

# 2023 Elder Abuse Summit Speaker Biographies

#### **Elsie-Kay Banks**

Elsie-Kay Banks was born in Portland, Maine and raised in Falmouth where she graduated from Falmouth High School in 2000. Elsie joined the United States Army after high school and was trained and worked as a Counterintelligence Agent from 2000-2003, being deployed to Qatar in support of Operation Enduring Freedom and being stationed at Fort Gordon, Georgia where her daughter was born. After living in the south, Elsie and her family decided to move back to Maine to be close to family.

Elsie-Kay Banks is a ten-year employee of the State of Maine and most currently a Behavioral Health Coordinator with the Maine State Police (MSP) Southern Field Troop. Elsie started her career as a Correctional Officer at the Maine Correctional Center in Windham, Maine before going to college full time, earning her Associate Degree in Legal Studies and then her Bachelor's in Psychology.

Elsie worked as a Certified Nursing Assistant at local nursing homes and then worked as an Emergency Medical Technician – Basic level at United Ambulance in Lewiston, Maine. Between working day shifts and night shifts per diem, Elsie began working for the Maine Department of Health and Human Services as a Child Protective Assessment Social Worker in Lewiston, Maine. Elsie's child protective coverage area included Androscoggin, Oxford, and Franklin Counties. While working full time, Elsie completed her Master's Degree in Intelligence Studies with a concentration in Counterterrorism with the intention of moving to the Washington, D.C. area to pursue civilian intelligence work.

In 2017, Elsie transitioned from CPS work to becoming a Medicolegal Death Investigator I with the Maine Office of Chief Medical Examiner (OCME), where she was trained to investigate the cause and manner of death for cases in which OCME had jurisdiction. Elsie worked hundreds of cases including suicides, accidents, drug overdoses, natural deaths and homicides. Elsie became Board Certified with the American Board of Medicolegal Death Investigators in 2021 and was promoted to Medicolegal Death Investigator II.

After careful consideration, Elsie left the OCME to pursue her interest in mental health work and began working with Maine Behavioral Healthcare as a Behavioral Health Technician at Spring Harbor Hospital on the Autism and Developmental Disability unit. Wanting a more reliable schedule, Elsie became a Children's Case Manager at the Glickman Lauder Center of Excellence (GLCOE) which is an extension of Maine Behavioral Healthcare. It was a former co-worker and friend who suggested that Elsie apply for the Behavioral Health Coordinator with the Maine State Police, a position which has combined many of her past work experiences with caring for and helping civilians who may have had contact with the Maine State Police and are in need of services to help with substance use, homelessness, domestic violence, elder abuse, and mental health.

#### **David Burnes**

Dr. Burnes is Associate Professor and Associate Dean, Academic at the University of Toronto, Factor-Inwentash Faculty of Social Work. He holds a Canada Research Chair on preventing the mistreatment of older adults. He completed a PhD at Columbia University School of Social Work in New York City, concentrating in gerontology and advanced practice. His program of research focuses on issues related to elder abuse and ageism, including the development of basic science (risk factors, prevalence, and severity) and the design, evaluation, and measurement of interventions to prevent the mistreatment of older adults. He has advised major international organizations on these topics, such as the World Health Organization

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and National Institutes of Health. He also advises different levels of government and non-profit organizations, such as state-level adult protective services programs, on the development and implementation of elder abuse support programs and prevention strategies. Dr. Burnes' interest in elder abuse stems from both family experience and clinical practice with older adults.

#### **Marie-Therese Connolly**

Marie-Therese Connolly is a writer, lawyer, researcher, policy wonk, MacArthur Foundation Fellow, and president of the Elder Justice Collaborative. Her work focuses on finding better ways to reduce harm and enhance wellbeing and purpose as we age. She's the author of the upcoming book of nonfiction, The Measure of Our Age: Navigating Care, Safety, Money & Meaning Later in Life coming out in July 2023, that tells the story of elder justice, its people, its roots, and how things change. The book chronicles the work of pioneers in law, medicine, services, forensics, finance, advocacy, policy and meaning-making.

MT is part of a team of practitioners and researchers who created, launched, and study the RISE model, a new holistic advocacy-based, harm reduction program that works with victims, and, if victims wish, also with alleged harmers, concerned others, and the relationships among them. Launched as a two-county pilot in Maine in 2019, RISE was expanded to the entire state in 2021, and currently is being expanded to other states and Canada, as well piloting a new substance use component. In January 2023, RISE was used for the first time in a criminal elder abuse prosecution, to pilot test it as a remedy where, if the defendant completes drug court and RISE requirements, (including restorative components), charges will be dropped. Also in 2023, based on the strong pilot data, Maine's governor proposed to make RISE a permanent part of the state's healthy aging system.

She conceived of and was the original architect of the Elder Justice Act, the first comprehensive federal elder abuse law enacted with the Affordable Care Act in 2010. As founder of the Department of Justice Elder Justice Initiative, she guided theory and strategy in large federal cases against nursing home chains for fraud, abuse, and neglect and worked on a broad array of policy matters. At DOJ, she worked with the National Institute of Justice to launch the first elder abuse research program, still in existence today. She has formed several influential groups, written for academic and mainstream publications, and was the lead author of the Elder Justice Roadmap that helped to shape the 2015 White House Conference on and continues to influence research, education, policy and practice at federal, state and local levels. A graduate of Stanford University and Northeastern University Law School, she lives in Washington, DC.

