

# Building Skills for Elder Justice and Other Services

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2017 Fall Regional Training



## Presenter's Bio's

**Dr. William Lane** is the CEO of William Lane Associates, a gerontological and management consulting firm now located in Homer, NY. Dr. Lane holds a PhD from Kansas State University and is an Associate Professor Emeritus of Sociology from SUNY Cortland. At Cortland, he directed the Social Gerontology Program for 25 years and served as the founding Director of the Center for Aging and Human Services. He served as President of both the State Society on Aging of New York (SSA) and the national President of Sigma Phi Omega (the Honor Society in Gerontology), as well as the Treasurer of the Association for Gerontology in Higher Education (AGHE). He received the Walter M. Beattie Award for Outstanding Service from SSA, as well as the Mildred Seltzer Award for Distinguished Service from AGHE. He has published numerous papers and book chapters and made presentations at state-wide, national and international conferences in the US, Canada, the UK and India. He continues to make regular conference presentations. In March, he and Carol Hegeman published a book entitled *Grant Writing for Aging Services and Programs* available from TBM books.

Dr. Lane began conducting strategic planning while still on the faculty at SUNY Cortland, working on the college strategic planning committee. He also led a strategic planning effort while on the board of AGHE. He has conducted strategic planning training and exercises for several AAAs in NY State as well for the Family Caregiver Support Program and other agencies in the US Virgin Islands. He has also conducted strategic planning sessions for assisted living facilities and nursing homes, as well as several private corporations. In addition, he has a long history of working on elder justice issues, both in terms of combating ageism and elder abuse.

**Sarah Rudgers-Tysz** is Executive Director of Mediation Matters, a non-profit agency offering restorative and conflict resolution services in Albany, Rensselaer, Saratoga, Schenectady, Warren and Washington Counties. In addition to her administrative functions for the organization, she mediates, mentors, and trains staff and volunteers. Sarah's experience in conflict resolution includes: community, workplace, elder, youth, family, and criminal justice mediations; large group facilitation and team building; conducting presentations and training for communities, service providers, educators and college/university classes; and program design and implementation. She is a Certified Trainer for the NYS Unified Court System Office of Alternative Dispute Resolution. Sarah is an attorney with nearly 20 years of experience in mediation in a variety of settings, both public and private. A graduate of Union College and American University, Washington College of Law, Sarah began her federal career with the Department of Health and Human Services in their Dispute Resolution Unit and then the Federal Labor Relations Authority where she facilitated labor/management issues. She has also served as an Assistant General Counsel for the National Archives where in addition to her service for the General Counsel's office, Sarah ran their nation-wide workplace mediation program.

**Alice J. Rudnick** is an administrator and educator with the New York State Unified Court System's Office of Alternative Dispute Resolution Programs (ADR). She is responsible for program policy, supervision, development and management of

the Community Dispute Resolution Centers Program (CDRCP) and other initiatives for alternative dispute resolution in all 62 counties of New York State. Alice coordinates and provides resources and technical assistance for public relations, education, and training in Restorative Justice Practices, PINS Diversion, Juvenile Justice, Elder Adult Dialogue and Family mediation services. She is a certified mediator in community, custody/visitation, elder caregiver/guardianship, juvenile accountability, truancy prevention and parent/child matters, and facilitator of restorative circles, family/group conferencing and victim/offender dialogue. A NYS certified teacher and professional educator, Alice coordinates programs and conducts training on restorative justice theory and practice, juvenile justice and education, attendance mediation, elder adult dialogue and mediation, and non-violent communication. She developed the Elder Adult Dialogue and Mediation training manual and curriculum used by the NYS Unified Court System's Community Dispute Resolution Centers Program and serves on state and national task forces addressing prevention of elder abuse and neglect. Alice conducts workshops and training for the American Bar Association, AARP Foundation, Office for the Aging, Association for Conflict Resolution, Association of Criminal Justice Educators, Youth Courts, and Association of Area Agencies on Aging, as well as family care-giving coalitions. She holds degrees in Social Sciences, Education and Public Administration, with advanced studies in Gerontology, Conflict Management and Restorative Justice. She is a member of the Association for Conflict Resolution.

*Jeff Shepardson*, Director of Training, Facilitation, & Development Services, has served Community Dispute Resolution Center (CDRC) of Chemung, Schuyler and Tompkins Counties as staff member, mediator, facilitator, and trainer since 2005. He has been mediating and facilitating cases both public and private in a wide variety of contexts and settings. Jeff also provides Mediator, Facilitator, & Conflict Engagement Trainings locally and nationally based on a relational approach to conflict and its transformation. A Certified Trainer for the NYS Unified Court System Office of Alternative Dispute Resolution and member of the NYS Mediator Ethics Advisory Committee, Jeff also serves as adjunct faculty for Cornell Law School and Cornell School of Industrial & Labor Relations, and Fellow and certified mediator with the Institute for the Study of Conflict Transformation ([www.transformativemediation.org](http://www.transformativemediation.org)). He holds degrees in Literature, Communications, and Theology. Jeff holds a deep belief in the significant opportunities waiting to be realized via the effective engagement and transformation of heated conflict interaction.