The Role of Palliative Care for Older Adults and their Caregivers

AN ONLINE WORKSHOP FOR HEALTHCARE & OTHER PROFESSIONALS

When: Monday, February 28th to Sunday, March 27th, 2022 (4 weeks) ONLINE
This workshop will be offered online and will only be offered if there is sufficient enrolment.
Deadline to register: Monday, Feb 21st, 2022. Registration and payment at www.aging.utoronto.ca

This workshop will introduce learners to key concepts in palliative care, and how these relate to the experiences and psychosocial needs of older adults living with serious and life-limiting illnesses and their caregivers.

Learning objectives - by the end of this workshop, participants will be able to:

✓ Define and describe palliative care as a philosophy of care and how this can apply across care settings for older adults
✓ Gain insight into special considerations related to psychosocial needs of older adults and their caregivers
✓ Further develop an understanding of addressing goals of care for older adults living with serious and life-limiting illnesses
✓ Gain understanding of the needs of caregivers of older adults experiencing grief and bereavement
✓ Identify resources that can be helpful to older adults and their caregivers

Format:  Learners will review weekly course materials (articles, videos, blog posts) and respond to weekly questions in an online discussion forum. The workshop facilitator will host a virtual session once a week to complement the materials with an opportunity for interactive discussion – Thursday evenings from 7-8pm ET. Writing a final reflection paper will assist learners in considering the implications of the course content and opportunities in their own work setting or practice to integrate the palliative care approach.

Week 1  i) Palliative Care – and how this approach can be incorporated in various care settings for older adults
         ii) Palliative care needs of the older adult

Week 2  i) Establishing Goals of Care: definition and approaches
         ii) Exploration of education tools that can be used

Week 3  i) Understanding the experiences of caregivers of older adults
         ii) Exploration of approaches and resources to address common caregiver needs

Week 4  i) Grief and Bereavement – key concepts
         ii) Exploration of resources to support bereaved persons

FACILITATOR: Susan Blacker, MSW, RSW
Susan Blacker, MSW, RSW is the Senior Director, Cancer and Palliative Program Planning and Performance at Sinai Health System. She brings to this workshop more than 25 years of experience as a clinical social worker, educator and program leader in the field of cancer and palliative care. Susan is an Adjunct Professor in the Factor-Inwentash Faculty of
Social Work and a Lecturer (status only) Division of Palliative Care, Department of Family and Community Medicine in the Faculty of Medicine at the University of Toronto.