### Patricia Kimball

Patty is the Executive Director of the Elder Abuse Institute of Maine whose mission is to design and implement interventions to serve those impacted by elder abuse, neglect, and exploitation. Patricia has been involved with the Institute since its founding in 2003, initially as a board member and eventually, its first Executive Director. She co-led the development of Martha's Cottage, Maine's first transitional housing for older victims of abuse; is a recipient of a Robert Wood Johnson research fellowship to study mandatory reporting of elder abuse; and helped pilot and expand the RISE Model, an innovative intervention for clients involved with Adult Protective Services. Patricia was also the founding Director of the Restorative Justice Institute of Maine, whose mission is to foster restorative practices and philosophy across the state. She has worked in the nonprofit sector since 1988 with and on behalf of youth in treatment foster care in Ohio, older residents of subsidized housing in Rhode Island, and women incarcerated in Maine. Her diverse roles have included direct service provider, community organizer, consultant, and administrator. Patricia holds an undergraduate degree in English and graduate degrees in Human Services Administration and Community Economic Development.

#### **Stuart Lewis**

Dr. Lewis is an Associate Professor of Medicine in the Section of General Internal Medicine and Geriatrics at the Geisel School of Medicine at Dartmouth and the Medical Director of Lebanon Center, a skilled nursing and long-term care facility. He is a member of New Hampshire's Incapacitated and Vulnerable Adult Fatality Review Committee. His primary research focus is on how to prevent the mistreatment or abuse of older adults for which he has received funding from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, the Administration for Community Living and other private foundations. Dr. Lewis received his undergraduate and medical degrees from Columbia University and trained in internal medicine at Bellevue/NYU. His writings on medicine have appeared in literary journals, The Guardian, The New York Review of Books, and others.

### **Jaye Martin**

Jaye has been the Executive Director of Legal Services for the Elderly ("LSE") since January 1, 2006. She served as Co-Chair of the Elder Justice Coordinating Partnership and was actively involved in the development of the Maine Council for Elder Abuse Prevention. For the twelve years prior to joining LSE, Jaye was first an associate, and later a partner, at the Gray Plant Mooty law firm in Minneapolis where she Co-Chaired the Health Law and Nonprofits Practice Group. Before attending law school, Jaye spent twelve years working for a large nonprofit in Minneapolis where she focused on developing and managing vocational and supportive housing services for people with developmental disabilities.

## Jeni Moody

Jeni Moody is a licensed social worker with 17 years' experience working in the field. She earned her Bachelor's in Mental Health and Human Services from University of Maine. In addition to her degree, Jeni has certificates in trauma informed care, co-occurring mental health and substance abuse, suicide prevention, and intimate partner violence training. Her social work calling has led her to work in many unique settings with clients and their families from diverse backgrounds. Her professional journey has led to her primarily working with those that have been affected by family/domestic violence, substance abuse with co-occurring disorders, families of people with substance use disorders, and the homeless; helping people find their way in the process of grief, loss, addiction, depression, and anxiety. Helping guide people through life's obstacles has been the most rewarding endeavors of her life.

# **Geoff Rogers**

Geoff Rogers is the Director of the Learning and Development Projects, Silberman School for Social Work, Hunter College. He has more than three decades of professional experience helping individuals and organizations learn, manage, change, and seize new opportunities. Prior to coming to Hunter in 2007, Geoff was Director of Operations for the New York City Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP). He has also worked in advertising, publishing, and marketing, and served as a director of special projects, director of training, and director of operations for New York City Adult Protective Services. Geoff's unusual background spanning creative industries, public administration, and management consulting informs his work at Silberman to develop learning opportunities that engage a diverse array of human services professionals. Geoff has a BA in European History and English from Colby College.

#### **Kim Turner**

Kim Turner started her career in the world of credit unions at the age of fifteen. Even at that young age, it was like "love at first sight," where she knew her career belonged in the credit union movement of "People Helping People." She has navigated through her career in many different roles, starting from a part-time teller, to working at a company that supported credit unions through technology, to being the President

and CEO of a community charted credit union in Jay, Maine, to her current role of Chief Operations Officer at Maine Savings FCU. Her passion for financial well-being has always been apparent through her many interactions with members, credit union leaders, and taking advantage of every educational opportunity that was presented to her.

Kim graduated from the University of Southern Maine with a Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration with a Concentration in Finance. In 2016, she received her Certified Credit Union Executive Designation from the Credit Union National Association. She has volunteered her time sitting on various non-profit and municipal Boards throughout her professional career. She is currently enrolled in the Bangor Region Leadership Institute and is excited to graduate this year with the "Best Class Ever."

Kim has spent much of her life in the Lewiston area, just moving to the Bangor region in late 2021. She is married to her wonderful husband, Randy, and together they have three dogs. She loves the outdoors, spending time at camp on the Sebec River, riding her Harley, and is most fond of snowmobiling during the snowy months.

#### **Debbie Whalen**

Debbie Whalen started her career when Maine Savings was Barco Federal Credit Union in 1998, as the Head Teller. Her dedication to the credit union and the employees over the years has provided her the opportunity to oversee various departments in the capacity of Assistant Vice President and Vice President. She currently holds the role of VP of Fraud Mitigation where she dedicates her time researching, analyzing, and identifying fraud trends at the national, state, and local levels; leveraging this information to proactively protect the members of Maine Savings. She works closely with members that have been victims of fraud. She provides a deep level of compassion and awareness to each member and respective situation, often gaining a new friend in the process; helping them navigate through the next steps to protect themselves against the person defrauding them and any future attempts.

Debbie was the inaugural recipient of the Cecil C. Porter Award in 2005. This esteemed recognition is provided to employees to recognize their superior service, passion, and performance excellence, while providing the highest quality of service to both the internal and external members of Maine Savings FCU.

Debbie has over forty years of banking experience, starting her career at Depositors Trust Belfast. She resides in Searsport with her husband and mother. Together, her and her husband have three children and six grandchildren, who they adore and spend their spare time with. In addition to spending time with her grandchildren, she loves spending time with close family and friends, traveling throughout the State of Maine.