

MAHA 67<sup>TH</sup> MAHA ANNUAL CONFERENCE and EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTE

## SPEAKERS and WORKSHOP PRESENTERS BIOGRAPHIES

June 7-9, 2016

### *“Today’s Vision-- Tomorrow’s Reality”*

## Opening Speaker

### JEANNE SEXSON

#### *“Change Your Focus to Get New Results”*



Jeanne Elizabeth Sexson holds a Master’s degree — emphasis psychology and a Master’s Certification in Education. For over twenty-eight years, she has traveled in and out of the continental United States speaking at national, state and regional conventions where audiences often rate her “best speaker of the conference.” She also keynotes awards, recognition, and special event banquets and facilitates training for large corporations and individual facilities.

Her background also includes facilitating leadership training for the University of Evansville, University of Southern Indiana and Indiana Technical State College where she received the Outstanding Adjunct Teaching Award.

Jeanne is published author/illustrator of several motivational books, including her double-award winning book about dealing with loss and change entitled “Down But Not Out—Living through your setbacks, major whacks, and broken-heart attacks.” Jeanne’s publication credits also include numerous magazine articles.

She was recipient of both the “EDIT IT” Book Award for Commitment To Achieving Precision In Communication and Mid-America Publisher’s Association Award for Illustrating.

Her honors and recognition’s include Outstanding Creative Woman of the Year and recipient of the National Mental Health Association’s Outstanding Service Award.

Jeanne is an accomplished sculptor and photographer.

## Closing Speaker

### **ELENIE KELAKOS**

#### *“Touch the Sky”*



Eleni is a presence and presentation expert, and the Chief Transformational Officer of The Eleni Group, now in its second decade. She uses performance techniques learned over twenty years as a professional actress and award-winning, nationally touring singer/songwriter to help executives be relaxed, real and relatable when they give presentations. When she is not coaching individuals or facilitating trainings at companies like General Motors, Plante-Moran, and Kubota Tractors, Eleni practices what she preaches, empowering people to perform at their peak with her signature keynote presentations at conferences nationwide.

A double major in Theatre and Semiotics from Brown University, Eleni is a past president of the National Speakers Association of Michigan. She has sung the national anthem at Shea Stadium for three (winning) Mets games, and has produced four acclaimed CDs of her original songs. Her songs have been featured in the film *Dispossessed*, and danced to by *America's Got Talent* semi-finalist Beth Ann Robinson. Her book, *Touch the Sky: Find Your Voice, Speak Your Truth, Make Your Mark*, was a gold medal winner of the 2014 Global e-Book Awards. She lives happily with her husband and two constantly shedding cats in Ann Arbor, Michigan.

## Workshop Presenters

### **ABBY MILLER**, Community Relations & Marketing Manager at Aspirus Iron River Hospital

#### *“Aspiring Volunteer”*



Abby Miller is the Community Relations & Marketing Manager for Aspirus Iron River Hospital in Iron River, Michigan. She is also the Volunteer Services Coordinator. She graduated in 2012 from the University of Northwestern-Saint Paul with a Media Communication degree.

She has experience in congressional politics working in political finance and she was also a television journalist and reporter at the WLLUC-TV 6 station in Marquette, Michigan.

A native of Sao Paulo, Brazil, Abby enjoys British television dramas, C.S. Lewis, copious amounts of extremely strong coffee and singing at the top of her lungs.

**Theresa Powerski, Manager of Patient Experience and Patient Relations, Hurley  
Medical Center**

*“Volunteer Impact on Patient Satisfaction”*



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## **Legislative Team**

### **Brian Peters, CEO, Michigan Health & Hospital Association.**

Brian Peters holds the position of CEO at the Michigan Health & Hospital Association. In his prior role as executive vice president, he oversaw strategic planning and operations for one of the nation’s largest state hospital associations and was responsible for the alignment of business strategies among the association’s various corporate entities. Peters also oversees the MHA Health Foundation, which includes the MHA Keystone Center, a federally certified patient safety organization, whose initiatives to date have saved more than 1,700 patient lives and \$246 million in healthcare costs. In his 25 years with the MHA, Peters has served as the association’s executive vice president and senior vice president of advocacy. In these roles, he was responsible for the state and federal government relations on behalf of nearly 150 Michigan nonprofit community hospitals and served as treasurer of HEALTHPAC, the association’s political action committee that ranks among the largest independent PACs in Michigan.

He has also served as the association’s staff secretary of the Legislative Policy Panel, the Business Advisory Council, the Council of Physicians, the Council on Small or Rural Hospitals, and the Council on Osteopathic Health Care. In addition, he has delivered more than 500 presentations on the future of healthcare to hospital management, governance and medical staffs and is a contributing author of “Technology and the Future of Health Care: Preparing for the next thirty Years,” released in January 2000 by the AHA Press. He is a frequent spokesperson on behalf of Michigan hospitals with print and electronic media and has testified on hospital priorities before Congress and the State Legislature.

Peters is a member of the American Hospital association (AHA) Regional Policy Board (region 5), the AHA Political Action Committee (AHAPAC) Board of Directors and the State Hospital Association Executive Forum (SHAEF). He also serves on the Blue Cross & Blue shield of Michigan Board of Directors. He has served on the Citizens Research Council of Michigan Board, as chairman of the tomorrow’s Child Board, Chairman of the YMCA of Michigan Board, Chairman of the Michigan Youth in Government Board, and as vice-chairman of the Michigan Health Insurance Access Advisory Council. He has served as a member of the Gift of Life of Michigan Advisory Board, Coverys Insurance Services Michigan Advisory Board, Michigan State University Michigan Political

Leadership Program Board, and Alliance for Advancing Nonprofit Healthcare Board. He has also been treasurer of the Michigan Rural Health Association, coordinator of the Michigan Organization of Nurse Executives, coordinator of the Michigan Osteopathic Hospital association, and a trustee of Charlevoix Area Hospital.

Peters holds a master's degree in Health Services Administration from the University of Michigan and a bachelor's degree in Business Administration from Michigan State University; completed an executive fellowship with the National Center for Healthcare Leadership; completed the Health Executive's Development Program at Cornell University; and studied the British healthcare system with the King's Fund College in London. He is a United States Coast Guard-licensed captain and was formerly the president of Charlevoix Marine Services, inc., a sport fishing charter service operating out of Charlevoix,

## **David Finkbeiner, Senior Vice President of Advocacy, Michigan Health & Hospital**

### **Association**

David Finkbeiner is the senior vice president of Advocacy for the Michigan Health & Hospital Association (MHA) where he has day-to-day contact with legislators, state and federal officials, and leaders of other associations with interest in health policy issues. Prior to coming to the MHA in 2000, Finkbeiner held a variety of positions with several Michigan hospitals. Finkbeiner has served on numerous advisory boards for health insurers, advocacy groups, educational institutions, community agencies and state departments.

With a bachelor's degree in social science from Michigan State University, East Lansing, and a master's degree in social work from University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Finkbeiner is also a Diplomate with the American Board of Examiners in Clinical Social Work and a member of the American College of Healthcare Executives.