we're excited to introduce you to this year's stellar faculty

Dr. Will Kennedy, DO joined Housecall Providers after serving as the medical director for Population Health Partnerships at CareOregon. Will received his medical degree from Ohio University and completed a fellowship in hospice and palliative medicine at the Mount Carmel Health System. Starting in 2008, he worked at Laguna Honda Hospital in San Francisco, the country's largest nursing facility for indigent populations. In Oregon, Will served as medical director for hospice and palliative medicine programs at Adventist Health before joining CareOregon in 2013.

Nora J. O’Brien, MPA, CEM, CEO is an emergency management and business continuity planning expert and principal boss lady of Connect Consulting Services headquartered in Sacramento, California. Prior to the launch of Connect Consulting Services in 2009, she spent nearly a decade serving as associate director for the California Primary Care Association (CPCA) where she led efforts in emergency management resources and training to enhance preparedness and response capacity. Nora led the widely successful emergency response plans for the CPAC including Hurricane Katrina (2005), the California Wildfires (2007-2008) and the H1N1 influenza viral outbreak (Vice President, Program Planning). She serves as a Contributing Writer for Emergency Management Magazine and has served as an Instructor for FEMA’s Center for Domestic Preparedness. She has B.A. in Political Science and a Masters in Public Affairs with a concentration in Disaster and Emergency Management. Ms. O’Brien also received the Certified Emergency Manager (CEM) designation from the International Association of Emergency Managers.

Joan M. Teno, MD, MS is a physician health services researcher with over 25 years of experience conducting research on end of life care in the US. She is a board certified internist with added qualifications in geriatrics, hospice, and palliative medicine. Dr. Teno was a hospice medical director for 18 years. She is currently the project leader of a program project grant studying the impact of Accountable Care Organizations on the medical care of persons with advanced dementia, past recipient of a Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) Health Policy Investigator Award, and investigator on the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) contract on creating the Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers and Systems (CAHPS) Hospice Survey. Over the past decade, she has been the PI of two National Institute on Aging (NIA) grants working with Drs. Mor, Mitchell, and Gozalo that provided the authoritative evidence base of the effectiveness of percutaneous endoscopic gastrostomy (PEG) feeding tube in persons with advance dementia. In recognition of this body of work, Dr. Teno was part of the study panel of the 2014 Institute of Medicine (IOM) report on reforming how we care for seriously ill and dying persons in America. In 2018, Dr. Teno was named one of the visionaries in hospice and palliative care. Throughout Dr. Teno’s career, she has been one of the leaders in defining and operationalizing how we measure the quality of care for those who are dying through bereaved family member surveys and use of administrative data.

Barb Hansen, MA, RN earned her BS in Nursing from the Oregon Health and Sciences University and received a Master of Arts in Interdisciplinary Studies at Oregon State University with a focus on Gerontology and Community Health. She has worked in end-of-life care in many roles since 1986: Home Health and Hospice Nurse Case Manager, Clinical Coordinator, Home Care Surveyor for the Joint Commission; Wound, Ostomy, Continence RN, and Director of a Hospice, a Hospice Inpatient Unit and a Home Health program. Currently, Barb serves as the CEO of the Oregon Hospice and Palliative Care Association and Executive Director of the Washington State Hospice & Palliative Care Organization.

As NHPCO’s Vice President of Compliance and Regulatory Leadership, Judi Lund Person, BA, MPH serves as a key contact with the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, ensuring NHPCO’s voice is heard with policymakers and interfacing with hospice payment policy, Part D, survey and certification, contractor management, and program integrity functions, among others. Judi led the organization through the release and implementation of the Medicare Hospice Conditions of Participation in 2008 and develops tools each year for hospice providers, including hospice payment rates and wage index values. She works daily with hospice providers and state hospice organizations on the ever-increasing array of regulatory and compliance issues and translates complex regulatory language into actionable “plain English” for hospice providers. Prior to joining the team at NHPCO, she served for 22 years as the President and CEO of The Carolinas Center for Hospice and End of Life Care, and was an early advocate for the passage of the Medicare Hospice Benefit in Congress.