

***What Matters Most and Implementing Goals of Care for
Individuals with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities
Supported by OPWDD**

*1.5 hours for Social Work CEU's will be given for this session.

In-Person Only

Presenters: Dr. Lindsey Semprini, MD & Christine Gallo, LCSW, ACHP-SW

Summary: *Persons with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities are a vulnerable population for many reasons, and this can be compounded by multiple factors particularly as they and those that support them navigate the world of health care, advanced illness journeys and end of life care. Join two Northwell Health Social Workers as they share an enlightening education on the rich legacy of this population's historical movement through healthcare, tips and guidance on how to navigate vital legal processes involved in end of life decision making and planning, and lastly how they spread education and awareness for advocacy and elevation of care for these patients served within their health system and how you too can impact meaningful change.*

Objectives:

1. Participants will learn about the history of *institutionalization*, medical abuse and neglect that were inherent in the origins of care of individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities which was followed by the *deinstitutionalization* movement, grounded in self-determination and person-centered care.
2. Participants will gain awareness of the regulatory processes in place to protect this population, the knowledge gaps that can serve as barriers, and walk through general guidelines for meeting these regulations while also achieving timely implementation of person-centered goals of care.
3. Participants will learn of creative progress and resources for supporting and advocating for this vulnerable population as they and their families and group home support staff navigate advanced illness and end of life.

Bios:

Christine Gallo, LCSW, GC-C is a Clinical Social Worker and Certified Grief Counselor on the Palliative Medicine Team at Peconic Bay Medical Center. Through her role, Christine has the privilege of supporting patients and their families across all facets of advanced illness and loss with a specialized meaning-centered lens and holds a specialized interest and focus on advocacy for health equity and dignified end of life care along the advanced illness journey continuum for patients with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities. Christine also coordinates the Palliative Medicine Team's multi-faceted Bereavement Plan of Care utilizing holistic mind, body, and spirit multi-modal interventions to support individuals as they navigate their journey of grief. Lastly, Christine supports Peconic Bay Medical Center's Caregivers Center providing support, education and resources to the hospital's community of family caregivers.

Dr. Lindsey Semprini, MD joined the Medical Staff at Peconic Bay Medical Center where she has served in her role as Attending Physician in Hospice and Palliative Care for over 2 years. Dr. Semprini is board certified in Internal Medicine and Hospice and Palliative Medicine and is OPWDD Commissioner approved to certify capacity for individuals with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities. Her professional interests include complex symptom management as well as a commitment to health care equity for patients with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities in ensuring access to dignified end of life care.