

<p><b>Jessica Miller</b></p>  <p>Jessica has served as the Associate Provost for Academic Affairs and Faculty Development at the University of Maine since March 2021.</p> <p>She is also a certified clinical ethicist with 15 years of experience consulting with health care systems, hospitals, physician practices, attorneys, medical and other professional associations, news media, and state and local governments.</p>	<p><b>Susan Belanger</b></p>  <p>Susan serves as the Senior Vice President of Mission Integration and System Ethicist for Covenant Health. In her role she encourages ethical practice at all levels of the organization with the goal of enhancing ethical awareness in the delivery of high-quality healthcare. Sue has both a PhD and master's degree in nursing from The Catholic University of America in Washington, and a Master of Arts degree in both Health Care Mission Leadership and Bioethics and Health Policy from Loyola University in Chicago.</p>	<p><b>Madonna Arsenault</b></p>  <p>Madonna specializes in interfaith pastoral and spiritual care; pulpit supply; mind, body, and spirit end of life care; childbirth education and birth doula support; music; and client advocacy with persons who are vulnerable and marginalized in their communities. Madonna is at the center of initiating support and guidance in service with persons in diverse communities, creating, connecting, and providing resources for hope and well-being, building healthy communities together.</p>	<p><b>Steve D'Amato</b></p>  <p>Steve has had experience in clinical oncology practice for over 35 years. He was with New England Cancer Specialists for over 35 years where he established their pharmacy program and became their Executive Director. Steve has extensive knowledge in EMR implementation, drug utilization, value-based care, end of life care, and practice management. He most recently is a founding partner of Scientia Pharmacy Advisors, LLC.</p>	<p><b>Jackie Fournier</b></p>  <p>Jackie Fournier is a nurse practitioner with over 30 years of hospice and palliative care experience. She was fortunate enough to be part of the first hospice team in the state of Maine. As an educator she has taught communities of physicians, nurses and the public within Maine and nationally.</p>	<p><b>Greg Burns</b></p>  <p>Greg is currently Lead Nurse for Pediatrics at Northern Light home Care and Hospice. He has a 30 year history working across multiple settings in Pediatrics, Pediatric Hospice and Palliative care, Home Care Nursing, Clinical Care and Management, and Program Development. Greg has spent the last 4 years helping NLHCH develop pediatric home care capacity throughout the state including Pediatric Palliative and Hospice care.</p>
<p><b>Allison Caldwell</b></p>  <p>Allison Caldwell, MD, MS is a pediatric palliative care physician on the Pediatric Advanced Care Team (PACT) at Maine Medical Center. Dr. Caldwell's clinical interests are in supporting pediatric quality of life in the setting of complex medical conditions.</p> <p>She completed pediatric residency training at Hasbro Children's Hospital, Brown University, and her pediatric palliative medicine fellowship at the University of Tennessee Le Bonheur Children's Hospital and St. Jude Children's Research Hospital.</p>	<p><b>Rev. Bernard Richardson</b></p>  <p>Bernard is the Director of the Spiritual Care Department at Eastern Maine Medical Center. He served as a senior pastor for twenty years before becoming an ACPE Educator. Prior to coming to Eastern Maine Medical Center, Bernard served as the CPE Educator and Admissions Coordinator for the Johns Hopkins Academic Medicine- Systems Sponsored CPE Program. Dr. Richardson envisioned, designed, and established a part-time, half unit CPE program that focused on bringing community clergy into the clinical environment.</p>	<p><b>Rachael Burgess</b></p>  <p>Rachael is a pediatric palliative care NP on the Pediatric Advanced Care Team (PACT) at Maine Medical Center. Prior to joining MMC PACT, she was a pediatric palliative care NP and Director of the PACT NP Fellowship Program at Boston Children's Hospital and Dana-Farber Cancer Institute. Before becoming a NP, her bedside nursing experience included caring for children and their families in hematology/oncology, pulmonary and stem cell transplant at UNC-Chapel Hill and of Philadelphia and Boston Children's Hospital.</p>	<p><b>Kelly Neptune</b></p>  <p>Kelly is a former Northern Light Homecare &amp; Hospice volunteer. She is also a Native American flute player. Through playing the flute, she experienced emotional transition. What she learned is that everything around and within us is a vibration. The native flute creates waves of frequencies, that our ears can hear, and our bodies are affected by. It all helps to align our personal frequency within ourselves and the world around us easing symptoms both physical and mental. It is her mission to share this transcendent voice that quiets the mind inducing calm, relaxation and emotional healing.</p>	<p><b>Tiffany Wagner</b></p>  <p>Tiffany is an Oncology Pharmacist at Pen Bay Medical Center Cancer Care and Infusion Center in Rockport. She worked as an inpatient pharmacist for 7 years before transitioning to the Oncology position in 2020. Forever a student, she pursued two pharmacy board certifications – the first in advanced pharmacology (BCPS) in 2017 and the second in oncology (BCOP) in 2020.</p>	<p><b>Kristen Scorpén</b></p>  <p>Kirsten has worked as a social worker for over 35 years. She cared for both her parents whose lives were interrupted and taken by Alzheimer's and Parkinson's diseases which lead to her interest in palliative and hospice care. Kirsten is the social worker on the Mid Coast Hospital In-Patient Team. Prior to joining the Mid Coast Team, she worked in outpatient communities as a hospice social worker. Kirsten describes her work as a calling and a privilege - to partner with patients and their families at their most vulnerable times.</p>
