

THE LONG TERM CARE DISCUSSION GROUP

A VOLUNTARY INDEPENDENT GROUP THAT MEETS SOLELY FOR THE PURPOSE
OF EDUCATING THE POLICY COMMUNITY ON ALL FACETS OF LONG TERM CARE

Tuesday July 17, 2012
10:00 a.m. Eastern Time

American Benefits Council
1501 M Street, NW
Conference Center on the Lower S Level
Washington, DC

Speaker: Gay Powell Hanna, Ph.D., M.F.A.

Using Creative Expression to Enable Healthy Aging

The "graying" of America promises dramatic changes in the field of aging. One of the most profound changes is a new way of seeing older adults: moving from a "deficit" approach that stresses losses to an "asset" approach that stresses strengths, potential and achievements. The arts can serve as a powerful way to engage elders in a creative and healing process of self-expression, enabling them to create works that honor their life experience.

Dr. Hanna will talk about the many and varied activities of the National Center for Creative Aging (NCCA) in the areas of health and wellness, lifelong learning and community engagement - focusing in particular on the importance of creative expression in later life. The NCCA was founded in 2001 with the aim of fostering an understanding of the vital relationship between creative expression and healthy aging and to developing programs that build on this understanding. It is the national clearinghouse at the nexus of creativity and aging.

She will cite research as well as showcase best practices in arts and aging services. Dr. Hanna will discuss the important implications of this growing interdisciplinary field on person-centered care and address issues around serving people with memory loss and their caregivers, including both professionals and family members.

Gay Powell Hanna, Ph.D., M.F.A., an arts administration leader with 30 years management experience in the arts, education, and health related program services, is the executive director of the National Center for Creative Aging (NCCA), an affiliate of George Washington University. NCCA is an interdisciplinary nonprofit organization dedicated to fostering an understanding of the vital relationship between creative expression and the quality of life for older people regardless of ethnic, economic status or level of physical or cognitive functioning. NCCA provides professional development and technical assistance including service as a

clearinghouse for best practices, research and policy development to encourage and sustain arts and humanities program in various community and health care settings.

Previously Dr. Hanna served as the executive director of the Society for the Arts in Health from 2003 through May 2007. Through faculty positions at Florida State University and University of South Florida from 1987 to 2003, Dr. Hanna directed VSA Arts of Florida, an affiliate of the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, providing arts education programs for people with disabilities including people with chronic illness. In 2001, she established the Florida Center for Creative Aging at the Florida Policy Exchange Center on Aging at the University of South Florida to address quality of life issues. As a contributing author to numerous articles and books, Dr. Hanna was the lead author of a recently published white paper produced by the National Endowment for the Arts, [The Arts and Human Development, Framing A National Research Agenda For The Arts, Lifelong Learning, And Individual Well-Being](#) (November 2011). Dr. Hanna is an associate professor at George Washington University in the Health Sciences Department. She holds a Ph. D. in arts education with a specialization in arts administration focusing on underserved communities from Florida State University; a M.F.A. in sculpture from the University of Georgia; and a bachelor of arts degree, *magna cum laude* in studio art, from Old Dominion University. She also holds certification in program evaluation from Florida State University and a nonprofit management executive certificate from Georgetown University.

Please RSVP to Jenifer Allen at JAllen@univitahealth.com

Participation by phone is available for a limited number of callers. To participate by phone, you must RSVP to receive dial-in information.

Long Term Care Discussion Group Co-Chairs:

Winthrop Cashdollar, John Cutler, Karl Polzer, Jill Randolph, and Eileen J. Tell