



# The Association of Adult Development and Aging is proud to welcome our Keynote

## **Matthew Fullen, Ph.D**

*Associate Professor of Counselor Education at Virginia Tech*

Dr. Matthew Fullen is an associate professor of Counselor Education at Virginia Tech, as well as an affiliate faculty for the Virginia Tech Center for Gerontology. He has worked with older adults since 2005, first in the affordable senior housing industry, and then as a licensed professional clinical counselor. He has worked as a mental health professional in diverse settings, including long-term care, adult day, and private practice contexts. Fullen is one of those most active gerontology scholars within the counseling profession, and his work has been funded by federal, private non-profit, and university-based grants. Dr. Fullen's research agenda focuses on three distinct areas: 1) Developing and implementing counseling interventions that focus on wellness and resilience in older adulthood, 2) Expanding older adults' access to mental health services, specifically through expansion of Medicare-eligible services, and 3) Preventing suicide through community-based prevention frameworks. He has contributed to more than 90 peer-reviewed or invited conference presentations and published numerous scholarly publications in academic journals across the counseling and gerontology disciplines. Dr. Fullen has been instrumental in the passage of the Mental Health Access Improvement Act which will provide greater access to mental health services to those in the Medicare population.

