

## CURRICULUM VITAE: COLLEEN E. CEH BECVAR

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Colleen Ceh Becvar is a gerontologist and certified geriatric care manager through the National Academy of Certified Care Managers. Colleen's 25+ year career of advocating for older adults includes published research on elder abuse and neglect, numerous awards for leadership in the aging network, and a meaningful pursuit of improving the lives of older adults and the disabled. Most recently, her career culminated in co-founding Trinity Advocacy Group, which provides geriatric care management, professional fiduciary services, and elder mediation. Her experience provides clients and families with the resources and support they need to navigate through the inevitable challenges that can accompany aging, disability, or caring for a loved one. Colleen also teaches "Gerontology: Assessment and Intervention" to graduate level social work students at Aurora University.

### EDUCATION

*Northwestern University, Chicago, IL*

*School of Professional Studies*

**Mediation Skills Training** 2016

*University of Indianapolis – Indianapolis, IN*

**Masters of Science in Gerontology** 2009

Capstone: "A Prescription for Change: Infusing Gerontological and Geriatric Perspectives into Existing Pharmaceutical Curriculum"

Honors: Graduated with Honors

*Quincy University – Quincy, IL*

**Bachelor of Science in Non-Profit Administration** 1992

### AWARDS & APPOINTMENTS

Delegate – White House Conference on Aging 2005 – 2015

President – Sigma Phi Omega, Delta Mu Chapter 2008 - 2009

Presidential Award – Association for Gerontology in Higher Education – Univ. of Indianapolis

Capstone 2010

Chair – Senior Issues Committee – 41st Congressional District/Illinois 2010 – 2012

### TEACHING EXPERIENCE

*Aurora University – Aurora, IL*

*School of Social Work*

**Adjunct Faculty – "Gerontology: Assessment & Intervention"** 2014- Present

Instruct graduate social work students in gerontological theory, concepts, and research. Actively teach appropriate use of common assessment tools to screen older adults. Develop students' knowledge, skills, and ability to respond to identified needs with useful interventions.

*Midwestern University  
Chicago College of Pharmacy – Downers Grove, IL*

**Lecturer -**

**“Elder Abuse & Neglect”**

**2008- 2015**

Develop relevant content for and teach 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> year pharmacy students taking the geriatric elective how to identify suspected elder abuse and neglect, their duty to report, and updates on public policy governing elder abuse and neglect.

**“Community Resources for Seniors”**

Develop relevant content and teach 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> year pharmacy students taking the geriatric elective about resources available to seniors at the federal, state, and local levels; also, instruct students how to access services for older adult clients that may serve.

*DePaul University – Chicago, IL*

**Lecturer – “Hard Numbers for Soft Services”**

**2008- 2013**

Develop relevant content for and instruct students enrolled in the required graduate level finance class, on the importance of using numbers in the human services field.

*Eastern Illinois University – Charleston, IL*

**Lecturer - “Housing Options for Seniors”**

**2008-2010**

Developed content and taught graduate students enrolled in gerontology program about the spectrum of housing options available to seniors, and the decision-making that often accompanies the transition from one housing option to the next.

**RELATED EXPERIENCE**

**Co-Researcher, Author**

**2011, Publication 2015**

“Pharmacy Students’ Knowledge about Elder Abuse and Neglect & the Reporting Requirements of Pharmacists”

Conducted original research with Julie A. Fusco, PharmD, BCPS, CGP of Midwestern University Chicago College of Pharmacy.

Disseminated findings and developed curriculum to educate 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> year pharmacy students about identifying and reporting elder abuse and neglect.

**Primary Author**

**2011**

“The Successful Internship”

Co –authors, Jacqueline Frank, PhD, Eastern Illinois University; Jason Adamiec, MS in gerontology candidate and intern. Developed an original template and toolkit, which provided a 360° review of the stakeholders’ experience (student, academic institution and employer perspectives) during the required gerontological academic internship.

