



EMPOWERMENT



### Seniors STRAIGHT Talk New Shows Weekly

**June 23rd 2021: What is the Volun-Cheerleader  
Nursing Home Workforce**

What is a Volun-CheerLeader Workforce and Why do we need it? The long-standing hallmark of nursing home life has been loneliness and isolation. It's a contradiction in terms that oftentimes people move into a nursing home environment because they not only need care, but also because they are alone and isolated. The contradiction is that in the traditional nursing home environment, surrounded by people residents are often alone and isolated and 50% of nursing home residents do not receive visitors. The pandemic only highlighted that issue even further. Insufficient staffing is also a long

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### Featured Guest



#### Dr. Paul Falkowski

Dr. Paul Falkowski has dedicated his life to serving the people living and working in long-term care communities. He has a bachelor's degree in music and holds both a Master's Degree and Doctorate in Gerontology. He was first attracted to the field of aging through volunteering to provide musical entertainment in nursing homes. In 1993, he formed a nonprofit that recruited and trained approximately 700 volunteers for Omaha and Lincoln Nebraska nursing homes for over 26 years. In 2003, he contacted the Department of Gerontology at the Univ of Nebraska and was encouraged to pursue a Gerontology graduate certificate. Eighteen years later, he teaches online courses for the Department of Geront

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