

OFFICE OF THE STATE LONG-TERM CARE OMBUDSMAN

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2018 Georgia State Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program Annual Training Conference Melanie McNeil, Esq., State Long-Term Care Ombudsman

The Office of the State Long-Term Care Ombudsman (OSLTCO) conducted a statewide training for the Ombudsman Representatives who serve residents of long-term care facilities across the state. The training took place June 11-13 at the Macon Department of Human Services building. At the conference, the OSLTCO recognized Ombudsman Representatives (OR) for their years of service and for their contributions to the programs. We also recognized volunteers who contribute to the program.

The training covered various topics including a day of training related to Alzheimer's Disease & Dementia, conducted the Virtual Dementia Tour for the ORs, discussed data management and updates, the volunteer program, advocacy for residents and an update from the local programs.



July 4th State Offices including the SLTCO Office, are closed for Independence Day.

AWARDS



Keith Adams, 5 years services



Jennifer Childers, 5 years services



Debbie Rogers, 5 years services



Cat Young, 10 years services



Rachel Hilliard, 20 years services



Pam Lipsitz, 25 years services



Renee Sanders, volunteers 35 years services



Liz Schultze, Newly Certified Representative



Kristi Denney, Newly Certified Representative



Service Award Catalogue

State Office

The Office of the State Long-Term Care Ombudsman (OSLTCO) sponsored the Elder Rights conference in Augusta on June 14, 2018



Jeff Taylor (L), Kim Johnson-Prince, Melanie McNeil, Lin Chao, Tina Lawrence, Tracey Williams (R)

Melanie McNeil, Esq., State Ombudsman presented with Forensic Special Initiatives Unit (FSIU) team members, Anna Ayers and Lindsey Greenwald regarding benefits tracking especially of personal care home residents.



Washington Update

The Senior Safe Act has been signed into law. This new federal statute provides limited immunity from liability to financial institutions and their employees when reporting suspected financial exploitation of elderly persons to appropriate government agencies or officials.

<https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/hr3758>

A hearing on the impact of opioids on the elderly was held on May 23rd by the US Senate Aging Committee. Entitled, “Preventing and Treating Opioid Misuse Among Older Americans.” The hearing examined the continued challenges of identifying opioid misuse among older adults, the efforts to reduce older Americans’ dependence on opioids, and the need to expand access to treatment for those battling substance and opioid misuse. Dozens of bills are pending in Congress seeking to address the opioid crisis.

<https://www.aging.senate.gov/press-releases/seniors-struggling-with-opioid-misuse-senate-aging-committee-examines-opioid-crisis-effect-on-older-americans>

https://www.aging.senate.gov/imo/media/doc/SCA_Pattavina_5_23_18.pdf

News

Georgia State University Gerontology Institute Receives \$1.6 Million Grant

GSU Gerontology Institute has received \$1.6 million from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) for a three-year training and development project to improve the state’s nursing homes.

<https://news.gsu.edu/2018/04/10/gerontologists-get-1-6m-grant-to-improve-nursing-home-care-in-ga/>

