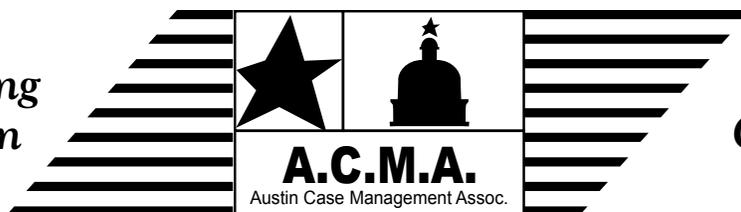


Continuing  
Education



Networking  
Opportunities

for Healthcare Professionals

September 2005

Enhancing professional skills and relationships for Austin-area  
Nursing Professionals, Social Workers, CCMs, CRCs, CDMs and Home Health Administrators

## Join us for our monthly meeting Tuesday Sept. 13 ★ 11:45 a.m.

This month's meeting will be held at North Austin Medical Center Auditorium on the 2nd floor, Tuesday, July 12. (Click here for [MapQuest Directions](#)) The meeting will begin at 11:45am preceded by lunch from approximately 11:15-11:45am.

You can RSVP on our web site, [www.austin-cma.org](http://www.austin-cma.org) Visitors are welcome for a \$5.00 charge which includes lunch and the CEU's.

This month's topic will be: "Therapeutic Use of New Psychoactive Medications"

Laura Eisenberg, RN, MSN, FNP-C is an expert in geriatric psychiatric care, working in Austin since 1981 in every level of mental health nursing available, and specifically with older adults since 2000 when she became a nurse practitioner through the UT nursing program.

Now practicing with Senior Adults Specialty Healthcare ([www.senioradults.net](http://www.senioradults.net)) with Dr. Jaron Winston, Laura is regularly seen visiting in the majority of the facilities from Georgetown to San Marcos, in assisted livings, personal care homes and nursing homes where they reside. Laura is well

known for her responsive, intelligent patient care, attention to detail and noted expertise in psychiatric medication management and counseling skills. She was named "Professional Caregiver of the year" in September 2004, from a group of senior advocacy agencies, recognition she deserves because of her good nature, hard work and dedication to seniors.

Her lecture will highlight the various new psychiatric medications used in geriatrics, and her philosophy of "less is more" in her "whole-person" approach to the overall needs of an older adult. She'll focus specifically on the most recent additions to psychiatric medicine to the market and their indications for target symptoms and precautions with older adults, which many case managers will appreciate learning. Laura will cover medicines used for depression, anxiety, sleep disorders, bipolar disorder, psychosis and the new "cognitive enhancers", shown to slow the progression of dementia. All of these safe and effective but powerful meds must be prescribed with care, adjusted and supervised painstakingly in older adults because of seniors' more fragile medical states and organ function.

### This month's sponsors: St. David's Pavilion and Starcare Home Health

Unique in their field, St. David's Pavilion Legends Programs for Older Adults at St. David's Medical Center [www.stdavidspavilion.com](http://www.stdavidspavilion.com) has been offering exceptional psychiatric hospital care specifically designed for the older population since 1989. Dr. Winston is the medical director of the Legends program for its sixteen years' duration.



The Legends programs include distinctive Inpatient care and an Intensive Outpatient Program [IOP]. In either service, patients attend daily group and activity therapies and psychiatric medical supervision by the experienced team, with family and individual therapy. Seniors may access the Pavilion's services for triage, assessment and ad-

mission by contacting the unit for a confidential screening by an LCSW or psychiatric RN, to determine if admission is recommended. If so, the psychiatrist who will attend the patient may also evaluate them prior to admission, or in some cases, other licensed physicians may evaluate them (in our Emergency Room, for instance) and consult their psychiatrist by phone.



StarCare, a leader in the home health industry, is located in Austin and serves the local area. They are one of the few exceptional agencies providing psychiatric nurses and social workers for home health services, as well as the usual medical/surgical home health care.

### ACMA donates to CASA

Karina Perez, a representative of CASA Travis County attended our August meeting as a part of our charity activities this quarter. Karinna explained that CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates) represents the more than 1200 children a month who are living in Foster Care due to abuse and neglect. These volunteers build a trust relationship with these children (as a one-on-one relationship) in order to speak up for their best interest in the courts. CASA volunteers have an opportunity to be a positive role model and to give children a voice they would not otherwise have. Ninety (90) cents of every dollar donated goes directly to children's services. For more information about CASA call 459-2272.



## CONFERENCE UPDATE:

### Exploring The World Of Health Care - Diversity Is The Spice Of Life

The annual ACMA conference is fast approaching.

We would like to thank this year's sponsors.

GOLD: Austin Home Health

SILVER: Corinthian Care Group

BRONZE: Girling, St. David's Medical Center, American Home Patient, Lifeway Home Health, Outreach Health Services, Visiting Physicians Association, The Medical Team, Hanger Prosthetics & Orthotics, OrthoPlus, and House Call Doctors.

The success of this conference would not be possible without these dedicated sponsors and the countless hours from the conference committee.

Thanks to all!

When: Thursday, October 6

Time: 7:45am-5pm

Where: Norris Conference Center

We have a great line up of topics, speakers, food, exhibitors and giveaways. The cost is \$65 per person, \$75 for non-members. If you wait until the day of the conference, the cost will be \$75. If you have not received your brochure, you can go to the website's conference section and download the registration form and view the topics. If you have any further questions, please contact one of the board members.

You won't want to miss this event!

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## Membership News

Don't forget to update the membership committee with any address or place of employment change. If you are not receiving your newsletter via your email address, please contact Cindy Lawless via e-mail at [newsletter@austin-cma.org](mailto:newsletter@austin-cma.org) or call her at (512) 633-9840. Also, please remember to send items for newsletter inclusion to Cindy by the 20th of the month.



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### Earn CEUs, enjoy lunch and a chair massage!

Join Buckner Villas for lunch, a presentation and yes, chair massages! David Jinright, LCSW will present Social Work Ethics in Practice at Buckner Villas on Friday, September 23. Lunch will be served at 11:30 a.m., the presentation will take place from noon to 1 and chair massages will be offered from 1 until 2 p.m. CEU provided by Girling Health Care. Please RSVP by Friday, September 16 at 512-491-5434.

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## 2005 ACMA Officers and Committee Chairs

### President

Lillian Phillips, LMSW, Gentiva Health Services  
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### Vice-President

Valerie Kruger, The Summit at Northwest Hills

### Secretary

Patsy Sconci, RN

### Treasurer

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