

Donna Schmidt, LCSW

Called-upon Expert and Speaker – Long Term Care Advocate for the Elderly and Disabled



I know we are making a difference in the lives of those we touch – from clients, to families, to caregivers who open their homes and care for the elderly and disabled. It is vital for us to inform the public and educate professionals, and to protect the rights of our elders.

–Donna Schmidt, LCSW

Donna Schmidt has been dedicated to helping people all her life. Since 1991 she has been providing medical social services to people in need, most recently providing medical case management services to frail elders and disabled individuals through Case Management, Inc., an Oahu-based company that provides comprehensive case management services and foster home care to those in need of long term care. Through the years, Donna has been a voice for the elderly and disabled, many of whom have no one to speak for them or to advise them of their rights and choices.

Donna is an expert on Hawaii's Continuum of Long Term Care and she presents educational seminars and training programs to professionals. Her consumer seminars guide the elderly and their family members through the process of seeking long term care – from understanding the payment system and Medicaid rules, to learning how to interview agencies, institutions and homes – people are informed so they fully understand their rights and choices when seeking long term care.

Donna gives presentations to both professional organizations and consumers. She is a called-upon expert on long term care to the media and the Hawaii State Legislature.

Public/Professional Speaking

- Central Oahu Caregivers Group
- PABEA – Policy Advisory Board on Elder Affairs
- Long Term Care Social Workers of Hawaii
- Aiea UMC Caregiver Support Group
- Testified before Hawaii State Legislature relative to long term care issues

Consumer Seminars

- Protecting Your Rights in Long Term Care
- Navigating the Residential Long Term Care Continuum
- Funding the Cost of Your Long Term Care

Contact for speaking, media interviews and articles: Donna Schmidt: 808-676-1192

Donna Schmidt, LCSW

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Qualifications

A rich history of community based medical case management and proven ability to consistently achieve significant goals in business growth and development. Accomplished in training, motivating and developing community based providers of long term care. Leadership in staff development across multiple disciplines and practices. Comprehensive and strategic understanding of community based long term care in the State of Hawaii. Ability to implement strong quality improvement strategies while improving internal processes and procedures within a very competitive and demanding environment.

Work History

1998 to Present, President, CEO, Case Management, Inc., Waipahu, HI
Participated in the original expansion of the Residential Alternative Community Care Program (RACCP) as one of the first private, for profit corporations to contract with the State of Hawaii for RACCP case management services. Developed policies, procedures and processes for recruiting, training and preparing for certification community care foster family homes. Developed and executed various orientation and ongoing training modules for foster family homes. Developed and implemented annual corporate wide quality assurance programs. Provides ongoing program and staff development for residential community based long term care. Provides medical case management to frail elders and disabled individuals in need of long term care, in the residential setting. Provides all services and meets all requirements of a Licensed Case Management Agency.

1997 to 1998, Director of Social Services, Kahuku Hospital, Kahuku, HI
Provided all aspects of medical social services for a full service hospital including: long term care, acute hospital social services, discharge planning, emergency room triage, home health services and community health education.

1996 to 1997, Medical Case Management, Columbia Home Health Services, Atlanta, GA
Provided medical social work services to metro Atlanta and 10 metro counties covering a territory of 225 mile radius. Provided staff development, orientation and training to community care providers of long term care in the home health setting. Provided assessment and evaluation of homebound patients' psychosocial needs, identifying barriers to home based long term care and developed strategies to ensure ongoing care in the home setting. Provided short term counseling services

1984 to 1994 Executive Assistant, MD Systems, Inc., Atlanta, GA
Provided all aspects of administrative support to full service medical management software provider.

Donna Schmidt, LCSW

Education

1993 to 1995, Smith College School for Social Work, Northampton, MA Masters in Social Work
1989 to 1993, Georgia State University, Atlanta, GA Bachelors in Social Work

Internships

1994 to 1995 Clinical Social Work Intern, Jewish Family Services, Atlanta, GA
1993 to 1994 Clinical Social Work Intern, Buckhead Community Mental Health, Atlanta, GA

Smith College School for Social Work offers a block model for experiential learning. These nine month 30 hour per week internships provided opportunities to work with clients in both long term and short term treatment regimens. Weekly supervision with LCSW provided reflective learning experience. Individual and group psychotherapy with adults, clinical assessments, diagnostic interviews, crisis intervention, case management and community service projects provided a very rich graduate work experience

1992 to 1993 Social Work Intern, Brawner's Psychiatric Institute, Smyrna, GA

This BSW internship took place in an inpatient Psychiatric Hospital working within the acute setting. Provided short term psycho educational groups, assessments and discharge planning for individuals experiencing severe mental illness.

Licenses and Certificates

State of Hawaii License in Clinical Social Work # 3063

Community Service Positions Held

Institute of Soul Mind Body Medicine, San Francisco, CA
Chair, Events and Retreats 2006-2007

Case Management Council, Waipahu, HI
President 1999-2001; 2006-2008

Smith College School for Social Work, Northampton, MA
Council for Students of Color
President 1994-1995

Trinity Community Ministries, Atlanta, GA
Secretary to the Board 1993-1995
Chair Trinity Table 1990-1993

Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council, Atlanta, GA
Secretary to the Board 1986-1990

Professional Memberships

National Association of Social Workers
National Association of Geriatric Care Managers
Hawaii Association of Case Managers
Project OASIS Advisory Board (Older Adult Mental Health Training and Development)
Adult Foster Home Association, Advisor