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# Spring / Summer 2024 Membership Newsletter



Hello Members!

We hope you are enjoying this lovely Spring weather!!! Our work at GAELO continues....see below for updates on our tax status, CO-AGE

As always, we sincerely thank you for your support. We are here for you- please do not hesitate to reach out for more information about our available resources or how you can become more involved with GAELO. Contact info at the bottom of this newsletter.



## We are Officially a 501(c)(3) Organization

We are happy to announce that on April 16, 2024, the IRS approved GAELO's application for tax-exempt status as a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization! We are excited to celebrate this step on our journey and looking forward to beginning fundraising activities soon. In the meantime, if you would like to make a contribution immediately, please mail a check to the address below:

**Georgians for End of Life Options**  
**235 Peachtree St., NE, Ste, 400**  
**Atlanta, GA 30303**



## CO-AGE Update

Medical Aid in Dying (MAID) was selected as a 2024 Legislative Priority by CO-AGE members last July. CO-AGE (Coalition of Aging) is a subgroup of the Georgia Council on Aging (GCOA), a government aligned organization that advocates to improve the lives of aging Georgians.

Due to the complexity of the issue, members of the CO-AGE workgroup found it important to defer pursuit of legislative action until the 2025 General Assembly session. In the meantime, CO-AGE members have launched an educational campaign for 2024 so that the community can better understand the issue, have the opportunity to ask questions and engage in meaningful discourse before approaching the legislature to request a Study Committee in 2025. We will not have to go through the application and voting process again this year as MAID will automatically roll over to the CO-AGE 2025 Legislative Priorities List.

The MAID working group has finalized a PowerPoint for presentations, and is ready to begin scheduling for any group that is interested. If you are a member of a group, or know of a group that would like to have the CO-AGE MAID working group give a presentation, please contact us by email to [ptalley@gaelo.org](mailto:ptalley@gaelo.org), or [kaffie@bellsouth.net](mailto:kaffie@bellsouth.net).

If you are interested in getting involved in legislative advocacy for MAID, please [become a member of the Georgia Council on Aging](#) (only \$10 per year) and sign up to join the MAID working group. The working group will be training volunteers to deliver MAID presentations across that state.

## Board Changes!

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Please join us in welcoming Dr. Jeremy Davis to GAELO's Board of Directors! Dr. Jeremy Davis is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Philosophy at the University of Georgia, and a Faculty Fellow at UGA's Institute for Artificial Intelligence. His scholarly research is broadly in applied ethics. His work in biomedical ethics has appeared in journals such as *Bioethics*, the *Journal of Medical Ethics*, *Journal of Bioethical Inquiry*, *Cambridge Quarterly of Healthcare Ethics*, and elsewhere. Broadly, Dr. Davis's work in this area defends a philosophically robust view of patient-centered care, which has important implications for expanding access to end-of-life options. In addition to his scholarly work, Dr. Davis is also an ethics consultant with Compass Ethics.

We are sad to announce that Lisa Kaufman has informed of us her decision to resign her board seat to focus her time on other endeavors. Her experience as a Death Doula and commitment to GAELO's cause were invaluable and she has the full gratitude of our organization for her contributions as a member on the board. We are extremely grateful that she will remain engaged as an advisor to the board.

## **Interested in getting involved with GAELO?**

We are seeking individuals who are dedicated to our causes to join our team.

If you or someone you know is interested in contributing to any of the roles/teams below, please don't hesitate to reach out to us by emailing [admin@gaelo.org](mailto:admin@gaelo.org)!

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- [Social media contributors](#) to help create and post content to our followers
- [Volunteer contacts](#) who can meet virtually with Georgian's seeking guidance on advance care planning
- [Anything else!](#) If you think you can help out in a different way- don't hesitate to reach out. We are growing everyday and always have room on the team for those who are passionate about MAID and advance care planning.



*For any inquires, comments or to unsubscribe, please email:*

*[admin@gaelo.org](mailto:admin@gaelo.org)*

