

**Margaret Alewine**

[margaret.alewine@scdhhs.gov](mailto:margaret.alewine@scdhhs.gov)

**SC Department of Health and Human Services**

Director of Waiver and Facilities Services, Bureau of Policy

**Background:**

Margaret Alewine is Director of Waiver and Facilities Services in the Bureau of Policy at the South Carolina Department of Health and Human Services. Her program area administers eight (8) home and community-based waiver programs as well as the Home Again grant program. She holds a bachelor's degree from Lenoir-Rhyne University and a Master of Rehabilitation Counseling degree from the University of South Carolina. She is a certified public manager and has completed training in program evaluation. She has over twenty years' experience in state government.



**Andrew Boozer**

[aboozer@seniorresourcesinc.org](mailto:aboozer@seniorresourcesinc.org)

**Senior Resources, Executive Director**

**Background:**

Executive Director of Senior Resources in Columbia since 2019 and Treasurer of the South Carolina Association of Council on Aging Directors since 2021. Previously served as Vice President for Development at Epworth Children's Home, and Director of Graduate Enrollment at Lenior-Rhyne University-Columbia.



**Current Work:**

Senior Resources is a non-profit which provides a continuum of services to older adults in need, including Meals on Wheels, Group Dining Centers, Transportation, Home/Personal Care, as well as AmeriCorps Senior Programs, Foster Grandparents and Senior Companions.

**Interest in the work of the ARCC:**

To explore how senior-focused non-profits and the Council on Aging provider network can best support seniors and caregivers.

**Additional details:**

My wife, Lindsay, teaches at Newberry High School and we spend our free time corralling our three children (10, 8 and 2).

**Jennifer Brewton, LMSW**

[jbrewton@aging.sc.gov](mailto:jbrewton@aging.sc.gov)

**SC Department on Aging**

Program Manager, Family Caregiver Support Program

**Background:**

I graduated from USC College of Social Work in 2003 with a Master's of Social Work. I have been a Licensed Social Worker since 2003. I have worked in the aging field my entire career. I began as the Social Services Director at a long-term Care facility. From there I worked at Palmetto Health Richland as a Discharge Planner. In 2005 I took what was, at the time, a dream position as a Social Worker at Palmetto SeniorCare-PACE. It was a highly rewarding position which I will forever treasure. In 2018 I took a position as the Area Agency on Aging Director at Central Midlands, I gained invaluable experience and learned more than I thought possible about the aging network. In April of 2020 I became the Program Manager of the Family Caregiver Support Program at the South Carolina Department on Aging.

**Current work:**

I am the Program Manager of the Family Caregiver Support Program as the SC Department on Aging but also oversee the ARCC within the agency.

**Interest in the work of the ARCC:**

**Additional details:**

I am a native of South Carolina. I enjoy camping and hiking with friends and family. I live in Irmo with my husband, our two children, two dogs, two cats, two fish, and three snails.

**Jessica Broadway, MD**

reynol@musc.edu; Jessica.Broadway@va.gov

**Medical University of South Carolina; Veterans Health Administration**

Assistant Professor of Psychiatry

**Background:**

I attended medical school in Ohio, then moved to South Carolina for general psychiatry residency and geriatric psychiatry fellowship at MUSC. After fellowship, I decided to make SC my home and worked to expand access to outpatient care and psychiatric consultations at rural nursing homes. I am currently the geriatric psychiatry fellowship program director, though my clinical work now takes place at the Ralph H. Johnson VAMC in Charleston.



**Current work:**

I currently provide geriatric mental healthcare at the VA in Charleston in the form of outpatient consults, inpatient consults, and electronic consults. I also continue as the program director for MUSC's Geriatric Psychiatry Fellowship Training Program.

**Interest in the work of the ARCC:**

I am interested in promoting best practices for my profession, as well as advocating for patients with dementia and their caregivers, and becoming more informed myself about resources in our area.

**Additional details:**

I love traveling and experiencing new places and cultures.

