



Fall 2026 Conference

Dementia Toolbox: From Brain to Bedside

Thursday, October 1, 2026

8:00 AM – 4:45 PM

Foxdale Village ▪ 500 East Marylyn Avenue ▪ State College, PA 16801

Centre County Geriatric Interest Network

Fall 2026 Conference

Goals and Objectives – *Attendees will be able to:*

- Learn the Dementia Friends information sessions curriculum and activities needed to facilitate a Dementia Friends session for community members.
- Demonstrate an understanding of Champion expectations, roles and responsibilities, and presentation tips and techniques to deliver an informative and successful information session.
- Describe the multi-level factors associated with individual mealtime behaviors and food intake.
- Characterize caregiver-individual (dyadic) mealtime interactions and their temporal relationships with individual mealtime behaviors and food intake using a novel behavioral methodology.
- Describe a person-centered mealtime care intervention that has potential to improve quality of care and individual outcomes at mealtime.
- Explain how dementia is diagnosed and staged.
- Name two actions that support brain health.
- Explain how changes in the brain alter the way people living with dementia communicate.
- Demonstrate two skills to make it easier to work with people who have dementia.
- Explain the causes and triggers associated with behavioral and psychological symptoms of dementia.
- Compare pharmacological and nonpharmacological approaches for managing behavioral and psychological symptoms of dementia, emphasizing current best practices.
- Implement person-centered care techniques to improve outcomes for individuals experiencing behavioral and psychological symptoms of dementia.

Continuing Education

*Approvals are pending for **six** hours for NHA, PCHA, and RN.*

Continuing Education Nursing Home Administrator Policy

The Pennsylvania State Board of Examiners of Nursing Home Administrators requires Administrators who attend the conference to provide your license number to be listed on the certificate. Please provide your Nursing Home license number on the registration sign-in sheet.

Nursing Continuing Professional Development (RNs)

Penn State Ross and Carol Nese College of Nursing is approved as a provider of nursing continuing professional development by Pennsylvania State Nurses Association, an accredited approver by the American Nurses Credentialing Center's Commission on Accreditation. This Nursing Continuing Professional Development program has been submitted for **six** contact hours for participants who hold a valid RN license and attend the entire program; partial contact hours are not awarded.



Tressa Nese and Helen Diskevich
Center of Geriatric Nursing Excellence

CGNE, Nese College of Nursing is proud to co-sponsor GIN's spring and fall educational conferences, providing contact hours for nursing and other professionals at no additional cost to event attendees.

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Conference Agenda

Time	Description
8:00 AM	Registration and Light Breakfast
8:25 AM	Welcoming remarks and announcements Jill McKenrick, <i>GIN President</i>
8:30 AM	Dementia Friends Champion Training Stacie Bonenberger, MOT, OTR/L <i>Program Manager, Aging Initiatives, Jewish Healthcare Foundation</i> Deanna Page, MS, LPC, NCC, CDP <i>Program Specialist, Aging Initiatives, Jewish Healthcare Foundation</i>
10:00 AM	Break
10:15 AM	Optimizing Quality of Mealtime Care and Outcomes in People with Dementia: A Multilevel Approach Dr. Wen Liu, RN, PhD, FGSA, FAAN <i>Associate Professor, Penn State Ross and Carol Nese College of Nursing</i>
11:15 AM	Understanding Brain Change: The Science Behind the Symptoms of Dementia Dr. Rollin Wright, MD <i>Associate Professor of Medicine, Penn State Health, Hershey Medical Center</i>
12:15 PM	Lunch and Networking
1:15 PM	It's All About the Relationship: Best Practice Approaches to Caring for People Living with Dementia Dr. Rollin Wright, MD <i>Associate Professor of Medicine, Penn State Health- Hershey Medical Center</i>
2:45 PM	Break
3:00 PM	Best Practice Approaches for Behavioral and Psychological Symptoms of Dementia Dr. Michael Keil, PhD <i>Clinical Psychologist, Centre Psychology Group</i>
4:30 PM	Evaluations

****PLEASE NOTE**** This conference includes an opportunity to become a Dementia Friends PA CHAMPION! Presenters will provide a 90-minute training today that will equip you with the knowledge and activities needed to facilitate a Dementia FRIENDS Information Session with community members. However, in order to be eligible to serve as a Champion, you must complete the free, online 60-minute Dementia FRIENDS session prior to attending the conference. This education will increase your understanding of dementia and ability to make a difference for people living with dementia in your community as well as prepare you to take the Champion training at the conference.

To select and register for a free, online 60-minute session ASAP please use this link: [Dementia FRIENDS Sessions](#)

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Full day cost of **\$75 for members** and **\$100 for non-members**, which includes all educational sessions, breakfast, and lunch, and 6 CEUs, if applicable.

Please register via website at <https://www.centrecountygin.com/conferences> where you can pay via the registration application and payment to:

GIN of Centre County, P.O. Box 340, Boalsburg, PA 16827

Please make checks payable to Geriatric Interest Network of Centre County

Registration must be received by **September 21, 2026**

Name: _____ **Phone:** _____

Place of Employment: _____

Business Address: _____

Email: _____

Indicate which CEUs are needed, if any: NHA PCHA RN

Indicate: GIN Member (\$75) Non-GIN member (\$100)

Geriatric Interest Network (GIN) of Centre County

GIN of Centre County is a group of individuals who recognize the importance of building collaborative relationships by offering regular advocacy, education, and networking opportunities. Board membership is comprised of fifteen members who represent a diverse professional background who are all committed to furthering the vision and mission of the Network. GIN of Centre County and its' members do not discriminate by reason of sex, age, race, ethnic background, sexual orientation, or other characteristics in any capacity. Learn more about GIN by visiting our website at www.centrecountygin.com.