. KRISTINE M. ERLANDSON, MD (SHE, HER, HERS)**

**PROFESSOR OF MEDICINE AND EPIDEMIOLOGY**

**DIVISIONS INFECTIOUS DISEASES & GERIATRIC MEDICINE**

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**Dr. Kristine M. Erlandson, MD** is a Professor of Medicine at the University of Colorado School of Medicine, with over 15 years of experience in studying HIV and its effects on aging. Through her research and clinical care, her overarching goal is to promote successful aging among people with HIV and other infectious diseases (including COVID-19).



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## GERIATRIC SMS - MENTATION

**DR. JACOB WALKER, MD** (HE, HIM, HIS)

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR, GERIATRICS & HIV MEDICINE

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**Dr. Jacob Walker, MD** is an assistant professor in the Division of Geriatrics at the University of Colorado. Dr. Walker has a unique background in both geriatric care and HIV medicine and practices both disciplines across multiple clinical settings. Originally from Indiana, he is a graduate of Boston University School of Medicine and completed his Internal Medicine-Primary Care residency at the University of Colorado. He then returned to the Midwest for geriatrics fellowship at the University of Chicago where he stayed on as an assistant professor. Returning to Colorado in 2022, Dr. Walker now practices at the University of Colorado where he leads the Positive Aging Clinic, one of only a few geriatric HIV clinics in the country. Other areas of clinical interest include dementia, polypharmacy, and frailty. Dr. Walker's primary research focus is the integration of geriatric care principles into the care of older adults living with HIV, especially focused on dementia care.



## GERIATRIC SMS - MEDICATION (POLYPHARMACY)

**DR. CHARLOTTE RICCHETTI, PHARM.D, BCACP** (SHE, HER, HERS)

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR, CLINICAL PHARMACIST GERIATRICS PRIMARY CARE

DEPARTMENT OF CLINICAL PRACTICE, SKAGGS SCHOOL OF PHARMACY

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**Dr. Charlotte Ricchetti, PharmD, BCACP** is an assistant professor at the CU Skaggs School of Pharmacy Pharmaceutical Sciences and serves as a clinical pharmacy specialist at the Seniors Clinic in University of Colorado Hospital/CU School of Medicine. She earned both a bachelors and doctorate in pharmacy from The Ohio State University and then completed a pharmacy practice residency at the VA Ambulatory Care Center in Columbus Ohio. She is a board certified in ambulatory care pharmacist and is working towards board certification in geriatric pharmacy. Dr. Ricchetti has provided clinical pharmacy services for over 20 years, helping to care for patients within the VA, two community health centers, UHealth.



## GERIATRIC SMS - MATTERS MOST

**EILEEN DOHERTY** (SHE, HER, HERS)

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, COLORADO GERONTOLOGICAL SOCIETY

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**Eileen Doherty, MS**, has been the Executive Director of the Colorado Gerontological Society since 1982. She teaches Nonprofit Management in the Department of Sociology at Fort Hays State University, Kansas. She has more than 40 years of experience in education, training, clinical practice, research, and public policy in gerontology. She has authored and published numerous publications on senior issues, served on numerous public policy committees and Boards of Directors and received many awards and recognitions. She lectures frequently to professionals and students, as well as older adults on a wide variety of aging issues including Medicare, Medicaid, long term care, housing, health, and economics.



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## ADVANCING HIV & AGING PROGRAMS

**ERIN BURK-LEAVER, MPH, MA (SHE, HER, HERS)**

**DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

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**Erin Burk-Leaver, MPH, MA**, is a public health expert focused on enhancing care for older individuals living with HIV. She serves as the Director of Community Engagement at CHN and leads the HRSA SPNS HIV & Aging Initiative's iCHANGE project. Her work includes domestic and international elder justice initiatives and collaborations with organizations like Mosaic Health. Erin holds master's degrees in Public Health and Bioethics from Case Western Reserve University and is pursuing a Doctor of Public Health at the University of Colorado. She is also involved with the Denver Commission on Aging and the HIV/AIDS Section Council of the American Public Health Association.



