

Social Isolation and Loneliness in Older Adulthood

Monday, September 29, 2025 | 10 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

Location: Southern Regional AHEC, 1601 Owen Drive
Classroom E, 3rd Floor, Fayetteville, NC 28304

Target Audience

This event has been planned for healthcare professionals, mental health professionals, family caregivers, direct support staff, educators, graduate students, clinicians, therapists, counselors, social workers, caregivers, community and senior center staff, advocates, and all other community members interested in understanding more about loneliness and isolation in older adults.

Program Description

As the global population ages, the issues of loneliness and isolation among older adults have become increasingly prevalent. This program aims to explore the multifaceted nature of loneliness and isolation in geriatric populations, examining the psychological, social, and health-related impacts. Participants will gain a comprehensive understanding of the causes and consequences of these issues, as well as effective strategies for intervention and support.

Objectives

- Identify the key factors contributing to loneliness and isolation in older adults.
- Assess the impact of loneliness on mental and physical health.



- Develop and implement effective strategies to combat loneliness and isolation.
- Foster a supportive community environment for older adults.

Speakers

Dr. Michael Weber, MD is a 4th year resident in psychiatry at the University of North Carolina. Originally from Maine, he attended medical school at the Larner College of Medicine at The University of Vermont where he graduated with membership in Alpha Omega Alpha Honor Society (AOA) and Gold Humanism Honor Society (GHHS). He currently serves as Chief Resident of Education for the Department of Psychiatry at UNC where

he is actively involved in medical student and PA student education. Dr. Weber enjoys working with older patients with mental health disorders and plans to stay at UNC for geriatric psychiatry fellowship following residency.

Dr. Boccaccio, MD, is from Fuquay Varina, NC and attended Davidson College where he majored in Spanish. After graduating he worked in the San Francisco Bay area at an innovation center to reduce social isolation and loneliness in older adults, then at Stanford developing new care delivery models to reduce healthcare costs. He attended medical school at Ponce Health Sciences University in Puerto Rico. There his love for geriatrics flourished, leading him back to San Francisco after MS1 to attend MSTAR and study life satisfaction among disabled older adults. He completed internal medicine residency at UNC where he now is a geriatrics fellow. He completed internal medicine residency and geriatrics fellowship at UNC. He is a clinical assistant professor in the UNC Division of Geriatrics where he works in primary care, short-term rehab/long-term care, and hospital service. He is passionate about improving care for Spanish-speaking and LGBTQ older adults. In his free time he loves reading, horror movies, roller skating, and his dog Biscuit.

Fee

There is no registration fee to attend this program.

Space is limited.

Agenda

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| 10 a.m. | Identify Key Factors Contributing to Loneliness and Isolation |
| 10:30 a.m. | Impact Assessment |
| 11 a.m. | Development and Implementation |
| 11:30 a.m. | Adjourn |

Credit

Contact Hours: 1.5

ADA Service

Americans with Disabilities Act Individuals requesting accommodation under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) should contact the ADA coordinator at least five days prior to the event at (910) 678-7226 or ashley.diehm@sr-ahec.org.

Register Online



Register here: <https://www.southernregionalahec.org/courses-and-events/76500> or scan the QR code.

Contacts

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