<p><b>Kathy Amsden</b></p>  <p>Kathy has been a practicing social worker for over forty years. Her experience in school social work, mental health, adult psychotherapy and group work practice, lay a strong foundation for her current tenure at Androscoggin Home Health Care &amp; Hospice as Clinical Manager of Social Work, Spiritual and Palliative Care teams.</p> <p>Under the Maine Center for Palliative Medicine at Androscoggin, Kathy provides community education on Advance Care Planning and trains interdisciplinary professionals in the practice of palliative care.</p>	<p><b>Rebecca Hutchinson</b></p>  <p>Becca Hutchinson is a palliative care physician, Division Director and Fellowship Program Director at Maine Medical Center. She serves as the chair for the MaineHealth Palliative Care Specialty Council for the MaineHealth system.</p> <p>Becca is a clinical scientist with an interest in developing and studying interventions to increase access to palliative care for people living with serious illness in rural areas of Maine.</p>	<p><b>Vance Brown</b></p>  <p>Vance has spent the majority of his career as an academically oriented primary care physician. He is trained and dually boarded in Family Medicine and Internal Medicine, along with Hospice &amp; Palliative Medicine.</p> <p>Vance is currently serving as Chief Medical Officer for Androscoggin Home Health and Hospice.</p>	<p><b>Jane Conrad</b></p>  <p>Jane is a retired attorney, an advance care planning facilitator, and a passionate patient and family advocate. She has been a member of the Maine Center of Palliative Medicine, a board member of Pen Bay Medical Center / Waldo Hospital Foundation, ambassador and patient advocate at Ariadne Labs, a board member of Maine Health Care at Home, and a member of the Maine Center for Palliative Medicine Steering Committee.</p>	<p><b>Robin Hirsh-Wright</b></p>  <p>Robin is a clinical social worker and most recently served as the Director of the Palliative Care Service Line at Northern Light Health. Robin has 27 years of experience working with people living with serious illness in a variety of settings. She also has adjunct faculty experience in the Sociology and Social Work departments of St. Joseph's College and The University of Southern Maine. Robin continues to serve as a POLST Coalition Educator for the state of Maine.</p>	<p><b>Frank Chessa</b></p>  <p>Frank is the Director of Clinical Ethics at Maine Medical Center (MMC) and Assistant Professor of Medicine at Tufts University School of Medicine. At TUSM, he is the Course Director for Threads 2 MaineTrack, a preclinical course addressing clinical ethics, professionalism, and health disparities. At MMC, he is Co-Director of medical student, resident and fellow clinical rotations in Ethics and Palliative Medicine.</p>
<p><b>Shelley Jacobs</b></p>  <p>Shelley Jacobs is a pediatric palliative social worker on the Pediatric Advanced Care Team (PACT) at Maine Medical Center.</p> <p>Before joining PACT in 2018, Shelley provided in-home pediatric palliative social work services for children living with medical complexities and their families through Maine Health Care at Home.</p>	<p><b>Nem Knight</b></p>  <p>Mnemosyne (Nem) Knight is the Program Coordinator for EqualityMaine. She comes to this work after 10 years in senior care, where she worked every role from direct service to management. She is passionate about the intersection of LGBTQ and aging equity. Much of her focus at EqualityMaine is in strengthening SAGEMaine, a statewide organization providing services and advocacy for LGBTQ+ elders in Maine.</p>	<p><b>Fran Jensen</b></p>  <p>Fran is the Medical Director of the Office of MaineCare Services. Her focus has been on developing and implementing new models of healthcare delivery and payment which incentivize quality health outcomes for low income, disabled, and elderly populations within the states. Fran is interested in decreasing provider burden through multi-payer alignment and useful exchange of clinical information to create a care environment which allows providers to support each individual's health goals.</p>	<p><b>Pam Brown</b></p>  <p>Pam is a Certified Hospice and Palliative Care Nurse who currently serves as the Hospice and Palliative Care Coordinator for VA Maine She is focused on ensuring quality end of life care for Veterans of Maine.</p> <p>Pam has extensive experience in developing and delivering end of life education to healthcare providers and to communities throughout the State.</p>	<p><b>Elizabeth Keene</b></p>  <p>Elizabeth serves as Vice President for Mission Integration for St. Mary's Health System. Her work includes supervision for spiritual care, ethics, community outreach and spirituality in the workplace programs.</p> <p>Elizabeth created the volunteer and bereavement program for Johns Hopkins Home Hospice in Baltimore, Maryland. She serves on several community health-related boards in Androscoggin County and is a member of the Maine State Palliative Care Advisory Council.</p>	<p><b>Vanessa Little</b></p>  <p>Vanessa is board certified in both Family Medicine and Hospice and Palliative Medicine. She developed a community based palliative care program at MDI Hospital in Bar Harbor, Maine. She is passionate about extending access to interdisciplinary palliative care. Dr. Little is currently serving as Medical Director of the Palliative Care Service Line at Northern Light Health.</p>