Megan Byers, MSW, LMSW  
[Megan.Byers@sc.edu](mailto:Megan.Byers@sc.edu)

**Office for the Study of Aging, University of South Carolina**  
Program Coordinator

**Background:**

Megan Byers (she/her/hers) is the Program Coordinator for the Office for the Study of Aging at the University of South Carolina. Ms. Byers has developed policies and training curricula, monitored legislative sessions to determine their impact on vulnerable adults, educated stakeholders on issues of adult maltreatment and dementia, taught at universities as an adjunct instructor, presented at state and national conferences, and is a published author. She holds a Master of Social Work, a Graduate Certificate in Gerontology, and Certificates in Research Administration, and in Innovative and Experimental Learning. Ms. Byers is a Licensed Master Social Worker in South Carolina.



**Current Work:**

The Office for the Study of Aging (OSA) has long recognized the importance of and is committed to furthering information, education, and research on related aging issues, such as disease, frailty, dependence, and caregiving. The OSA's core mission is to prepare communities to meet the needs of a growing older adult population and to enhance the quality of life for these individuals as they age.

**Interest in the work of the ARCC:**

To educate, empower, and to inspire policy changes for individuals living with ADRD and their caregivers.

**Additional details:**

I have been with my husband for 10-years, even though we have only been married for 2. We have two fur-babies: a black lab named Mia, and an orange tabby named Harley. I enjoy quality time with my husband and fur-babies, and reading fantasy novels.

**Steve Carroll, MD, PhD, FASCP, FCAP**

[carrolst@musc.edu](mailto:carrolst@musc.edu)

**Medical University of South Carolina**

Professor and Chair, Dept. of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine

**Background:**

I trained in the Medical Scientist Training Program (MD-PhD) at Baylor College of Medicine and then completed my Anatomic Pathology residency, Neuropathology fellowship and postdoctoral research fellowship at Washington University in St. Louis. I then joined the Wash U faculty prior to moving to a faculty position at the University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB) in 1997. At UAB, I was a Professor of Pathology, Director of the UAB Brain Resource Program (1997-2014) and Director of the Cellular and Molecular Neuropathology Core. I served as Director of the Affymetrix Core Laboratory in the Department of Pathology (2000-2002), and was appointed Director of the Division of Neuropathology in 2008. In addition to my appointment in the Department of Pathology, I also had faculty appointments in the Departments of Neurobiology and Cell, Developmental and Integrative Biology, and served as a Scientist in the Department of Neurology/Alzheimer's Disease Research Center, the Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Research Center, the Center for Neurodegeneration and Experimental Therapeutics, the Center for Aging, the Civitan International Research Center, the Center for Glial Biology in Medicine, and the Comprehensive Cancer Center. My research program is focused on the role that the growth factor neuregulin-1 and its erbB receptors play in the pathogenesis of neurodegenerative diseases and neurofibromatosis type-1 and -2 associated peripheral nerve sheath tumors. I have received grant support from NIH, the DOD and the Children's Tumor Foundation for my research endeavors.



**Current Work:**

Over the last 25 years, my lab has defined the role that neuregulin-1 and its erbB receptors play in nervous system regeneration and the pathogenesis of neurodegenerative diseases and neurofibromatosis type 1 (NF1)-associated peripheral nerve sheath tumors (neurofibromas and malignant peripheral nerve sheath tumors (MPNSTs)). My laboratory's work in these fields is currently supported by four NIH grants. I also work directly with oncologists, surgeons, pathologists, basic researchers, and biorepository staff to effectively collect, manage, and utilize clinical sample resources. I serve as the Director of the MUSC Hollings Cancer Center Biorepository & Tissue Analysis Shared Resource and Director of the Carroll A. Campbell, Jr. Neuropathology Laboratory (Brain Bank). In addition, I, in collaboration with the Children's Tumor Foundation, have established a national network that collects and banks tumor and other tissues from patients with NF1, NF2 or schwannomatosis. I am also a founding member of a newly established international brain bank that collects and distributes specimens from Down syndrome patients with Alzheimer's disease; this brain bank is a joint effort by MUSC, the Barrow Neurological Institute, the University of Kentucky, the University of Colorado Denver, the University of Denver and the Sant Pau Memory Unit (Barcelona, Spain). I am also the site PI for a Cooperative Human Tissue Network site that operates in collaboration with the University of Virginia. My biorepository efforts are supported by three additional grants from NIH.

