

## Annette Lee, RN, MS, HCS-D, COC-C

Annette is a Registered Nurse with a Master of Health Care Administration and more than three decades of nursing experience, primarily in home health care. Since beginning her nursing career in 1990, she has developed extensive expertise in home health and hospice services, with a strong focus on regulatory compliance, documentation integrity, and operational excellence. For over ten years, Annette served with the CMS Medicare Administrative Contractor (MAC), where she specialized in medical review and provider education related to Home Health and Hospice claims documentation. Her unique combination of frontline clinical experience and in-depth knowledge of Medicare regulations enables her to effectively guide providers in meeting CMS requirements while supporting compliant, efficient, and high-quality operations.

### Hospice Fundamentals' 2026 Summer Conference

#### Intro to WHY "The Least You Need to Know"

*This session provides an overview of the growing scrutiny facing the hospice industry and why it matters to providers today. Participants will learn about key oversight entities and audit programs, including PPEO, OIG audits, TPE, SMRC, and UPICs, as well as recent hospice industry and CMS regulatory changes impacting compliance.*

**June 9, 2026**  
**10:30am - 11:15am EST**

#### Different Roles of Physicians in the Hospice Arena

*Medical Director, Hospice Staff Physician, Attending Physician and Consulting Physician; does your team understand the Physicians' responsibilities.*

**June 9, 2026**  
**1:15pm - 2:30pm EST**

---

#### How to Engage Your Team in QAPI

*Engaging a hospice team in QAPI (Quality Assessment and Performance Improvement) isn't just about compliance—it's about making quality feel meaningful, practical, and owned by everyone. The biggest mistake organizations make is treating QAPI like a leadership or paperwork exercise instead of a team-driven process.*

**June 9, 2026**  
**2:45pm - 4:00pm EST**

#### Gathering the Right Information for Your Physicians CTIs through LCDs and Standardized Assessments

*This session will cover the essential elements of Certifications of Terminal Illness (CTIs), with a focus on how to effectively gather the necessary clinical information and identify appropriate sources within the medical record.*

**June 10, 2026**  
**12:15pm - 1:00pm EST**

### Home Health Fundamentals' 2026 Summer Conference

#### Intake/F2F/Admission

*Beginning the journey to excellence and compliance. Putting regulatory requirements into action and establishing the foundation for eligibility.*

**June 11, 2026**  
**10:30am - 11:30am EST**

#### OASIS and the Impact on Your Agency

*Capturing the right assessment and translating it accurately into OASIS data is the first step to success in today's Five-Star and Value-Based Purchasing landscape. In this session, we will share practical, real-world tips for gathering the right information, along with guidance on some of the most challenging CMS OASIS items affecting agencies today.*

**June 11, 2026**  
**2:30pm - 4:00pm EST**

## Annette Lee, RN, MS, HCS-D, COC-C (continued)

### Home Health Fundamentals' 2026 Summer Conference

#### What will Medicare Pay For!

*Does everyone on the team understand Medicare's payment process and the guidelines required for reimbursement? Participants will gain a clearer understanding of what Medicare will and will not pay for, helping clinicians and agencies avoid common pitfalls while supporting accurate documentation, compliance, and appropriate reimbursement.*

**June 12, 2026**  
**10:30am - 11:30am EST**

#### How to Engage your Team in QAPI

*Quality Assessment and Performance Improvement (QAPI) is most effective when the entire team is actively involved. This session will explore practical strategies for engaging staff in QAPI initiatives, fostering a culture of quality, and turning data into meaningful action. Participants will learn how to motivate team members, encourage collaboration, and implement improvement projects that lead to better patient outcomes and stronger organizational performance.*

**June 12, 2026**  
**2:45pm - 4:00pm EST**

---

## Maribeth Freland, RN

Maribeth offers nearly 30 years of expertise in home health and hospice care, bringing a distinguished background in both clinical practice and regulatory oversight. She previously served as a Home Health and Hospice Surveyor with the Iowa Department of Inspections and Appeals, where she played a key role in evaluating agency compliance and quality of care. During the final five years of her tenure with the State of Iowa, she also served as the CMS State OASIS Education Coordinator, providing leadership and education related to OASIS accuracy, regulatory guidance, and data quality initiatives.

Following her retirement from state service in 2022, Maribeth transitioned into consulting, partnering with home health and hospice agencies nationwide to support regulatory compliance, operational improvement, and clinical excellence. Through her work with Provider Insights, she specializes in mock surveys, documentation audits, staff education, and regulatory readiness. Known for her ability to translate complex regulations into practical, real-world application, Maribeth is deeply committed to advancing compliance, documentation integrity, and quality outcomes across the continuum of care.

