DISTINGUISHED LECTURE SERIES

SPONSORED BY THE NATIVE AMERICAN CENTER FOR HEALTH PROFESSIONS

THE MEANINGFUL JOURNEY: AGING AND THRIVING IN INDIGENOUS COMMUNITIES- A GROWING PARTNERSHIP

Monday, November 16 , 2026

11:30 am - 1:00 pm

Room 1345

Health Sciences Learning Center

750 Highland Avenue, Madison WI

IN-PERSON REGISTRATION HERE

VIRTUAL REGISTRATION HERE

This co-presentation will provide an overview of the Veterans Affairs (VA) health care system, share insights about Tribal veterans, and explore the history and evolution of the partnership among the Madison VA Geriatrics Research Education and Clinical Center (GRECC), the University of Wisconsin Alzheimer's Disease Research Center (ADRC), the Community Advisory Board (CAB), and the Oneida Nation. Dr. Steve Barczi and Connor J. Kestell will jointly discuss their collaborative efforts to improve Veteran enrollment, increase access to VA services and programming, and advance meaningful partnerships that support Tribal veterans.

The goal of this series is to provide education about health topics in Indigenous communities.

All are welcome.

School of Medicine and Public Health
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN–MADISON

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Dr. Steve Barczi, Professor of Medicine, Chief of the University of Wisconsin Division of Geriatrics and

Madison VA GRECC Directorhas practiced in the fields of geriatrics and sleep medicine for over 30 years. He is a clinician-educator, academician and physician-leader within the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health, UW Health and the William S. Middleton VA Hospital in Madison. His professional interests include sleep and aging, memory health, telemedicine and geriatric education. He is a Veteran who has served in multiple roles within the VA Geriatric Research, Education and Clinical Center. His most recent efforts include enhancing the telemedicine experience for rural older adults and collaborating with community partners such as Wisconsin Tribal Health Centers to ensure access to high quality geriatric telemedicine consultation services for rural Tribal Veterans and their families.



Connor J. Kestell is the Oneida Veterans Services Manager, Tribal Veteran Service Officer, and a proud U.S. Navy veteran. He is dedicated to supporting veterans through advocacy, service coordination, and community engagement. Drawing from his own military experience, Connor works to connect veterans with the resources and opportunities they need to thrive while building strong partnerships that strengthen support for veterans and their families.