**Interest in the work of ARCC:**

*ARCC Member Bios – as of 06/12/2023*

I've studied neurodegenerative disease for my entire career, both clinically and in the research laboratory. This is also personal for me--my mother has advanced dementia. Dementia is a huge problem for South Carolina and we're struggling to meet the needs of patients with dementia and their caregivers. I think that the ARCC represents one of our best chances to meet this need.

**Additional details:**

Both of my daughters are grown. My wife and I have three granddaughters (with a fourth on the way). We share our house with an American foxhound (Sarge), a basset hound (Ringo) and a very sleepy 15 year old cat (Mr. Bosley).

*ARCC Member Bios – as of 06/12/2023*

**Kelly Cordell**

[Kelly.Cordell@dss.sc.gov](mailto:Kelly.Cordell@dss.sc.gov)

**Department of Social Services**

**Background:**

**Current work:**

**Interest in the work of the ARCC:**

**Additional details:**

**Miroslav Cuturic, MD**

[miroslav.cuturic@scdmh.org](mailto:miroslav.cuturic@scdmh.org)

**Appointed to ARCC in 2013, Vice Chair**

**Department of Mental Health**

Neurologist

**Background:**

Completed Medical School in native Croatia, Neurology Residency at St. Louis University. Joined SC Department of Mental Health in 2003.

**Current work:**

Daily clinical work with patients, clinical and basic research.

**Interest in the work of the ARCC:**

To contribute to the care and resources utilization by my patients.

**Additional details:**

Family and friends

**Nicole J. Davis, PhD, APRN, AGPCNP-BC, GNP-BC**

njd@clemson.edu

**Clemson School of Nursing**

Assistant Professor

Graduate Program Coordinator



**Background:**

Dr. Nicole Davis is an Associate Professor and Graduate Program Coordinator at Clemson University. She is a board-certified Adult and Gerontological Nurse Practitioner with a career that spans 21 years. Davis has expertise in chronic illness management in older adults (dementia, urinary incontinence), geriatrics, health disparities, and using health information technology to support family caregivers. Davis is a National Hartford Centers of Gerontological Nursing Excellence Distinguished Educator in Gerontological Nursing, which recognizes her commitment to gerontological nursing education and the care of older adults. Davis is a Faculty Associate in the Clemson University Institute for Engaged Aging, a Clemson University School of Health Research Faculty Scholar, an Embedded Scholar at Prisma Health-Center for Success in Aging, and a recent member of the Board of Directors of Upstate Area Health Education Consortium. She has served as an expert consultant for the AARP's Public Policy Institute and as a National Institute on Aging, Resource Centers for Minority Aging Research Scientist. She received a BS from New York University, MS from Duke University, and a PhD from Georgia State University.

**Current work:**

Dr. Nicole Davis is an Assistant Professor and the Adult-Gerontological Nurse Practitioner and MSN-Education Program Coordinator at Clemson University. Davis is a Faculty Associate in the Clemson University Institute for Engaged Aging, a Clemson University School of Health Research Faculty Scholar, an Embedded Scholar at Prisma Health-Center for Success in Aging, and a member of the Board of Directors of Upstate Area Health Education Consortium.

**Interest in the work of the ARCC:**

Through my professional and personal experiences, I am dedicated to improving the quality of life those who suffer with dementia and their family caregivers.

**Additional details:**

I enjoy spending time and traveling with my husband and 2 daughters, reading, running and playing tennis.

