



HPCANYS' 44TH

ANNUAL CONFERENCE 1980 - 2024

Preliminary Agenda

November 19 Executive Leadership

- 7:30a Breakfast/Check In
- 8:00a - Welcome/ Intro / Session
- 9:00a - 11:15- Sessions
- 12:30 - Lunch
- 1:00p -4:00p - Sessions
- 4:30p - Cocktail Hour
- 5:30p - Board Dinner/Meeting

November 20- Administrative Focus

- 7:30a - 8:15a - Breakfast w. Vendors / Check In
- 8:15 - Welcome
- 8:30 - Legislative
- 8:45 - DOH Message
- 9:15 - Morning KeyNote
- 10:45 - Session
- 11:45 - Session
- 12:45 - Lunch/ Annual Meeting
- 1:45 - Session
- 3:00 - Afternoon Keynote
- 4:15 - Sponsored Cocktail Hour

November 21 - Clinical Focus

- 7:30a - 8:15a - Breakfast w. Vendors / Check In
- 8:15 - Welcome
- 8:30 - Legislative
- 8:45 - Morning KeyNote
- 10:15 - Session
- 11:15 - Session
- 12:15 - Lunch
- 1:15 - Afternoon Keynote
- 4:00 - Wrap Up / Raffle

SPEAKER LINEUP



Chris Comeaux
President /CEO
Teleios Collaborative
Network



Torrie Fields, MPH
CEO/Founder
TFA Analytics



Steven Garner
Hospice, Prison
Reform &
Transformational
Consultant



**Aparna Gupta, DNP,
FACHE, CPHQ, CRNP**
VP of Quality
NHPCO



Cordt Kassner, PhD
CEO
Hospice Analytics

🕒 8:00AM - 4.00 PM

Albany Marriott | 189 Wolf Rd
Albany, NY.
518-458-8444

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION

HOTEL REGISTRATION

Rate is \$141 ++ per night/ per standard room

Who's Who



Chris Comeaux, CPA, MLAS
President/CEO of Teleios Collaborative Network

[Link to Full Bio](#)

Chris Comeaux is the current President/CEO of Teleios Collaborative Network. The goal of the collaboration is to harness the best of each hospice and enable the network to better care in each community for the patients and families being served as well as introduce innovations across the membership network and work with payers for new innovative solutions for those dealing with serious or advanced illness.

Chris has become nationally known as a leader in the United States' hospice and palliative care industry, where he has spent a large portion of his career as President/CEO of Four Seasons in western North Carolina,

In 2006, Chris left Four Seasons for two years to build an alliance between the national healthcare consulting firm, the Studer Group, and Covenant Hospice in Pensacola. The vision was to transform, develop, and grow leaders throughout the hospice and palliative care world. Chris grew this venture from its infancy to an established coaching firm partnering with post-acute healthcare organizations from New York to California.

You can listen to Chris and his popular Podcast [HERE](#)



Torrie Fields, MPH
Founder and Managing Partner
TFA Analytics

[Link to Full Bio](#)

Torrie Fields is managing partner of TFA Analytics, a total cost of care and population health management company that enables health plans, purchasers, and delivery systems evaluate the impact of care models and clinical workflows on achieving the Institute for Healthcare Improvement's Triple Aim.

Torrie currently serves as strategic advisor to the Center to Advance Palliative Care (CAPC), the Coalition to Transform Advanced Care (C-TAC), Center for Healthcare Strategies Better Care Playbook, and National Academy for State Health Policy (NASHP). Her work includes analysis and development of state and federal policies that improve access to high quality care for people with serious illness and their caregivers. Torrie works with State Medicaid agencies across the country to develop and evaluate care models and benefits and with Federal agencies to incorporate best practices into care model design and implementation.

Her work includes the design and implementation of a community based palliative care benefit in California and Hawaii and workforce development projects to improve the lives of people with serious illness and their caregivers in Oregon, New Jersey, and New York.



Steven Garner
SNT 31 Consulting

[Link to Full Bio](#)

Steven is a Hospice, Prison Reform & Transformational Consultant, Principal Quilter, Story Teller and Keynote Speaker based in Colorado Springs, Colorado. Raised in New Orleans, Steven served 31 years in the Louisiana State Penitentiary in Angola. He became a Hospice Volunteer under Warden Burl Cain's Leadership from 1995-2016.

Steven learned to quilt to raise money for the Angola Hospice Program where he served as President over the Hospice Volunteers for 24+ years. Steven has made over 1,000 quilts to support the Angola End-of-Life Care Program, helping men to depart this earth with COMPASSION, DIGNITY, & RESPECT. Steven's quilts have traveled across the United States and hang in museums such as the Smithsonian Museum of African American History & Culture in Washington D.C. and the Historic New Orleans Collection Museum in New Orleans, La. His work in hospice in corrections and his quilts have been featured by Oprah in the Serving Life documentary on Netflix and several other nationally renowned documentaries, the book GRACE BEFORE DYING by Lori Waselchuk & Lawrence N.Powell as well as magazines.



Aparna Gupta, DNP, FACHE, CPHQ, CRNP
Vice President of Quality -
National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization
(NHPCO)

[Link to Full Bio](#)

Prior to joining NHPCO, Ms Gupta served as Vice President of Clinical Operations, Bundled Payment Solutions, Medicare, and Retirement for UnitedHealth Group (UHG). Prior to joining UHG, Gupta served as Director of Quality, Safety, and Value for the Allegheny Health Network (AHN). Gupta is a board-certified nurse practitioner with more than 20 years of health care leadership experience spanning quality improvement, health care operations, executive leadership, acute care, ageing, complex disease management, clinical services, and implementation of Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) programs.



Cordt Kassner, PhD

CEO

Hospice Analytics

[Full Bio Here](#)

Dr. Kassner is a hospice and end-of-life healthcare analyst. He incorporated Hospice Analytics in 2008 to work with Medicare and other national databases to increase access to and utilization of high-quality end-of-life care. In 2023, He incorporated Hospice & Palliative Care Today, a daily news aggregation service focused on understanding the current landscape of serious illness and end-of-life care.

Dr Kassner's work experience includes serving as CEO of the Colorado Center for Hospice & Palliative Care (now HHAC), and clinical and research responsibilities at the University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus.

Cordt serves on numerous local, state, and national boards and committees and has facilitated over 200 workshops and presentations. Cordt participates as a Scientist with the MJHS Institute in Palliative Care team. In conjunction with MJHS, Cordt is working with colleagues at Columbia University and Rand Corporation on a NIH grant focused on hospice use in nursing homes.

In 2022, Cordt founded the 501(c)3 nonprofit Center for Healthcare Analytics to support Colorado's response to COVID-19.

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