**Co-Author****2012 – 2013**

“Positive Aging: What is the Impact of Place of Residence?”

Co-authors, Karen M. Lynch, PhD, National Louis University; Suzette Fromm-Reed, PhD, National Louis University. This study looked at subjective well-being and sense of community among senior adults, comparing those who live in seniors-only congregate housing with those who live in a private residence. Results indicate that happiness in old age is related to a number of factors, including place of residence. Disseminated findings at Midwest Psychological Association Annual Conference

**PRESENTATIONS**

*A Prescription for Change: Infusing Gerontological and Geriatric Perspectives into Existing Pharmaceutical Curriculum*

Paper presented and awarded Presidential Award at Association for Gerontology in Higher Education, Reno, NV 2010

Workshop Presentation at Aging in America Conference, Chicago, IL 2010

Poster Presentation at American Society on Aging: Chicagoland Roundtable, Rush University Medical Center, Chicago, IL 2010

*Pharmacy Students' Knowledge about Elder Abuse and Neglect & the Reporting Requirements of Pharmacists*  
Poster Session, Midwestern University at Midwestern University, Downers Grove, IL 2011

*The Successful Internship*  
Workshop Presentation at Association for Gerontology in Higher Education, Cincinnati, OH 2011

*Technology for Older Adults*  
Panel Facilitator, Rush University Medical Center, ASA Chicagoland Roundtable, Chicago, IL 2012

*Positive Aging: What is the Impact of Place of Residence?* 2013  
Midwest Psychological Association, Annual Conference, Palmer House, Chicago, IL

*You Scratch My Back, I'll Scratch Yours: An Interdisciplinary Way to Build Community Partnerships*  
Workshop Presentation, Aging in America Conference, Chicago, IL 2013

*Know Your Politicians: Why Should You Care?*  
Workshop Presentation, Aging in America Conference, Chicago, IL 2013

*A Call to Duty: Responding to Mandatory Reporting Requirements*  
Workshop Presentation, Aging in America Conference, San Diego, CA 2014

*Perspectives on Aging and the Role of Community Psychology*  
38th Annual Midwest Ecological Community (ECO) Conference 2014

## CONTINUING EDUCATION PRESENTATIONS

2014 - Present

Accredited by Continuing Education Institute of Illinois for Nurses, Social Workers Licensed Nursing Home Administrators, Physical Therapists, Occupational Therapists and more.

- Cultural Diversity in the Workplace
- Dementia Types: Development, Differences, & Diagnosis
- Drug Use Among Seniors: Recreational Use and Addictions
- Medicare-Medicaid Alignment Initiative (MMAI) and Managed Long Term Services and Supports (MLTSS)
- Nursing Home Advocacy & Housing Options for Seniors
- Sex Among Seniors: Prevalence and Risks

## KEYNOTE ADDRESSES AND INVITED SPEAKER

Association of IL Senior Centers (AISC) Annual Conference	February 2015
Township Officials of Illinois (TOI) Annual Education Conference	November 2015
5th Annual Elmhurst Senior Provider Collaboration Conference	May 2016
Illinois Adult Protection and Advocacy Conference	October 2016
Elmhurst Senior Citizens Commission - Community Conversations	November 2016

## RELEVANT MEMBERSHIPS

Aging Life Care Association – Advanced Care Professional Level

American Society on Aging (previous)

- Faculty 2010 and 2013 annual conferences
- Chicagoland Roundtable Planning Committee (2011- 2015)
- Facilitator, Focus Group: “What is the Value of ASA Chicagoland Roundtable Events”

Alzheimer’s Association

- Co-Captain, “Team Eileen”, Walk to End Alzheimer’s/Naperville, 2011-2012
- Captain “Team Eileen”, Moonlight Memory Madness/St. Charles, IL 2014

Association for Conflict Resolution

Association for Senior Service Providers – Vice President

Illinois Coalition on Mental Health and Aging

National Guardianship Association