**Sara J. English, PhD**  
[englishs@winthrop.edu](mailto:englishs@winthrop.edu)

**Appointed to ARCC in 2013, Secretary**  
Representing National Association of Social Workers - SC

**Winthrop University**  
Assistant Professor

**Background:**

Sara English is an Assistant Professor at Winthrop University and a licensed social worker. She has worked in LTC for many years and focuses her work on ethical practice with vulnerable persons, particularly persons living in institutionalized settings. Dr. English has presented her research in national and international venues, including the United Kingdom and Iceland.



**Current work:**

Dr. English works as an Assistant Professor of Social Work at Winthrop University.

**Interest in the work of the ARCC:**

I am interested in the work of ARCC because it advocates for individuals, families, and communities and works to link families to services that support persons living with Alzheimer's Disease and other dementias, providing important information and resources, including respite care.

**Additional details:**

My husband and I have spent the past few years restoring an old crumbling home in the woods of South Carolina, sanding and staining every square inch of wood in this ol' house!

**Miriam Jones Evans, EdD, MCHES**

[mevans66@scsu.edu](mailto:mevans66@scsu.edu)

**South Carolina State University**

Assistant Professor of Health Education & Quality Enhancement Plan Director



**Background:**

Prior to working in higher education, I worked for the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control in various roles including Health Promotion Manager, Program Coordinator for Community Services/Health Education, Program Information Coordinator for the Office of the District Health Director, Program Information Coordinator for the Computer and Data Services Unit, and Environmental Quality Manager in the department for Environmental Health Services. My educational background includes a bachelor of arts in mathematics from Columbia College, master of education in mathematics from South Carolina State University, and doctor of education in health education administration from the University of South Carolina Arnold School of Public Health and College of Education. I am Master Certified Health Education Specialist.

**Current work:**

Currently I am employed as an Assistant Professor of Health Education and serve as the Quality Enhancement Plan Director at South Carolina State University. My duties include planning and providing instruction in health education and wellness. I develop curriculum and student outcome assessments, conduct scholarly research, as well as advise students for academic and career success. I am actively engaged in departmental, university and community service activities.

**Interest in the work of the ARCC:**

According to the Centers of Disease Control and Prevention, it is expected that the burden of Alzheimer's Disease and its related dementias (ADRD) is expected to double by 2060 in the United States. For that very reason, I am interested in the work of the ARCC. I want to be instrumental in South Carolina's efforts to develop and disseminate strategies, services, information, and support services to persons diagnosed with ADRD as well as to families and caregivers impacted by this irreversible, progressive brain disorder.

**Additional details:**

I am native South Carolinian with almost 20 yers of public health career expereince.

**Melissa Gilliam**

[mgilliam@whiteoakmanor.com](mailto:mgilliam@whiteoakmanor.com)

**South Carolina Healthcare Association (SCHCA)**

Administrator-White Oak of Newberry, Inc.

**Background:**

Melissa earned her Bachelor's Degree at Clemson University. Upon graduation, she began her career as a Recreational Therapist at White Oak of Spartanburg in 2002. Approximately 2 years later, she became a Licensed Nursing Home Administrator and worked as the Administrator at White Oak of York.

In 2006, Melissa returned "home" as the Administrator of White Oak of Newberry. She currently serves on the SCHCA Board of Directors as the Chairperson. She is also an active member of the SCHCA DHEC Advisory and Education Committees. Melissa is passionate about providing quality rehabilitative and nursing services at White Oak of Newberry and values her career as one of her greatest blessings.

**Current Work:**

Administrator/CEO of White Oak of Newberry, a 146 bed skilled nursing facility specializing in short-term rehabilitation and long-term care.

**Interest in the work of the ARCC:**

Alzheimer's has touched my life not just professionally but personally... helping those who suffer with it as well as their caregivers is important to me.

**Additional details:**

I've been married to my high school sweetheart, Derrick, for 16 years. We have three children: Isabella (15), Rhett (13), and Autumn (12). When not at work or school you can find our family at a baseball/softball/football field or a tennis court as all 3 of children love sports (they get it honest) and there's nothing we love more than to be cheering for them. On the rare occasion that we do not have a game to attend we enjoy spending time on Lake Murray!

