

Saved by the Conference

90's Throwback Conference for Medical Staff Professionals

May 6-8, 2026 | Bay Valley Resort & Conference Center

Booya! This speaker line-up is Kickin'!

MAMSS WELCOMES . . .



Tammy Terrell, MSN, RN “KEYNOTE SPEAKER!”

Tammy recently retired from MyMichigan Health after serving in the healthcare field for over 43 years. She began her career as a staff nurse in the Emergency Department and over the years held several leadership positions such as shift supervisor, nurse manager, compliance/privacy/risk officer, director of nursing, system director of emergency services, and ended her career as the system vice-president and chief nursing officer for the organization.

Tammy received her Bachelor of Science in Nursing from the University of Phoenix and her Master of Science in Nursing from Walden University with her program of study in leadership/management. She has delivered many public speaking engagements on Trauma Nurses Talk Tough program, youth safety, leadership and management best practices, and other healthcare related topics.

A lifetime resident of a small rural community in Michigan, she is married and resides with her husband of 43 years on their family centennial farm in Gratiot County. She is the mother of four children and 7 grandchildren: with her favorite pastime of spending time with family and friends.

Karen Vargas, MSA, OTR/L, CPHQ



Karen A. Vargas, MSA, OTR/L, CPHQ, currently serves as an Associate Director, Standards Interpretation Group, in the Division of Accreditation and Certification Operations at Joint Commission. In this role, Ms. Vargas is responsible for providing guidance on and expert interpretation of Joint Commission standards and Medicare requirements, leading and coordinating the intracycle monitoring process to include high-level analysis of organizational data to

identify risk points that could impact the provision of quality care in a safe environment, and for supporting the accreditation/ certification process for internal and accredited customers.

Prior to joining Joint Commission, Ms. Vargas worked in health care organizations for greater than 35 years and held leadership positions with oversight responsibilities for quality and performance improvement, accreditation readiness, patient safety, risk management, infection control and medical staff services.

Ms. Vargas is a member of the National Association for Health Care Quality (NAHQ) and is a Certified Professional in Healthcare Quality (CPHQ) since 2007.

Ms. Vargas obtained her Master of Science in Health Administration from Central Michigan University and her Bachelor of Science in Occupational Therapy from Eastern Michigan University. She is Board certified in Occupational Therapy and is a licensed therapist in the state of Michigan.



Jess M. McKnight, MSL, BSN, BA, RN

Jess McKnight, President of Tashidy Corporation, is an experienced healthcare professional serving in direct patient care, care management, compliance, and quality management roles since 1997. Jess brings the ability to grasp complex health policy issues and a solid understanding of the many practical impacts on the healthcare industry as she collaborates with stakeholders to help balance interests and develop implementation plans. Passionate, tenacious, and genuine, Jess is a registered nurse advocate who values partnering with various organizations to improve access to care, health equity, clinical care services' safety, care experience, and appropriate utilization. Since 2013, Jess has helped stakeholders embed a quality framework in all four corners of an organization to achieve accreditation, a true symbol of quality. Jess's experience includes the following types of activities:

- Consulting services to over thirty managed care or managed behavioral health organizations, to achieve successful NCQA accreditation.
- Guidance on ways to document and showcase standards compliance and improvement activities.
- Oversight of enterprise-wide complex quality program activities requiring adherence to National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA) accreditation standards and guidelines, state and federal laws and regulations, contractual terms, and Qualified Health Plan (QHP) requirements.
- Identification of non-compliance risks, progress towards quality program goals, and compliance issues for direct internal managed care activities and those carried out through service agreements.

- Collaboration with and coached organizational staff on accreditation requirements, acceptable methods to meet those requirements, and compilation of evidence needed to demonstrate compliance.
- Led managed care organization through successful end-to-end National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA) Health Plan (HP) accreditation survey, with over 2.5 million members enrolled in multiple product lines brought forth for accreditation.
- Conducting quantitative and qualitative analytical evaluations for a variety of clinical care and service quality measurement activities.
- Creation of quality monitoring and oversight work tools designed to facilitate staff documentation of compliance with accreditation requirements.
- Resolution of complex issues by utilizing sources of truth that are evidence-based, factual, objective, tangible, and retrievable (i.e., codes, regulations, statutes, standards, guidelines, criteria from an authoritative source such as a federal or state branches, departments, agencies, subagencies, or accrediting organization).
- Collaboration with organizational departments to support transformation and innovative value-based care model strategies while addressing the impact to quality programming and accreditation compliance.

Jess holds a Diploma in Nursing from Presbyterian Hospital School of Nursing, now located at Queens University in Charlotte, North Carolina. Jess also holds a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology and a Bachelor of Science in Nursing from East Carolina University in Greenville, North Carolina. Additionally, Jess obtained a Master of Studies in Law, specializing in Health Law and Policy, from Wake Forest University School of Law in Winston Salem, North Carolina.



