

Announcing another Zoom Expert Panel Workshop Series on Intellectual Disabilities, Aging and Dementia

*for Families, Friends, Caregivers, Providers and Advocates
of Persons Aging with Intellectual Disabilities*

Aging with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (IDD): How to Tell the Difference between Depression, Delirium, or Dementia: Recommended Assessment and Treatment

Thursday, April 17, 2025, 10-11:30am via Zoom

Expert Panel (see p. 2 for detailed bios)

Kathleen M. Bishop, PhD, member of the National Task Group on ID and Dementia Practices (NTG) serving as chair of the Education and Training Committee

Kathryn Pears MMPM, Chief Operating Officer of the NTG

Ritabelle Fernandes, MD, MPH, Associate Professor at the Geriatric Medicine Department of the John A Burns School of Medicine, University of Hawai'i

The presenters will cover:

- **The differences, warning signs and behavioral changes of depression, delirium and dementia in persons aging with IDD. Why it's important to identify behavioral or memory changes to share with the physician. Treatment will depend on an accurate diagnosis.**
- **What are some challenges in seeking help when warning signs & symptoms are present?**
- **Stories from the field on the impacts of misdiagnoses. How can caregivers as advocates find the right help?**
- **Why the NTG-EDSD screening tool and life history is so important to track subtle or obvious changes as a loved one with IDD ages uniquely.**
- **From a physician's perspective: why is a differential diagnosis important? What are the tests that should be done? Medications must be assessed, including over-the-counter and supplements.**
- **Treatments can include pharmacological but also nonpharmacological approaches for these conditions. What if it is Alzheimer's disease or another dementia?**

Advance Registration is required at this link:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/aging-with-idd-the-differences-between-depression-delirium-or-dementia-tickets-1317072843329?aff=oddtcreator>

The Zoom link is available upon registration. Handouts will be sent to registrants before the session.
Sorry, no CEs or certificates are available for this presentation.

For questions about the workshops or help registering, contact: Jody Mishan (808) 295-2624 or jmishan@hawaii.rr.com

Our sponsors:



This workshop is funded by the Thomas & Sumie McCabe Foundation as part of the *Growing Hawaii Circle of Care for Dementia*, a project supported by the Administration for Community Living/Administration on Aging's Alzheimer's Disease Programs Initiative.

**Aging with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities:
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*Expert National and Hawai'i Presenters***



Kathleen M. Bishop, PhD has over 40 years of experience in the developmental disabilities field and over 20 years as a Gerontologist with a specialty in aging with developmental disabilities. She has a Bachelors and Master's Degree in Special Education and a PhD from Syracuse University in Aging with Disabilities. Dr. Bishop is retired from the CNY DSO as Assistant Director of Staff Development and Training and from the University of Rochester School of Medicine and Dentistry. She continues to consultant nationally and internationally and is an adjunct faculty member of the Utica College Institute of Gerontology. Dr. Bishop is a member of the National Task Group on ID and Dementia Practices (NTG) serving as chair of the Education and Training Committee to lead the NTG in the development of a national curriculum on dementia care for caregivers and those who provide supports for adults with ID diagnosed with dementia.



Kathryn Pears MMPM is a dementia expert with over 30 years personal and professional experience. Following a 15-year career with the Alzheimer's Association, Maine Chapter she started her own company, Dementia Care Strategies where she trains and consults with families, health and long-term care professionals and facilities, state and national organizations, and aging and disability community agencies on non-pharmacologic management of the challenging behaviors that occur with dementia. She is Chief Operating Officer of the National Task Group on ID and Dementia Practices and co-chairs their working group that has developed a national model curriculum on dementia-capable care for adults with IDD who are at risk for or have been diagnosed with dementia. A Lead Trainer for the model curriculum, she travels the country conducting NTG workshops.



Ritabelle Fernandes, MD, MPH is an Associate Professor at the Geriatric Medicine Department of the John A. Burns School of Medicine, University of Hawaii. She is Medical Director of Population Health at AlohaCare. She is also a certified Regional Trainer for the National Task Group on Intellectual Disabilities and Dementia Practices. Dr. Fernandes championed memory clinics across the state to provide comprehensive, person-centered dementia care. She has served on the Doctors workgroup for the State Task Force on Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementia. Dr Fernandes is Co-Principal Investigator of the Hawaii Alzheimer's Dementia Initiative, a grant from the Administration for Community Living, awarded to Catholic Charities Hawai'i.