

Elder Friendly Futures 2017

CONCURRENT SESSIONS III

Community, Creativity, and Caring: Lessons from 20 Years of a Spirit-Centered Model of Supported Community

Cara Lauer, Executive Director, Elderwise

CARA LAUER

Cara Lauer is the Executive Director of Elderwise, a community-supported leader in enrichment programming for people living with memory loss. The Elderwise approach of spirit-centered care creates warmly inclusive space for those living with memory loss, delves into the present moment in a group setting, and emphasizes the creativity within all people. Before joining Elderwise, Cara managed a variety of programs serving older adults and caregivers at Senior Services (now Sound Generations). She earned a BA and MA in Psychology from Stanford University, contributing to research on socioemotional selectivity theory and teaching courses in cultural and personality psychology as well as the psychology of time perspective.