

# THE LONG TERM CARE DISCUSSION GROUP

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

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Wednesday, April 16 2014  
2:00 p.m. Eastern Time

AARP Offices - Conference Room B-10-401  
601 E Street, NW, Washington, DC  
(Please note - you must RSVP in advance for building access)

## **TOPIC: Supporting Employee Caregivers: Good Practice and Good Business**

Speaker: Melissa Gong Mitchell, Co-Convener, ReACT (Respect a Caregiver's Time)

Melissa Gong Mitchell, Co-convener of ReACT will discuss how addressing caregiving needs of employees creates a competitive advantage for employers, ways employers are beginning to recognize caregiving as the "new normal" in the workplace, and how ReACT's tools can help.

Of the approximately 44 million unpaid family caregivers in the United States providing care for someone 50 or older, nearly three quarters maintain some form of employment. Increasingly, employers are recognizing that these caregiving responsibilities may be affecting their employees' health and work productivity -- and therefore their bottom lines. Employers have a role to play can foster a culture of care in the workplace, and this includes both awareness of and access to caregiving resources, whether provided in the workplace, community, online or through other third-party support systems.

ReACT is an employer-focused coalition dedicated to addressing the challenges faced by employee caregivers and reducing the impact on the companies that employ them. ReACT seeks to create a supportive business environment where these challenges are understood and recognized by employers so that employees who are juggling the demands of both work and caregiving can better meet their personal and professional responsibilities. ReACT represents nearly 1 million employees through its membership of more than 40 companies and non-profit organizations.

Melissa Gong Mitchell, Co-convener, ReACT (Respect A Caregiver's Time) and Director, High Lantern Group, has more than a decade of public affairs experience, specializing in policy-related and CEO-level strategic communications, advocacy campaigns and high-impact special programs. In her role at High Lantern Group, she focuses on coalition building, as a driving force behind ReACT and the Global Coalition on Aging, and creating strategies for clients that are aligned with global aging trends.

Please RSVP to Jenifer Allen at [JAllen@univitahealth.com](mailto:JAllen@univitahealth.com)

**Long Term Care Discussion Group Co-Chairs:  
Susan Coronel, John Cutler, Hunter McKay (ex-officio), Karl Polzer,  
Jill Randolph, and Eileen J. Tell**

Long Term Care Discussion Group meetings are intended as forums for candid discussion. Dialogue and comments made during these meetings should be treated as off the record.