About the Speakers...

Charles Canaan, Palmetto GBA...Charles Canaan has over 20 years of diverse nursing experience in a variety of healthcare settings, to include inpatient, outpatient, home and organizational settings. His education includes a Bachelor of Science Degree in Nursing from Old Dominion University in Norfolk, Virginia, Coding for Health Care Professionals Certificate from Trident technical College in Charleston, South Carolina, a Graduate Studies Certificate in Alcohol and Drug studies and a Master of Public Health Degree in Health Promotion and Education from the University of South Carolina. He currently provides education and consultation to Medicare Part A and Part B providers with learning needs.

Bill Dombi, President, National Association for Home Care & Hospice (NAHC)...Bill also serves as the Director, Center for Health Care Law and the Executive Director, Home Care and Hospice Financial Managers Association.

Bill specializes in legal, legislative, and regulatory advocacy on behalf of patients and providers of home health and hospice care. With over 40 years of experience in health care law and policy, Bill Dombi has been involved in virtually all legislative and regulatory efforts affecting home care and hospice since 1975, including the expansion of the Medicare home health benefit in 1980, the formation of the hospice benefit in 1983, the development of Medicare PPS for home health in 2000, and the national health care reform legislation in 2010.

He also has an extensive background in impact oriented litigation. Dombi was lead counsel in the landmark lawsuit that reformed the Medicare home health services benefit, challenges to HMO home care cutbacks for high-tech home care patients, lawsuits against Medicaid programs for inadequate payment rates, a nationwide class action against then-HCFA for its failure to enforce the federal HMO Act, litigation directed against the "Interim Payment System" for the Medicare home health benefit, a lawsuit addressing the so-called Medicare “case mix creep adjustments” in 2008-2010, a challenge to the Medicare face-to-face physician encounter rule, and litigation challenging changes to federal overtime rules.

Bill is a longstanding and active member of the ABA and American Health Lawyers Association.
J’non Griffin is a 30 year veteran of home care as an RN, a national full service consultant in home health and hospice, and is a nationally recognized speaker on a variety of pertinent home health and hospice topics. She has several publications in the home health and hospice market, and has developed agency tools and products for sale.

She received her Master’s Degree in Health Care Administration in 2005. She has experience as a field nurse, director and executive with home health and hospice agencies, both large and small. She has served as Director of Staff Development and Appeals for home health and hospice agencies. She has taken part in mock surveys for agencies, and prepared agencies for accreditation. She has been directly involved in accreditation surveys, acquisitions and many regulatory crises with state survey agencies and the intermediary. J’non is certified as a Homecare Coding Specialist-Diagnosis (HCS-D), Certified in OASIS competency, COS-C, Hospice certified coder (HCS-H) Homecare Compliance (HCS-C) and is an AHIMA approved ICD-10-CM trainer/ambassador.

Desmica M. Head is a Health Insurance Specialist/Professional Relations Outreach Lead for the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services in the Atlanta Regional Office in the Division of Financial Management and Fee-for-Service Operations. Desmica began her career with CMS in 2007. In her position, she currently delivers quality customer service to beneficiaries, consumers, and the health care community, and provide expertise on hospital, skilled-nursing facility, home health, incarceration, durable medical equipment, eligibility, coverage and payment policies. She continues to build and maintain collaborative local professional relationships with Medicare providers, suppliers and other stakeholders that serve beneficiaries/consumers for the states of AL, FL, GA, KY, MS, TN, NC, and SC. Desmica holds a Bachelor’s Degree in Human Services from Shorter University and a Master’s Degree in Public Administration with a focus in Health Care from Kaplan University. She is a Georgia native and enjoys traveling, reading, spending time with her two young adult daughters Destinee and Diamond, and serving in her local church ministry.

COMEDIAN KENN KINGTON is one of the most popular Comics on XM radio and performs regularly across the country, but KENN is so much MORE than a comedian.

MOTIVATOR KENN has spoken to hundreds of companies giving amazing focus in the midst of change, maximizing productivity, developing record-breaking product launches, but there’s MORE. Yes, KENN was also a top 10 salesman in a Fortune 500 growth company, so KENN is MORE than a motivator.

INSPIRATIONAL KENN has written two bestselling books on relationships and records a regular radio show/podcast that inspires thousands to experience life to the fullest. Yet, KENN is MORE than simply inspirational. When you hear KENN, rest assured you will be entertained, encouraged, challenged and inspired but the greatest benefit is that YOU will leave with more hope, clarity, insight and motivation to experience true success and significance. Hearing KENN is truly a unique experience and will leave you wanting even... MORE!!
MaKisha Pressley-Callaham is a Senior Provider Relations Representative at Palmetto GBA. She has over 20 years of Medicare experience, which includes eleven years as the Competitive Bidding Liaison for North and South Carolina, Tennessee and Kentucky competitive bidding areas (CBAs), 7 years as a DMERC ombudsman for the state of North Carolina and 2 years as a customer service representative. MaKisha earned her Doctoral degree in Education with an emphasis in Instructional Technology and Distance Education from Nova Southeastern University in 2012.

William J. Simione, III, Managing Principal, Simione Healthcare Consultants...One of the most visible financial thought leaders in the industry, William J. Simione III has been involved in home care and hospice for more than 28 years. In addition to leading Simione Healthcare Consultants, he has held many interim management positions, including CEO and CFO for agencies, multi-state providers and hospital-owned post-acute entities, and has been instrumental in many agency turnarounds, including positioning an agency for acquisition.

Bill is an experienced speaker addressing many national and state home care and hospice organizations on financial, agency management and leadership development topics. He is a member of the National Association for Home Care & Hospice, and board member for both the Home Health and Hospice Financial Management Association and Connecticut Association for Healthcare at Home. Bill earned a B.S. in accounting from Villanova University.

Mary St. Pierre, RN, BSN, MGA...Ms. St. Pierre was employed as a registered nurse by the Visiting Nurse Association and St. Francis Hospital in New Jersey from 1967-1969, followed by 24 years as a home care nurse, clinical supervisor and branch manager with the Visiting Nurse Association of Washington, DC (now MedStar VNA).

Before retiring in 2013 she oversaw the operations of the Regulatory Affairs Department of the National Association for Home Care & Hospice (NAHC) for 20 years, tracking regulations and influencing regulatory bodies (e.g. CMS, FDA, OSHA). She wrote articles, prepared educational programs, presented speeches and programs and kept the NAHC membership abreast of regulatory, Medicare coverage, quality, and clinical information.

Since retirement Ms. St. Pierre has served as a consultant, offering clinical, operational, and regulatory guidance to home health agencies, software vendors, and home health consulting firms. She consulted exclusively for HEALTHCAREfirst from 2014 through March, 2019. In addition, she assisted in editing several Marrelli & Associates publications.