Karen Vineyard, CPMSM, CPCS

Karen Vineyard is one of two national leaders directly overseeing credentialing, licensing and privileging at Rad Partners (RD). Since joining RP in 2023, she and her team have streamlined RP's these processes and implemented new systems to improve efficiency in ensuring clinicians are appropriately trained and qualified to provide safe and effective care – allowing RP physicians to begin providing

radiology care sooner. Outside of work, she enjoys cooking, baking and spending time with her two granddaughters. She and her husband also enjoy traveling and camping throughout the state of Michigan, where they are based.



Maggie Palmer, MSA, CPCS, CPMSM

Maggie Palmer is a healthcare administration professional with over 29 years of experience in medical staff professional services, and numerous other administrative areas of healthcare. Maggie holds a Master's Degree in Healthcare Administration from Central Michigan University. She is dual certified in her field through the National Association Medical Staff Services (NAMSS) since 2000.

Maggie is currently the Vice President, Medical Staff Professional Services & Regulatory Affairs at Parkland Health in Dallas, Texas.

She is the Immediate Past President for Texas Society of Medical Service Specialists (TSMSS). She also served as the President of the California Association Medical Staff Services (CAMSS) and Board member of the Hawaii Association of Medical Service Professionals. Maggie is also a contributor on the *HcPro* Advisory Panel for Credentialing Resource Center and Medical Staff Briefings and author of numerous publications, including *HcPro* Core Privileges for Physicians (Nov. 2019) with Core Privileges for AHP (July 2020).



Diana K. "Di" Hall CPCS, CPMSM, FMSP

Di Hall has over 29 years' experience in managed care credentialing and quality improvement. She has successfully assisted her organizations through NCQA, URAC, and Joint Commission accreditation reviews.

Di is dually certified via the National Association of Medical Staff Services (NAMSS) and has served NAMSS as past Chair of the Education and Marketing/Membership Committees; she recently completed a three-year term as a NAMSS Board Director-At-Large. Di was granted the NAMSS Fellow designation in 2017, making her one of approximately 50 professionals with this honor. Di is a Past-President of the Georgia Association of Medical Staff Services (GAMSS), after being a volunteer leader since 1998. She is a national speaker and subject matter expert in managed care, risk management and delegated credentialing topics.



Alexis Angell, JD

Alexis L. Angell is a dedicated legal professional with a deep understanding of the challenges faced by hospitals. She focuses on working with Medical Staff leaders, Chief Medical Officers, Chief Executive Officers and Medical Staff Directors to proactively manage issues and prevent unnecessary litigation. Alexis is committed to providing effective, efficient and innovative legal solutions.

As the former Chair of the American Health Law Association's Medical Staff, Credentialing, & Peer Review Practice Group and Editor of Polsinelli's Med Staff Newsletter, Alexis has developed a strong proficiency in her field. Her areas of focus include:

- Advising peer review committees on quality of care, competence, conduct, behavior and wellness issues concerning physicians, nurses and advance practice professionals.
- Guiding medical staff committees through the investigation and hearing process.
- Counseling health care entities regarding reports to the National Practitioner Data Bank and state licensing boards.
- Advising health care entities about their bylaws, policies and procedures.
- Representing Medical Executive Committees at mediation and peer review hearings.
- Representing health care clients in complex commercial litigation cases and at arbitration.

Alexis is a sought-after presenter, offering insights on topics such as National Practitioner Data Bank (NPDB) reporting obligations, physician and nurse peer review, and Board member duties and responsibilities at client locations nationwide. Her presentations are a valuable client benefit, providing in-house teams with information relevant to their businesses and industries.

She also shares her knowledge among her peers, delivering presentations on a variety of topics including mediation in peer review, peer review investigations, health and wellness policies and fair hearings for the American Health Law Association (AHLA). Alexis has presented at multiple AHLA Annual Conferences, the AHLA Fundamentals Conference, the AHLA Advising Providers: Legal Strategies for AMCs, Physicians and Hospitals, as well as the National Association of Medical Staff Services Annual Conference and various state and local chapter conferences.

Alexis's experience is recognized by the AHLA, which has published her articles addressing the NPDB Guidebook, mediation in peer review, and addressing complaints of sexual harassment through medical staff peer review. Alexis has also co-authored chapters for publications including the *Health Law Handbook*, 2022-2023 Edition and AHLA's *Representing Hospitals*.

Alexis proudly serves as Polsinelli's Women's Empowerment Committee Chair and is dedicated to advancing gender equity and fostering a supportive environment for women within the firm and the broader legal community.



Danielle Lohmann, Director Product Management & Strategy

Danielle Lohmann is the Director of Product Management and Strategy at CAQH, where she leads product development for provider directory and credentialing solutions. CAQH connects more than 1,000 health plans to over 4 million provider records, working to simplify the business side of healthcare so providers and patients can spend more time focused on health outcomes.

