



# SC LONG-TERM CARE OMBUDSMAN PROGRAM AGING EMPOWERMENT CONFERENCE 2025

Education & Empowerment  
Empowering Knowledge in  
Understanding Residential Care

Tuesday, September 30, 2025  
Hilton Garden Inn  
2671 Hospitality Blvd Florence, SC 29501

The Aging Empowerment Conference is a collaboration of healthcare professionals who engage in building a better future for the aging community. Rather, it's nursing homes, assisted living facilities, residential care facilities, and disability and special needs; they have all come together to educate, receive education, that would empower, and build better ways of understanding how to take better care of our residential population. Through the guidance of educational sessions, the attendees will leave with greater knowledge and understanding of how important the role of the Long Term Care Ombudsman is, how residents' rights are more than just words, and what to do and how to report abuse, neglect that consistently affects the livelihood of our residents.

Also, during the conference, the attendees will be empowered with knowledge of more resources concerning Family Caregiving, what to do when a break is needed, understanding the best ways to provide elder care, why family council is so important, and what to do and how to understand the stages of Dementia. Additionally, the participants would have the opportunity to engage in an in-depth discussion on Medicaid -Medicare, gaining knowledge and understanding of the benefits of having these services and how they work, and what impact the policies will have when making care decisions.

This event will also highlight the importance of early detection of dementia for caregivers and the professional team, as well as the need for them to build on educational resources to understand each stage and provide the best care. The presenters for this conference serve a vital role and will provide valuable resources for those who have committed themselves to ensuring that each resident receives the best possible care and that improved care, advocacy, and protection are provided for all vulnerable individuals throughout the healthcare system.

## SPEAKERS

Tangela Washington, ABA-HCA, BBA-HCM  
Solomon Sheriod, BSW, M.Ed.  
Dale Watson, MA, BA (IS)  
Sarah Dunning, MHA  
Sherry Johnson, Insurance Counselor

Anna Maria Conner, Senior Attorney  
Danielle Mason, BS, MS  
Amy Rushing, Dementia Care Specialist  
Shonda Young, LNHA

### Continuing Professional Development Credit (5.0 Contact Hours)

- Longterm Care Administrators (pending approval)
- Social Workers

**[REGISTER HERE](#)** or scan the QR Code.  
Registration deadline is September 24, 2025.  
For questions, contact Beejay Parnell  
at 843-777-5347.



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## AGING EMPOWERMENT CONFERENCE 2025

Tuesday, September 30, 2025

Hilton Garden Inn - 2671 Hospitality Blvd. Florence, SC 29501

### AGENDA

8:30am - 9:00am	Sign in Continental Breakfast
9:00am - 9:10am	<b>Welcome</b> Shelia Welch, AAA Director Vantage Point AAA, a Division of Caresouth Carolina
9:10am - 9:15am	<b>Opening Remarks</b> Tangela Washington, AHA, BHA, Pee Dee Regional Ombudsman Solomon Sheriod, BSW, M.Ed., Ombudsman Team
9:15am - 9:40am	<b>Role of the Long-Term Care Ombudsman: "How We Work for Residents"</b> Dale Watson, MA, BA (IS) State Long-Term Care Ombudsman –SCDOA
9:40am - 10:00am	<b>Resident Rights/Abuse Neglect: "We Hear Your Voice"</b> Sarah Dunning, MHA Program Analyst, Long-Term Care Ombudsman, SCDOA
10:00am - 10:15am	<b>BREAK</b>
10:15am - 10:40am	<b>Family Council: "Family Response is Important"</b> Shonda Young, LNHA, Administrator- Veteran Village
10:40am - 11:00am	<b>Family CareGiver Support: "A Break is what's Needed!"</b> Danielle Mason, BS, MS -Family Caregiver Advocate- AAA Vantage Point – DOCSC
11:00am - 12:00pm	<b>LUNCH (provided)</b>
12:00pm - 1:15pm	<b>Medicaid/Medicare Insurance- Now You Know!</b> Sherry Johnson, Insurance Counselor / SHIP -AAA Vantage Point-DOCSC
1:15pm - 1:30pm	<b>BREAK</b>
1:30pm - 2:45pm	<b>Dementia: "The Importance of Understanding the Language"</b> Amy Rushing, Dementia Care Specialist
2:45pm - 3:00pm	<b>BREAK</b>
3:00pm - 3:30pm	<b>Resident Care – "Legal Rights of a Vulnerable Adult"</b> Anna Maria Conner, Senior Attorney, Disability Rights South Carolina
3:30pm - 4:00pm	Questions Evaluation Closing Remarks

### EVALUATION INSTRUCTIONS

Login at [www.scahec.net/learn/login](http://www.scahec.net/learn/login) or  
scan the QR Code.

Deadline: Tuesday, October 14, 2025



For questions,  
contact Beejay Parnell  
at 843-777-5347 or  
[Beejay.Parnell@mcleodhealth.org](mailto:Beejay.Parnell@mcleodhealth.org).