

ARCH Podcast Series

Conversations in Caregiving: Exploring Innovations in Respite Care

BIO

Speaker: Christine McGrane MS, RN, CNE, University of Rhode Island

Christine McGrane MS, RN, CNE, has experience in acute care, home, and community settings. She primarily teaches in the clinical and simulation setting and has served as a faculty leader on student service trips. She is involved with a statewide project providing in-home respite to caregivers of children with special needs. She is a member of Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society for Nursing and the American Nurses Association. In addition, she is a member of the International Nursing Association for Clinical Simulation and Learning (INACSL), and the Association of Community Health Nurse Educators (ACHNE). She is currently completing her PhD studies.

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BIO

Speaker: Melissa Leisen, Ph.D., RN, Assistant Professor ,
Marymount University

Dr. Leisen is a graduate of Eastern Mennonite University Nursing program, Harrisonburg, VA. Upon graduation, she worked as a nurse on the Pediatric Medical/Surgical unit at INOVA Fairfax Hospital for Children. She has also worked in a pediatric pulmonary practice where she cared for children such as those who were born prematurely, children with asthma or cystic fibrosis, and children with other breathing problems. In 2010, she earned her Master's degree in Nursing Education from George Mason University, so that she could share her love for children and their families with future nurses. Then in 2011, Dr. Leisen was overjoyed to be able return to the Shenandoah Valley to join the team at James Madison University School of Nursing, where she could further share her passion for serving children with disabilities and their families with future nurses. She was attracted to JMU because of the Claude Moore Precious Time respite care program where she serves as the Academic Director in addition to serving as the Course Coordinator for the Pediatric nursing clinical course. In December 2021, Dr. Leisen graduated from Villanova University. Her dissertation was on the experiences of the nursing students providing care for children with disabilities in the Precious Time respite care program.