

Hello SASH staff and Happy Summer!

Although summer has just begun, the SASH admin team is already looking ahead with excitement to this fall's SASH conference! This year's conference will be fully virtual on Zoom and offered over two days, September 29th and 30th, giving more staff the opportunity to participate. We are thrilled to welcome Michael Verde for our keynote presentation, **Love is Listening: Dementia without Loneliness**. This meaningful session is open to all staff—not just SASH teams—and we hope many colleagues will join us. Please email SASH@catherdralsquare.org with the name and email address of anyone outside SASH staff so we can be sure they receive an invitation.

Our societies' increasing reliance on virtual technology is a double-edged sword! The advantages of virtual are the ability to work with talented presenters from farther away, increased access for staff who cannot travel, ability to easily record sessions, and a huge reduction in cost. Our biggest conference sponsor, Dartmouth Health, generously covers most conference expenses; however, they cannot cover the cost of food. Food and venue costs have gone up considerably over the past few years. It is no longer sustainable to host the conference in person.

We've heard from many of you how much you value being together, and we feel the same. Time together helps us stay connected, learn from one another, and support the work we do every day. Even though this year's conference will be virtual, we hope teams will gather when they can, join together, and use the time to connect with local peers. We are also hoping to find a way to come together in person next year.

Please mark your calendars for September 29 and 30, talk with your teammates about joining together, and keep an eye out for more conference details soon. We can't wait to see you there.

Casey & Liz