

Dementia Care Management

Susan Howe Crowson, Geriatric Consultant

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Susan Crowson (*KRAU-sun*) has specialized in memory diseases since 2005 developing systematic approaches to recognize and identify loss and behaviors for specific types of dementia diseases including Alzheimer's and Vascular Dementia, behavioral dementias, several fascinating atypical dementias, and pseudodementia.

During her 20 years in practice, she has developed individualized Care Management and Coordination (CMC) Plans that provide families the specifics they need to make decisions with confidence. CMC Plans include: disease education, patient continuum care plans, caregiver success plans, family engagement plans, along with cost of care, legal/financial advance directives, referrals for professional and residential care.

Over the years she has been Memory Care Clinic Director for a regional Hospital system and Dementia Patient Clinic Director for a large private Neurology practice, opening the first outpatient clinic in each setting.

She has served in Pastoral Care positions as Elder Care Ministry Director and Hospital/ICU Associate Chaplain during the initial COVID 19.

Early on, she had extensive experience as Program Manager for a local Alzheimer's Association chapter, where she served as a Legislative Advocacy Ambassador, providing testimony at the first public forum in Washington, DC for the National Alzheimer's Plan Act NAPA, established by Congress in 2011.

As an ongoing Dementia Educator, she has led caregiver support groups, provided qualification training for new support group leaders, taught Dementia CEUs courses for NASW social workers, been keynote speaker for Dementia Conferences, and spoken internationally at the 13th World Congress on Alzheimer's and Dementia, Amsterdam in 2019.

Most of all, Susan credits her passion and experience to her father for whom she was his primary caregiver in her home during his final 6 years, passing at age 93 in 2010.

DEMENTIA CARE MANAGEMENT

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BRIEF BIO

Susan Crowson (*KRAU-sun*) has specialized in memory diseases since 2005 developing systematic approaches to recognize and identify loss and behaviors due to aging and dementia.

With 20 years' experience, she provides individualized Care Management and Coordination (CMC) Plans for patients and their families as an integral part of their loved one's journey.

She has been Memory Care Clinic Director for a Hospital system and Dementia Patient Clinic Director for a large private Neurology practice, opening the first outpatient clinic in each setting.

She has served in Pastoral Care positions, Alzheimer's Association Programs and Legislative Ambassador and is an avid Dementia Educator.

Most of all, Susan credits her passion and experience to her father for whom she was his primary caregiver in her home during his final 6 years, passing at age 93 in 2010.

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GERIATRIC CONSULTANT

Geriatric Planning LLC

2005 – present

During the span of 20 years, Susan has direct experience with clients and their families coping with many dementia variations. Through investigative clinical approach, evidence-based tools establish the basis for Care Management and Coordination (CMC) plans that include: disease education, patient continuum care plan, caregiver success plan, family engagement plan, cost of care, legal/financial advance directives, referrals for professional and residential care. CMC Plans provide specifics to reduce stress and uncertainties for families to make decisions with confidence.

DEMENTIA EXPERTISE

- Alzheimer's Dementia – Late-onset, Younger-onset, Mild Cognitive Impairment (MCI)
- Vascular Dementia – Cardiovascular event/TIA related, mixed combined with another Dementia
- Frontotemporal Dementias – Behavioral variant (bvFTD), Primary Progressive Aphasia (PPA): Semantic variant (svPPA), Nonfluent/Agrammatic variant (nfvPPA), Logopenic variant (lvPPA)
- Lewy body Dementias – Dementia with Lewy bodies (DLB), Parkinson's disease dementia (PDD)
- Atypical Dementias – Posterior Cortical Atrophy (PCA), Progressive Supranuclear Palsy (PSP)
- Pseudodementia from – Psychiatric Conditions, Polypharmacy, Long-term Marijuana Use, Alcohol-related Dementia (ARD)

ELDER CARE MINISTRIES DIRECTOR

Germantown Methodist Church

2023 – 2025

Pastoral Care and support for members age 70+, classes about Life and Care Planning, family counseling for aging and care needs

ICU HOSPITAL ASSOCIATE CHAPLAIN

Baptist Memorial Hospital

2020 – 2022

Pastoral and bereavement support to patients, families and colleagues during medical crisis, deaths, codes during first Omicron variant COVID 19. Completed THA Tennessee Hospice Association Palliative Care Mentorship Program

DEMENTIA PATIENT CLINIC DIRECTOR

CLINICAL TRIAL ADMINISTRATOR

The Neurology Clinic

2018 – 2019

Dementia patient support and care planning. Testing administrator for Phase 2 and 3: Biogen, Tango, Genentech studies for patients diagnosed with Prodromal - Mild Alzheimer's Disease.

MEMORY CLINIC DIRECTOR

Baptist Hospital Foundation

2014 – 2018

Outpatient Clinic to provide memory assessments and care consultations

- Established procedures, protocols and referrals from physicians and clinic managers
- Maintained extensive network of qualified community service providers
- Created resource library of content to support patient care plans
- Community outreach speaking at educational seminars and conferences, TV and radio interviews
- Patient satisfaction scores of 3.98 out of 4.0

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PROGRAMS AND ADVOCACY DIRECTOR

Alzheimer's Association

2012 – 2014

Community education, outreach and legislative advocacy for National Alzheimer's Association chapter

- Provided ongoing community education seminars and conferences
- Organized and coordinated annual community Caregiver Conferences
- Collaborated with and trained local and regional Support Group leaders
- Ongoing coaching of family caregivers, by phone and in person, throughout the disease process
- Trained and led state and federal advocates, meeting with legislators, supported local district efforts

GERONTOLOGY INSTRUCTOR

Frederick Community College

2007 - 2012

CEU credit instruction for Social Work Licensure

- Produced and delivered classroom instructional materials for social work licensure
- Provided fee-based consultation coaching for social workers and family caregivers
- Organized county-wide community advocacy events for local Congressional representatives

PRIMARY CAREGIVER, ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE

2005 - 2011

In addition to her professional experience, Susan was primary caregiver for her father who died from Alzheimer's disease in 2011.

- When Susan's mother died, it became obvious that her father was unable to function without high level of support and supervision. With this sudden loss, Susan was thrust into crisis mode to determine the cause for her father's extensive impairment. Covered over and diminished by their marriage partnership, he also lost his caregiver who had been compensating for his deficits with little explanation to the family. Susan chose to make a career of being her father's full-time Primary Caregiver, moving him to live in her home until he passed 6 years later at the age of 93.
- Using methodical documentation of her father's disease progression and ever-increasing care needs, Susan developed a systematic approach to recognize and identify loss and behaviors due to dementia that she continues using to guide families with her expertise.

PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATIONS, EDUCATION

- Aging Life Care Association® Professional, formerly National Assoc of Professional Geriatric Care Managers
- Certified Dementia Practitioner®, Alzheimer's Disease & Dementia Care, NCCDP
- Palliative Care Mentorship, Tennessee Hospice Association, THA
- Clinical Trial Testing Administrator: Biogen Evolve, Engage, Tango and Genentech Tauriel
- Alzheimer's Association Care Consultations, Level Two
- Distinguished Toastmaster, Toastmasters International
- Bachelor of Architecture, Business Major, Dean's List, University of Tennessee Knoxville