

Maryland Patient Navigation Network Annual Meeting and Training



Speaker Biographies



Geannine L. Darby, CFRE

Geannine Darby has worked in fundraising for more than 28 years. Currently, she is the Senior Director of Gift Planning and Development Operations for the University of Maryland Medical System Foundation. Her experience ranges from working with small national organizations such as US Lacrosse to larger local organizations such as the YMCA of Central Maryland. She has worked in all areas of fundraising, also commonly referred to as development or philanthropy, including major and planned giving, grant writing, annual campaigns, and special events. Geannine serves on the Board of Directors of the Association of Fundraising Professionals and enjoys sharing her experience to help others advance their fundraising programs.

Astrid Jimenez, BS, JD, LLM

Astrid Jimenez is the Executive Director of Nueva Vida. Ms. Jimenez has vast professional experience, having worked not only in the non-profit sector, but also in the federal legislative and executive branches of government. Her legal experience includes working at international organizations and tribunals. As a Chief of Staff to a member of Congress she was actively involved in health care policy. Astrid brings to Nueva Vida a passion to improve and empower the lives of all Latina women particularly in the health arena. She holds a Bachelor of Science in Foreign Service, a Juris Doctor and a Master of Laws in International Law.

Alice S. Kerber, MN, APRN, ACNS-BC, AOCN, AGN-BC

Alice S. Kerber is the Oncology and Genetics Nurse Specialist with Georgia CORE – the Center for Oncology Research and Education, a non-profit organization working to improve the quality of cancer care in Georgia. Ms. Kerber has spent most of her professional life caring for, educating, and supporting those with cancer and their loved ones. Her 36 years of experience include both inpatient and outpatient settings ranging from screening and prevention through active treatment and palliative care.

A large part of Alice's efforts are focused on cancer genetics and genomics. As an advanced practice nurse in genetics, she interviews and educates individuals about family history and hereditary risk assessment. In addition, she works on Georgia CORE's navigation, survivorship and research programs.

Alice received her bachelor's degree in Nursing from the University of Virginia and a master's degree in Nursing from Emory University. Her master's thesis explored the impact of hope and locus of control on breast cancer survival and disease free interval. She was nominated and awarded Oncology Nurse of the Year by Georgia March of Dimes in 2011.

Topics on which Alice has published include oncologic emergencies, ethics, and hereditary risk assessment. She is an accomplished speaker on topics related to cancer care and genetics. Professional organization activities include the Executive Committee for Cancer Patient Navigators of Georgia, Professional Practice Co-Chair for the International Society of Nurses in Genetics, and Program Chair for the Metro Atlanta Oncology Nursing Society.

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Natalie Kontakos, MD

Natalie Kontakos is a graduate of the University of Toronto, Faculty of Medicine. She completed a family medicine residency at Queen's University and a palliative medicine fellowship at the University of Ottawa. She has experience in caring for patients in palliative care and hospice programs and has been involved in fellowship training for physicians. Dr. Kontakos recently joined Sound Physicians at Shady Grove Medical Center to deliver care to patients with serious illnesses, focusing on symptom management and care planning.

Sravani V. Mudumbi, MD

Sravani V. Mudumbi is a physician specializing in Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation who currently serves as Assistant Professor at Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine and is the Director of Inpatient Neuro-rehabilitation at MedStar Good Samaritan Hospital. She is also a registered acupuncturist and Qi Gong instructor. Her areas of expertise include fatigue, neurofunctional recovery, brain injury rehabilitation, sleep disorders, non-interventional pain management, stress management, and community re-integration.

Ify Anne Nwabukwu, BN, Hon LHD

Ify Anne Nwabukwu is the Founder and Executive Director of the African Women's Cancer Awareness Association (AWCAA). She obtained her Bachelor's degree in Nursing from Howard University in Washington, DC, and a degree in Hospital Administration at Strayer University. On February 8, 2014, CICA International University and Seminary awarded Mrs. Nwabukwu an Honorary Doctorate of Philosophy in Humane letters for her work in breast cancer in the African community.

Ify has spent the last 11 years working to reduce the burden of breast cancer among African immigrant women and their families in the Greater Washington Metropolitan Area. She is a Certified Breast Health Awareness Volunteer Speaker for the American Cancer Society, a certified patient navigator, and an inspirational speaker. She has translated breast health educational materials into six African languages: Amharic, Swahili, Portuguese, French, Yoruba, and Ibo with funds from Susan G. Komen for the Cure.

Her work through AWCAA has served over 30,000 Africans and facilitated mammography screening for more than 1,000 women. She won the prestigious Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Community Health Leaders award in 2012; the State of Maryland also awarded her "The Governor's Service Award" in 2012. She serves on the Board of the Commission on African Affairs in the District of Columbia and is a member of the Executive body of the African Advisory Group in Montgomery County, Maryland. Ify also organizes and leads medical missions to African countries and has donated two mammogram machines to Nigeria and Tanzania.

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Rosemary Wolfe, BSN, BS

Rosemary Wolfe has more than 20 years of experience working with cancer patients. She is a Certified Healing Touch Practitioner and Breast Nurse Navigator at University of Maryland St. Joseph Medical Center, Cancer Institute. As a Healing Touch Practitioner, Rose works with cancer patients and staff to promote holistic healthcare in combination with traditional western medicine in an outpatient cancer center. As a Breast Nurse Navigator, she coordinates, educates, and manages newly diagnosed breast cancer patients' multidisciplinary care, provides psychological support and guidance during the initial phase of diagnosis and throughout treatment, coordinates and implements treatment plans, and educates all breast cancer patients regarding chemotherapy medications, side effects management, and navigating life with cancer treatment.

Because of the duality of her role in working with cancer patients, Rose has a great understanding of complementary medicine from a patient navigator's perspective. She has received the *Healing Touch Worldwide Program Grant for the Healing Touch Pilot Study for Breast Cancer Patients Undergoing Radiation Treatment*. She is a graduate of Towson State University with a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration and of University of Maryland at Baltimore with a Bachelor of Science in Nursing.