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***Drs. Lauren & Chris Michalakes  
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# Inaugural Statewide Palliative Care Conference

The Palliative Care & Quality of Life Interdisciplinary Advisory Council and the Maine Hospice Council are proud to present the first annual statewide palliative care conference.

## Introducing the Presenters

Please take a moment to get to know the conference's guest speakers.

We are honored to have them join us!



## Key Note Speakers



Betty Ferrell, RN, PhD, MA, FAAN, FPCN, CHPN has been in nursing for 37 years and has focused her clinical expertise and research in pain management, quality of life, and palliative care. Dr. Ferrell is the Director of Nursing Research & Education and a Professor at the City of Hope Medical Center in Duarte, California. She is the principal investigator of a research project funded by the National Cancer Institute on "Palliative Care for Patients with Solid Tumors on Phase 1 Clinical Trials" and principal investigator of the "End-of-Life Nursing Education Consortium (ELNEC)" project. In 2013 Dr. Ferrell was named one of the 30 Visionaries in the field by the American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine.

James 'Jim' VanKirk, MD, FACP has worked in Hospice and Medical Ethics throughout his career. He is a strong advocate for improving end-of-life care and educating healthcare providers as well as communities in the importance of Goals of Care conversations. He practiced in Lexington, VA for 10 years then moved to Bangor, ME where he developed and directed the Palliative Care Program for the Eastern Maine Healthcare System for 15 years. He came to Valley Health in 2021 and is the medical director of the Palliative Care Program.



## Key Note Speakers (cont.)



Cordt Kassner PhD, CEO, incorporated Hospice Analytics in 2008. He holds degrees in social work, counseling, and health and behavioral sciences. His prior work experience includes CEO of the Colorado Center for Hospice & Palliative Care, clinical and research responsibilities on the faculty of the University of Colorado at Denver and Health Science Center. Cordt has served as a "translator" of information between administration/clinical health care professionals and research/statisticians.

## Opening Remarks



Lauren Michalakes, MD, MPH, is an internist and palliative care physician with many years in the care of patients with serious illness. She is a National Faculty and Instructor in multiple initiatives in advance care planning and serious illness conversation training. These include Respecting Choices, Vital Talk and the Serious Illness Care Program through Ariadne Labs of the Harvard School of Public Health. She is the Chair of Maine's Palliative Care and Quality of Life Interdisciplinary Advisory Council. She is presently working with the Office of Aging and Disability as a program Consultant.