

10:15 a.m – 11:45 a.m.

Concurrent Session 1H

Being In-Between: Caretaking and Grief in Palliative Care

Virtual

*This session is approved for 1.5 SW CE credits

Speaker:

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As end-of-life care may shift back and forth between family and institutional care through assisted living and hospice, the process of grief and the perception of 'burdensomeness' also may shift and unfold in ways that increases the traumatic effects and suffering of all stakeholders. Ambiguous grief (grieving those who have not yet died) along with what Harold Braswell terms 'FBO' or feeling of burdensomeness to others (2018), can complicate quality access to care so that end-of life care becomes a crisis situation. As Braswell states it, "Anyone who puts themselves in the position of caring for a dying family member has already committed themselves to love ... [but we are also] exposing ourselves to the possibility of our failure: the despairing reality that love, sometimes, is not enough" (2019). In this presentation, I want to unpack the in-betweenness of this grief as it can inform and interfere with access to quality palliative care.