### Hospice Fundamentals' 2026 Summer Conference

The Hospice Survey Process:  
What to Expect and How to Prepare

*Join this insightful session led by an experienced State surveyor, offering a rare inside look at the hospice survey process. Participants will gain a clear understanding of how surveys are structured, what surveyors are really looking for, and where agencies most commonly fall short. Through real-life scenarios and practical examples, this session will highlight top denial risks and provide actionable strategies to help your team prepare with confidence.*

**June 10, 2026**  
**10:30am - 12:00pm EST**

### Home Health Fundamentals' 2026 Summer Conference

The Home Health Survey Process

*This session, presented by an experienced State surveyor, will explore the structure and process of a Home Health survey. Participants will learn about common deficiencies and top denial areas, along with practical preparation strategies drawn from real-life survey scenarios. This presentation will help agencies better understand survey expectations and how to successfully prepare for and navigate the survey process.*

**June 11, 2026**  
**11:30am - 12:30pm EST**

## Brande Kirby, LPN, HCS-D, HSC-O

Brande is a Licensed Practical Nurse with more than 20 years of healthcare experience, primarily in skilled nursing and home health care settings. Throughout her clinical career, she developed extensive expertise in patient care, clinical documentation, care coordination, and the operational challenges faced by frontline clinicians in post-acute care environments.

In 2017, Brande transitioned into OASIS and coding, where she expanded her knowledge of regulatory compliance, documentation accuracy, reimbursement processes, and workflow optimization across the post-acute continuum. Her combined clinical and operational background has provided her with a comprehensive understanding of the intersection between patient care, compliance, and healthcare technology.

In 2024, Brande advanced into the healthcare technology sector as a Technical Product Manager with Enzo Health. In this role, she collaborates closely with engineering and product development teams to design clinician-informed solutions that enhance workflow efficiency and support high-quality patient care. Drawing upon her firsthand clinical experience, Brande is dedicated to ensuring healthcare technology is developed with the realities of clinical practice in mind, with a focus on reducing administrative burden and improving the overall clinician experience.

### **Hospice Fundamentals' 2026 Summer Conference**

#### **Clinical Oversight of AI in Hospice: Keeping HOPE in Human Hands**

*In hospice care, the HOPE assessment captures what matters most — prognosis, symptoms, and the deeply personal goals that guide end-of-life care. AI has the power to strengthen documentation workflows, support clinicians in capturing comprehensive information, and ensure nothing is missed during critical moments of care. Clinical oversight is what makes that possible — it is the bridge between AI's capabilities and the clinical nuance, interdisciplinary input, and individualized decision making that hospice demands. Together, AI and skilled clinicians create a partnership that elevates the quality of documentation, protects compliance, and honors the dignity of every patient. By keeping HOPE in human hands, organizations can confidently embrace technology as a tool that enhances care at end of life.*

**June 9, 2026  
11:30am – 12:30pm EST**

### **Home Health Fundamentals' 2026 Summer Conference**

#### **Clinical Oversight of AI in Home Health: Ensuring Accuracy, Compliance, and Trust**

*AI is transforming home health by supporting clinicians in capturing thorough, accurate documentation that reflects the full picture of each patient's condition. From organizing clinical findings to strengthening OASIS accuracy, AI has the power to elevate documentation quality and reduce the burden on clinicians in the field. Clinical oversight is what unlocks that potential — ensuring that AI-generated content aligns with CMS guidelines, reflects real-time clinical decision making, and meets the standard that every assessment stands alone. Together, AI and skilled clinicians create a partnership that protects data integrity, supports compliance, and drives better patient outcomes. By embracing oversight as a strength rather than a barrier, organizations can confidently leverage AI as a tool that enhances care, not just efficiency.*

**June 12, 2026  
11:30am – 12:30pm EST**

## Tonya Miller, PT, DPT, PhD

Tonya Miller is an internationally and nationally recognized keynote speaker, author, executive coach, and founder of TYM Coaching. With more than 25 years of executive leadership experience and a Ph.D. in Leadership Studies, she brings a distinctive combination of practical leadership expertise and academic insight to her work with individuals and organizations.

Tonya is deeply committed to fostering personal growth, cultivating resilient leaders, and driving transformational change across diverse professional environments. Her coaching and leadership development programs are thoughtfully designed to address the unique needs of clients ranging from frontline healthcare professionals to executive leadership teams managing complex organizational and strategic challenges.

Through dynamic presentations, evidence-based leadership strategies, and individualized coaching, Tonya empowers leaders to strengthen communication, enhance team performance, and build cultures grounded in accountability, engagement, and professional excellence.