With over fifteen years of healthcare product management experience, Danielle has built high-performing product teams, launched AI-enabled clinical solutions, and delivered analytics products spanning payment accuracy, provider data, and client-facing health intelligence. She holds a Master of Science in Management Information Systems from the University of Maryland.



Keith Wright, JD

Keith Wright is a Principal in the Detroit office. He focuses his practice on legal issues involving healthcare business/regulatory matters, commercial, and construction matters. His client experience includes an array of complex regulatory matters such as HIPAA privacy issues, medical staff, peer review, health professional licensing, business and real estate transactions, and litigation. He left the firm for several years to become General Counsel for one of the largest electrical contractors in the nation.

His experience there included drafting and negotiating contracts for electrical construction projects, such as Little Caesars Arena and wind and solar farms, real estate acquisition and leasing issues, managing the contractor's employment legal work involving its office and unionized field staff, including NLRB unfair labor practice investigations, FMLA compliance, and maintaining the company's handbook and other employment policies. He continues working in each of these areas since returning to the firm in 2023.



Sally Pelletier, CPMSM, CPCS

Sally Pelletier is the Chief Credentialing Officer with Greeley. She brings over 30 years of credentialing and privileging experience to her work with medical staff leaders and medical services professionals across the nation. She advises clients in the areas of medical staff accreditation and regulatory compliance, medical staff services department and centralized credentialing operations,

and privileging redesign. She is also a frequent presenter, providing leadership development training for medical staff leaders and medical services professionals.

Sally serves on the faculty for The Credentialing Solution, a 3-day educational program for medical leaders and professionals. Her client engagements have included leading three system-wide initiatives to integrate and centralize credentialing across their respective enterprises and leading system-wide privileging redesign for several clients including a prominent NYC integrated health system.

Sally is a member of the National Association Medical Staff Services (NAMSS), New Hampshire Association Medical Staff (NHAMSS), and National Credentialing Forum, and she serves on the Editorial Advisory Board of the Credentialing Resource Center. With NAMSS, Sally has been an instructor and served on the Board of Directors, chairing the Bylaws Committee; the Credentialing Elements Task Force; and the Governance, Management, and Manpower Committee. In addition, her service as President of NHAMSS earned her the 2008 Excellence in Medical Staff Services Award.

She has authored and co-authored several industry publications including: “Core Privileges for Physicians: A Practical Approach to Developing and Implementing Criteria-based Privileges,” “The Medical Staff’s Guide to Overcoming Competence Assessment Challenges,” “Core Privileges for APPs: Develop and Implement Criteria-Based Privileging for Non-physician Practitioners,” and “Assessing the Competency of Low-Volume Practitioners: Tools and Strategies for OPPE & FPPE Compliance.”

Prior to joining Greeley, Sally was the Medical Staff Coordinator at The Memorial Hospital in North Conway, NH.

Sally is a dual-certified medical services professional: Certified Professional Medical Services Management and Certified Provider Credentialing Specialist.



Josephine Holmes

Josephine Holmes has been with Ulliance since 2015, serving in various roles including Case Manager and, currently, Operations Supervisor administering Michigan’s Health Professional Recovery Program (HPRP). Throughout her tenure with the HPRP, Josephine has developed extensive expertise in the program’s clinical and administrative requirements, provided formal witness testimony on behalf of the program, and ensured fulfillment of State of Michigan contractual obligations. Originally from Florida, Josephine earned her Master’s Degree in Mental Health Counseling from the University of Miami before relocating to Michigan in 2012. Outside of her professional responsibilities, she enjoys family adventures with her husband and their son—whose love of trains has led her to acquire an unexpected but growing knowledge of locomotives.



Carolyn Batchelor, LMSW

Carolyn Batchelor, is with Ulliance, Inc. in Troy the contractor for the State of Michigan and is the Health Professional Recovery Program Director, serving in this role since 2012. Carolyn is a 1990 graduate of Wayne State University's School of Social Work. Carolyn was in private practice as a therapist for 20 years prior to accepting this position as Program Director.

Her responsibilities include all day-to-day operations of the Michigan HPRP. She ensures the program is in full compliance with all policies and procedures as set forth by the State of Michigan. She has direct supervision of the 21 staff of the Professional Monitoring Department. She directs the Clinical Team Review of all cases, compiles and presents statistical reports to the State of Michigan's Bureau of Professional Licensing and oversees witness testimony in court hearings involving the Attorney General's office.

Carolyn has 2 adult daughters; one living in Dublin, Ireland teaching Spanish and another attending Yale University in New Haven, CT as a MD/PhD in her 7th year of 9 who just had her first child in September and Carolyn's 1st grandchild.