## ADVANCING HIV & AGING PROGRAMS

**HALEY K. SANNER, BSc (SHE, HER, HERS)**

**HEALTHY AGING PROGRAM MANAGER**

**COLORADO HEALTH NETWORK, INC. (DENVER)**

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**Haley K. Sanner, BSc**, is the Healthy Aging Programs Manager at Colorado Health Network, focusing on services for older adults with HIV. With over ten years in the aging field, she has collaborated with organizations like the AARP Foundation and worked internationally in Nepal on aging initiatives. She co-founded Collective Healing Through Art, a curriculum that fosters intergenerational community through art and storytelling. Haley holds a BS in Mathematics from Davidson College, specializing in social determinants of health, particularly social isolation and emotional wellbeing.



## ICHANGE CLIENT EXPERIENCE DISCUSSION

**ROBERT RIESTER (HE, HIM, THEM)**

**PATIENT LIAISON, CLIENT SERVICES MANAGER**

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**Robert Riester**, a Denver native living with HIV for over 40 years, is the Client Services Manager at Colorado Health Network and Patient Liaison for the HRSA HIV & Aging SPNS project. He has over 30 years of experience in HIV-related nonprofits, government programs, and advocacy. A member of NMAC's 50+ Strong & Healthy Cohort, he co-founded Rocky Mountain CARES and served as its Board Secretary. He completed a four-year term on the CDC/HRSA Advisory Committee, contributing to national discussions on HIV and aging. Since 1999, he has participated in an NIH Identical Twin Gene Therapy Study and has held leadership roles in various organizations, enhancing his expertise in aging with HIV.



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# Bios



**ICHANGE CLIENT EXPERIENCE DISCUSSION**  
**KENT DESLONGCHAMP (HE, HIM, HIS)**  
**CHN HEALTHY AGING PEER LEADER**

**Kent Deslongchamp** is a third generation Coloradan, graduating from University of Colorado at Denver with a BA in Communication and Theatre. He has applied his professional skills across a variety of fields including at Denver Public Schools Special Education, Denver Health Hospital Nursing Assistant, and WellPower Recovery Center Mental Health professional. Kent has served the LGBTQ+ and HIV community as a facilitator at Colorado AIDS Project, Metropolitan Community Church of the Rockies, and currently as a Peer Leader at Colorado Health Network. Kent has many entrepreneurial endeavors focusing on self-awareness, self-kindness and self-unconditional love including a second book publication.



**ICHANGE CLIENT EXPERIENCE DISCUSSION**  
**VICENTE GARCIA (HE, HIM, HIS)**  
**CHN HEALTHY AGING PROGRAMS MEMBER**

**Vicente Garcia** was born and raised in Denver. He has worked in a variety of industries including service industry roles and acting. One of his favorite roles was performing with a local theatre group in the play "Ludlow" – he was able to perform this role in San Antonio and off-Broadway in New York. He loves exploring his creativity and finding thrilling new adventures. He lives with his dog Mitzi who is an important part of his life.



**CLOSING REMARKS**  
**CALVIN LAVAN GIPSON**

**Calvin Lavan Gipson** is a Denver native, and is a 34-year conqueror of HIV/AIDS having lived through the epidemic in San Francisco from 1985 - 2007. Calvin was the executive assistant to civil rights leader, Rev. Cecil Williams at Glide Memorial Church in San Francisco. At Glide, Calvin directed a Daily Free Meals Program that served over six million free meals to the hungry. The program inspired the Oscar nominated film, "The Pursuit of Happyness" starring Will Smith. Calvin is the second Black American to serve as president of the San Francisco Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender Pride Parade and Celebration. He is a past-president of Frameline - The San Francisco LGBTQ+ International Film Festival. Calvin directed the Brothas4Ever program at It Takes A Village, is on the Denver Metro HIV Planning Council and serves on the festival committee for GALA Choruses hosting music festivals with 7,000 queer singers. Calvin works on the guest relations team of the Denver Broncos and was recently awarded "Rookie of the Year".