**Scott Habakus, DO**

[shabakus@gmail.com](mailto:shabakus@gmail.com)

Independent Contractor  
Radiologist

**Background:**

Radiologist in Charleston area for the past 15 years. Trained at Penn State Hershey Medical Center in Hershey, PA. Retired as a Commander from US Navy Reserve in April 2020. Wife diagnosed with Early Onset Alzheimer's Disease in 2018 at age 46. We have three teenagers aged 17, 16, and 14.

**Current Work:**

Working part-time as teleradiologist and also contract radiologist at Naval Health Clinic Charleston.

**Interest in the work of the ARCC:**

I Want to be on the front lines of this disease and help others navigate this challenging path.

**Additional details:**

I Have wife (Caroline), and 3 kids (Charlie 17, John 16, and Elizabeth 14). One dog (Minnie) and 2 cats (Ollie and Annie). Play golf as much as possible for respite. Love Penn State Football!



**Emma Kennedy, MPH**  
[kennedel@dhec.sc.gov](mailto:kennedel@dhec.sc.gov)

**SC Department of Health and Environmental Control**  
Director, Division of Injury and Substance Abuse Prevention  
(DISAP)

**Background:**

Emma holds an undergraduate in Biology and a Masters of Public Health in Epidemiology and Biostatistics, both from West Virginia University, her home State. While attaining her MPH, Emma worked with the West Virginia University Injury Control Research Center to complete her practicum work, evaluating the State's ATV training program. Since graduation, Emma has worked in the HIV care and surveillance fields, but recently returned to Injury as the Director of Injury and Substance Abuse Prevention in March of 2019.



**Current Work:**

DISAP is home to the State's Child Passenger Safety program and Safe Kids South Carolina Lead Organization. DISAP is also home to the Overdose Data-to-Action (OD2A), CORE State Injury Prevention Programs (SIPP) and BOLD ADRD Funding, all of which are cooperative agreements funded through the CDC.

**Interest in the work of the ARCC:**

As a recent BOLD ADRD funding awardee, we are responsible for working with a statewide group to develop and implement a statewide ADRD strategic plan. Working with the ARCC will help us facilitate crucial partnerships and leverage resources.

**Additional details:**

When not at work, Emma enjoys spending time with family, friends and her pugs, Charlie and Izzy and her Boston Terrier, Roscoe. She also enjoys hiking and exploring our national parks.

**Denise Kish, LNHA, CRCFA, CDP**  
[Denise.kish@jeaseniorliving.com](mailto:Denise.kish@jeaseniorliving.com)

**Mount Pleasant Gardens**-Alzheimer's Community  
Executive Director/Administrator

**Background:**

With an accounting, pharmaceutical, human resources background. Denise answered her calling and spent 18 years serving in long term care in the State of NJ. As the Executive Director, Professional and Organizational Development for Christian Health Care Center, NJ, she focused on establishing new areas of service including opening and establishing a long term and assisted living memory care center and a comprehensive culture for understanding and caring for those with dementia/Alzheimer's. Denise is a national speaker/consultant for many aging services associations and long-term care communities on creating cultures of excellence, leadership and employee engagement. Before she left NJ, Denise and her team were awarded from the American Health Care Association Silver National Quality Award.



**Current Work:**

As the current Executive Director/Administrator of Mount Pleasant Gardens, which she opened in 2017, she continues to pursue her passion and lead a team of professionals caring for those with dementia and Alzheimer's. Mount Pleasant Gardens was awarded in 2020 and 2021 HealthLinks Magazine "Best Alzheimer Facility/Memory Care" for the low country. Denise serves as a Board Member for South Carolina Assisted Living Association and continues to educate the South Carolina community on Alzheimer's and team leadership. Denise combines her faith and years of experience to assemble teams that are passionate about the work they do and the families they care for.

