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PRESENTS

**BUILDING  
HEALTH LITERACY  
IN OHIO:  
THE INAUGURAL OHIO HEALTH  
LITERACY PARTNERS  
CONFERENCE**

OCTOBER 4, 2019 ASHLAND UNIVERSITY

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## *Silver*



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Health literacy is “the degree to which individuals have the capacity to obtain, communicate, process, and understand basic health information and services needed to make appropriate health decisions.” (Healthy People 2020)

The skills of individuals are an important part of health literacy, but health literacy is not only about individuals’ skills. Health systems and professionals impact health literacy by making health information and services understandable and actionable. Information from health professionals, the media, and organizations often present information that is difficult to understand and act on. Therefore, equally important as an individual’s skills, are the skills of health professionals to provide health information in a manner appropriate to their audiences.

# C O N F E R E N C E   P R O G R A M

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- 8:30-9:00      **Registration opens**
- 9:00-9:15      Welcome from Ohio Health Literacy Partners (OHLP)  
President,    Karen Komondor
- 9:15-10:30     **Health Literacy: A Foundation for Clear Health  
Communication and Patient Safety**  
Widely coveted, engaging presentation for healthcare  
professionals of all experience levels to improve their  
understanding of what health literacy is and its impact to  
patientcare.      *Karen Komondor*
- 10:30-10:45    Break
- 10:45-12:00    **Patient and Caregiver Panel**  
Candid discussion with patients and caregivers from various  
backgrounds. Each will share their challenges navigating  
healthcare systems and experiences while receiving care  
Moderator: Rekha Voruganti  
Panelists:    *Mary Beth Child* (Patient)  
                  *Mona Taylor* (Caregiver)  
                  *Karen Ricci* (Parent)
- 12:00-1:00     **Lunch and Networking**
- 1:00-2:15      **The Health Literacy Long Conversation**  
Our panel of experts will interview one another on health  
literacy in the community, with providers, and within organizations.  
Moderator: Barbara Carnahan  
Panelists: *Jessica Jurcak* (Community)  
                  *Dr. Sandra Cornett* (Providers)  
                  *Dr. Mary Ann Abrams* (Organizations)
- 2:15-3:15      **Impact Sharing**  
Moderator: Dr. Ruth Ludwick  
                  *All Participants*
- 3:15-3:30      **Close and Evaluations**
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# **A special Thank you to our Planning Committee/Board**

Karen Komondor  
President

Mary Ann Nicolay  
Board Member

Rekha Voruganti  
President-elect

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Diane Moyer  
Board Member

Rosalie Weakland  
Board Member

# Program Speakers and Moderators

Karen Komondor, RN, BSN, CCRN

President, Ohio Health Literacy Partners (OHLP)  
Director, Organizational Development and the Health  
Literacy Institute, St. Vincent Charity Medical Center,  
(Cleveland, OH)

Rekha Voruganti, MBOE, LSSBB

President Elect, OHLP  
Health Literacy Program Coordinator,  
Nationwide Children's Hospital (Columbus))

Barbara Carnahan, RDH, MS

Public Health Dental Hygienist,  
Ohio Department of Health (Columbus, OH)

Jessica Jurcak, MS, MPH, RD, LD

Health Promotion Coordinator for Healthy Cleveland,  
Cleveland Department of Public Health

Sandra Cornett, PhD, RN

Retired Director of the OSU/AHEC  
Clear Health Communication Program, OSU  
College of Medicine

Mary Ann Abrams, MD, MPH

Clinical Assistant Professor in the Department of  
Pediatrics, The Ohio State University College of  
Medicine, GME Quality Improvement Medical  
Director and Primary Care Pediatrics Physician  
at Nationwide Children's Hospital

Ruth Ludwick, PhD, RN-BC, APRN-CNS, FAAN

Adjunct Graduate Faculty, Northeast Ohio  
Medical University, Professor Emeritus, Kent  
State University, College of Nursing,  
Independent Consultant

## Patient/Caregiver Panelists

Mary Beth Child, Byron Center, Michigan

Mona Taylor, Columbus, Ohio

Karen Ricci, Akron, Ohio

Ashland  
University  
401 College Avenue  
Ashland, OH 44805