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# COMMITTEE

## Meet the HIV & Aging Forum Planning Committee Members!

This forum would not have been possible without the dedicated engagement, insight, and collaboration of our Planning Committee. Thank you for your thoughtful contributions to the design, development, and planning of this event. Your leadership has helped shape a meaningful space to uplift the voices and needs of older people with HIV.



**ROBERT RIESTER**

PATIENT LIAISON, CLIENT SERVICES MANAGER  
COLORADO HEALTH NETWORK, INC.



**GRETCHEN DYMOND (SHE, HER, HERS)**

HEALTHY AGING PROGRAM  
COLORADO HEALTH NETWORK



**MICHAEL DOROSH (HE, HIM, HIS)**

DIRECTOR, TREATMENT EDUCATION NETWORK  
HIV RETREAT AT SHADOWCLIFF



**MICHAELA GREY (SHE, HER, HERS)**

NAVAJO (DINÉ)  
SITE CARE PARTNER II  
PFIZER PHARMACEUTICAL



**CHRISTOPHER LA FLEUR (HE, HIM, HIS)**

DEVELOPMENT MANAGER  
COLORADO HEALTH NETWORK, INC.



**TOM VINSON (HE, HIM, HIS)**

STRATEGIC COMMUNICATIONS MANAGER  
COLORADO HEALTH NETWORK, INC.



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# committee



**JANETTE ROMERO SAENZ, MPH (SHE, HER, HERS)**  
PUBLIC HEALTH RESEARCH LEAD (FR.)  
COLORADO HEALTH NETWORK, INC.



**ALEHA COUSINEAU, MPH (SHE, HER, HERS)**  
AGING SERVICES COORDINATOR (FR.)  
COLORADO HEALTH NETWORK, INC.



**CHRISTOPHER ZIVALICH, MA (HE, HIM, HIS)**  
SENIOR MANAGER, STATE POLICY & TRAINING  
NATIONAL COALITION OF STD DIRECTORS



**DR. JACOB WALKER, MD**  
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**EVELYN IRIARTE PARRA, PHD (SHE, HER, ELLA)**  
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**DR. ALISON ABRAHAM, PHD MHS MS**  
PROFESSOR OF EPIDEMIOLOGY  
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**DR. KRISTINE M. ERLANDSON, MD MS**  
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## Special Thanks from Colorado Health Network's Healthy Aging Program

On behalf of Colorado Health Network's Healthy Aging Program within the Department of Community Engagement, we extend our deepest gratitude to everyone who made this project and forum possible.

This has been a meaningful journey, one rooted in collaboration, trust, and shared commitment. We want to especially thank:

- Our community of older people with HIV for your lived expertise, guidance, and courage.
- Our community and academic partners for your support, innovation, and collaboration.
- Everyone advancing HIV & aging initiatives, your leadership, mentorship, and dedication inspire us every day.

With appreciation,



**ERIN BURK-LEAVER, MPH, MA**  
DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT  
COLORADO HEALTH NETWORK, INC.



**HALEY H. SANNER, BSC**  
HEALTHY AGING PROGRAM MANAGER  
COLORADO HEALTH NETWORK, INC.



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# COLLABORATOR



Karina Branson is delighted to be a visual facilitator, founder and owner of ConverSketch where she uses hand-drawn images and text to reflect and distill the key ideas as graphic recording charts. With a master's degree in science communication, Karina's scientific training and an innate ability to connect with people across cultures creates a unique blend of intelligences that enable her to synthesize and creatively capture meaningful content. She has visually facilitated and supported collaborative strategic planning, community engagement, innovative brainstorming and critical systems thinking to help groups move forward and into action. She has worked across academic, corporate, governmental and non-profit sectors across six continents.



**KARINA BRANSON**

**GRAPHIC FACILITATOR (SHE, HER, HERS)  
CONVERSKETCH**



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