**Interest in the work of the ARCC:**

Foster advancement of understanding of Alzheimer's to the community and provide opportunities to be a resource to families on the journey.

**Additional details:**

Married to John for 34 years, they are blessed with two adult children Bryan and Lauren - Denise loves to boat, go to football games with her family and teach bible studies.

**Sheila H. Lewis, CDP**

[slewis@aging.sc.gov](mailto:slewis@aging.sc.gov)

**SC Department on Aging**

Dementia Coordinator, Alzheimer’s Resource Coordination Center



**Background:**

I have worked with older adults, caregivers, and persons with dementia for nearly 20 years, most recently with the Alzheimer’s Association-SC Chapter. I am gratified to continue to provide support to those affected by Alzheimer’s disease and related disorders, continuing the work of my mother, Dr. Delores Macey, who founded the Alzheimer’s Association’s presence in Columbia. I received a BA in Non-profit Administration from the University of South Carolina.

**Current work:**

I am the Dementia Coordinator of the Alzheimer’s Resource Coordination Center. I facilitate statewide coordination and integration of research, program development, planning and quality assurance to Alzheimer’s Disease and Related Dementias (ADRD).

**Additional details:**

I enjoy reading, bird watching and spending time with my two heartbeats, my sons, Zachary and Kennedy!

**Robb McBurney**

[Robert.mcburney@ddsn.sc.gov](mailto:Robert.mcburney@ddsn.sc.gov)

**SC Department of Disabilities and Special Needs**

Program Manager for Emergency Operations and Special Projects

**Background:**

Bishop England High School '85, University of South Carolina '89, United States Navy, Surface Warfare Officer 89-93, University of South Carolina, Masters in Public Administration '96, South Carolina Attorney General's Office 1995-2018, SC Dept of Disabilities and Special Needs 2018- present.

**Current work:**

Manage Emergency Operations and manage special projects in the DDSN Operations Division.

**Interest in the work of the ARCC:**

Interested in serving and enriching the lives of the individuals that we serve at DDSN and improving the lives of all South Carolinians.

**Additional details:**

Love Politics, Gamecock Athletics, St Joseph Catholic Church, Currently serve as the Grand Knight of Knights of Columbus Council 12554.



**Joseph Meyers, Jr.**

[jmeyers@aarp.org](mailto:jmeyers@aarp.org)

**AARP**

Associate State Director of Communication and Advocacy

**Background:**

I served in the U.S. Air Force for six years immediately after high school as an aircrew member on a cargo plane. After the Air Force I continued my education with a brief 2-year stint in medical school at Ohio State before earning a Master's in Mass Communication from the University of South Carolina. I have previously worked for several organizations in the private and governmental sectors before returning to AARP South Carolina as the associate state director of communication and advocacy.



**Current Work:**

I direct all of AARP's communication channels in South Carolina--paid, earned, owned and shared. I help coordinate paid and earned national brand communications in South Carolina. I provide marketing and communications support for all our advocacy efforts and national advocacy campaigns. I direct all of AARP's veteran and conservative outreach across South Carolina.

**Interest in the work of the ARRC:**

It's in AARP's wheelhouse and we have people on similar councils across the country.

**Additional details:**

I have a black lab that isn't yet 2 years old named Amos, that we affectionately call Ambo. I love hunting, fishing, reading, writing and college football. My brother and his family live in South Carolina and I love getting to spend time with them.

**Maggi Miller, Dr.**

chandlmj@mailbox.sc.edu

**Office for the Study of Aging, Arnold School of Public Health,  
University of South Carolina**

South Carolina Alzheimer's Disease Registry Manager

**Background:**

Maggi Miller has almost 15 years of experience in aging-related public health research and practice. She received her MS in health promotion from the University of Delaware and a PhD in epidemiology from the University of South Carolina Arnold School of Public Health. She is a research assistant professor in the Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics. At the Office for the Study of Aging, Dr. Miller manages the SC Alzheimer's Disease Registry and focuses on aging research and program evaluation. Her research interests include Alzheimer's disease and related disorders and caregivers of individuals with dementia .