### Home Health Fundamentals' 2026 Summer Conference

#### Perspectives: As a Preceptor Guiding Learners

*We will discuss how clinical leadership will support learner development by using feedback as a tool and offering constructive insights to future leaders.*

June 12, 2026  
1:15pm - 2:30pm EST

---

## Tamara Ruggles, PharmD, BCGP, FASCP

Tamara Ruggles is a Board-Certified Geriatric Pharmacist and a proud Fellow of the American Society of Consultant Pharmacists. A 2010 graduate of the Creighton University School of Pharmacy, she began her career as a dispensing pharmacist in a long-term care pharmacy—where she quickly witnessed the real-world consequences of inappropriate medication use in older adults.

Driven to make a bigger impact, Tamara founded a pharmacy consulting company in 2016 that now serves long-term care facilities across North Dakota. Her passion for safer, smarter medication use led her to launch The Deprescribing Clinic—a community-based pharmacy consulting practice focused on optimizing medications through the lens of pharmacogenomics, reducing anticholinergic burden, and addressing drug-induced nutrient depletions. She holds certifications in pharmacogenomics and antimicrobial stewardship and continues to serve patients directly at a locally owned community pharmacy. Tamara also hosts the Geriatric Pharmacy Focus podcast on the Pharmacy Podcast Network, where she explores the latest in senior care pharmacy.

### Hospice Fundamentals' 2026 Summer Conference

#### Diabetes and Other Chronic Condition Management in Hospice

*Care is individualized, balancing symptom relief, medication burden, and the patient's goals. Treatment is adjusted to be less aggressive and more symptom focused.*

June 10, 2026  
2:45pm - 4:00pm EST

## Denise Shaffer, RN

Denise Shaffer, RN, serves as the Administrator for Ohio Living Home Health and Hospice and brings more than 30 years of experience in home care nursing and leadership. Throughout her career, she has developed extensive expertise in home care administration, clinical operations, and healthcare technology management, with a proven track record of leading large-scale initiatives and complex system conversions across clinical home care organizations.

Denise is passionate about leveraging technology to enhance care delivery, improve operational efficiency, and safeguard sensitive patient information. Her leadership experience provides her with a comprehensive understanding of the critical relationship between clinical practice, regulatory compliance, and secure technology infrastructure in today's healthcare environment.

At this conference, Denise will offer practical, real-world insights into healthcare data security, including how software vendors protect patient information and the key considerations agencies should evaluate when selecting and managing technology systems. Her presentation will focus on helping organizations ensure their systems support safe, reliable, efficient, and compliant patient care.

### Home Health Fundamentals' 2026 Summer Conference

#### **The AI Roadmap: Global Impact of AI and Its Projected Evolution Over Time**

*The "AI Roadmap" refers to the strategic progression of artificial intelligence technologies, outlining how AI is transforming health care industries, societies, and economies worldwide, and how it is expected to evolve in the coming decades. We will discuss both current capabilities and future trajectories, emphasizing opportunities, risks, and long-term implications in healthcare.*

**June 11, 2026  
1:15pm – 2:15pm EST**

## **Meghan Anderson, MSW, LCSW**

Meghan Anderson, MSW, LCSW is a seasoned healthcare executive with more than 30 years of experience in hospice and palliative care, bringing a strong foundation in clinical social work, business development, and organizational leadership. She currently serves as the Executive Director of Gallagher Hospice, where she leads initiatives focused on quality, compliance, and advancing patient-centered care for individuals facing serious illness.

Meghan began her career as a medical social worker in oncology and acute care settings, providing psychosocial support, grief counseling, and interdisciplinary care coordination for patients and families. Over the course of her career, she expanded her expertise into hospice and palliative care, serving in leadership and clinical roles encompassing direct patient care, community and provider relations, program development, and strategic growth initiatives. Her experience includes leading large-scale outreach and education efforts across healthcare systems, developing referral networks, and supporting program expansion across diverse care settings. Throughout her career, Meghan has maintained a strong commitment to the role of hospice social worker, integrating clinical insight with operational leadership. She brings a practical perspective on interdisciplinary collaboration, regulatory expectations, and the evolving demands placed on social workers in today's hospice environment.

### **Hospice Fundamentals' 2026 Summer Conference**

#### **Social Work in Hospice-Staying Relevant**

*We will review best practices and documentation strategies that protect both care and compliance, along with practical tips to demonstrate the measurable value of social work, while maintaining the compassion and patient-centered focus of hospice care.*

**June 10, 2026  
1:30pm - 2:30pm EST**