**Current work:**

Maggi Miller currently manages the South Carolina Alzheimer's Disease Registry, serves a program evaluator for Prisma Health Greenville-REACH: A Caregiver Coaching Intervention Project, and is a member of the analysis core and a scientist mentor for the Carolina Center on Alzheimer's Disease and Minority Research.

**Interest in the work of the ARCC:**

I have worked in the field of aging for a number of years and want to provide assistance to improve quality of life for individuals with dementia, their families, and their caregivers.

**Additional details:**

I have 3 sweet and active daughters (ages 8, 6, and 3) and a 13 year-old pet tortoise, named Sheldon, that lives in our backyard.

*ARCC Member Bios – as of 06/12/2023*

**Kassie South**

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**LeadingAge South Carolina**

President & CEO

*ARCC Member Bios – as of 06/12/2023*

**Mary Peck**

[Mary.peck@gentiva.com](mailto:Mary.peck@gentiva.com)

**Gentiva Health Services**

**Background:**

**Current work:**

**Interest in the work of the ARCC:**

**Additional details:**

**Cynthia Port, PhD**

[cport@coastal.edu](mailto:cport@coastal.edu)

**Coastal Carolina University**

Associate Professor of English

**Background:**

Born and raised in New York City, I earned my BA at Barnard College, an MA in English and Comparative Literature at Columbia University, and a PhD in English, with a Certificate in Women's Studies, at the University of Pennsylvania. I've taught at the University of Pennsylvania, at Ursinus College, and, since 2007, at Coastal Carolina University.

**Current work:**

I teach modern and contemporary British and Anglophone literature, and my research has primarily focused on approaches to aging in twentieth- and twenty-first-century literature and film. I have been active in helping to develop the field of age studies in the humanities in such roles as founding co-chair and Governing Council member of the North American Network in Aging Studies and as co-editor of *Age, Culture, Humanities: An Interdisciplinary Journal* (2014-2020).

**Interest in the work of the ARCC:**

A lot of interesting work is being conducted on humanities approaches to dementia, including strategies for engaging people with dementia as well as efforts to understand how people with dementia--and those who care for them--are culturally represented and understood. As a member of the ARCC Advisory Council, I aim to bring a humanities perspective to the Council's conversations and commitments.

**Additional details:**

I'm lucky enough to get to concentrate on the things I most enjoy (reading, watching films) as part of my teaching and research, so I haven't spent much time on hobbies in the past. During the pandemic, though, I have spent some extra time experimenting in the kitchen and planting roses and hibiscus in my garden. I also took in a hungry kitten with a remarkable aptitude for climbing up doorways as though they're trees.

**Rebecca Smith**

[edmundestate@aol.com](mailto:edmundestate@aol.com)

**SC Silverhaired Legislature**

Representative

**Background:**

I am the former Director of Senior Companion Services for Senior Resources. This program, funded by the Corporation for National and Community Service, sought to promote independence for both clients and the senior volunteers, while recognizing Alzheimer's and Respite for Caregivers as primary areas of service and national significance. During my tenure as director, I served on the SC Commission for National and Community Service, by appointment of Governor Mark Sanford.

**Current work:**

Post retirement, I have served or am serving on the following groups:

S.C. Respite Coalition Board Member

S.C. Silver Haired Legislature Delegate

Pilot Club of Columbia (501C3 service organization with focus on brain health and related disorders; caregiver issues)

Pilot Club of Columbia Foundation (approval of grants from Pilot Club)

**Janae Stowe**

[jstowe@slcog.org](mailto:jstowe@slcog.org)

**Santee-Lynches Regional Council of Governments**

Area Agency on Aging Director

**Background:**

Stowe began her journey at the Santee-Lynches COG as an intern and transitioned to a volunteer. She entered employment with Santee-Lynches COG in 2012. She went on to serve in coordinator positions for multiple programs within the Health and Human Services Department to include the Information Referral and Assistance Coordinator. She completed her initial State Health Insurance Program (SHIP) certification in 2012 and received her Information Referral Specialist for Aging Certification in 2014. She was recertified as an Information Referral Specialist for Aging/Disability in 2016.

Additionally, Stowe serves on the Human Service Advisory Committee for Central Carolina Technical College and is a member of the South Carolina Local Government Leadership Institute. She earned her Bachelor's Degree in Healthcare Administration.

**Current work:**

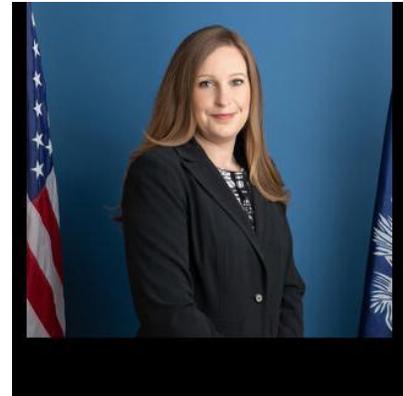
Planning, developing and implementing a regional service delivery program which address the needs of the older population. She ensures these programs are implemented in accordance with the guidelines of the South Carolina Department on Aging, Long Term Care, the Older Americans Act and various legislation as brought forward from Congress and the State Legislature. In order to develop a cohesive plan, she interacts with local agencies and stakeholders to establish partnerships and other solutions to meet the needs of our older population and maximize the grant funding.

**Interest in the work of the ARCC:**

The opportunity to enhance the lives of our most vulnerable population in South Carolina through the collection of data to plan for the appropriate services.

**Additional details:**

Stowe grew up in Boise, ID and moved to Sumter in 2009. She is married to Michael, and they have a beautiful, blended family of three: Dru, Nicholas, and Logan. Stowe loves spending time with family, especially for camping trips and sporting events.



**Taylor Wilson,**  
[twilson@alz.org](mailto:twilson@alz.org)

**Alzheimer's Association, SC Chapter**  
Director of Government Affairs

**Background:**

I graduated From the Moore School of Business at the University of South Carolina with a dual degree in Marketing and Management. I have been working in non profits for the last 15 years in areas including economic education/finacial literacy, teen pregnancy prevention/STD education, animal rescue/pet adoption, and finally Alzheimer's and other dementias.

**Current work:**

I began my career with the Alzheimer's Association coming on as the Director of Communication and Advocacy. As awareness for the cause grew and Congress became more engaged with our cause, it was determined that state policy was an area that could have a large impact. Efforts were moved to a more focused state affairs approach and I took on the role of the Director of State Policy for South Carolina.

Through my work lobbying both our SC State House and our SC Congressional Delegation, I have learned that the great work being done for families facing a diagnosis and more importantly, the gaps in resources for these families, is not known to our elected officials. As this need became more clear, I moved into the role of Director of Government Affairs, where I currently implement strategies to improve awareness and education of our elected officials and through this, seek their support in initiatives and policy priorities.

**Interest in the work of the ARCC:**

As the government affairs lead for the Alzheimer's Association, it is important to me to keep my finger on the pulse of different initiatives that impact or relate directly to families facing a dementia diagnosis in our communities and statewide. Research, programs, support, etc. is part of a 360 approach we must take to provide for those with a dementia diagnosis and their caregivers. Being part of the ARCC allows me to take the good work and recommendations of the professionals that are appointed to the General Assembly to use to inform legislation and regulation updates. It also allows me to use progress in these areas to get our SC Congressional Delegation on board with federal policy priorities.

**Additional details:**

I lost my grandmother to dementia, so I have a great passion for this cause that isn't only professional, but also personal. I have been a caregiver and I can empathize with those who are caregivers and also those who support caregivers.

I am a life-long Midlands resident and happily reside in Coldstream with my dog, Luna. I am an avid reader and foster home for rescue puppies.

