

Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics
Quality Management Committee
Quality Time Session
September 30, 2026
Presenter Biographies

Tamaire (Tammy) Ojeda Avila, MHSA, RDN, LD, CLSSGB



Tammy is the Director of Quality Initiatives and Improvement at the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics. In this role, she leverages nearly two decades of experience as a Registered Dietitian Nutritionist to lead transformative quality improvement programs and contribute to the CMS986 Malnutrition Care Score Measure Development and Stewardship team. Her diverse career spans acute care, outpatient services, higher education, and community health. Prior to her current position, Tammy served as a Food Service Manager and Outpatient Clinical Dietitian at a Veterans Health Administration facility. She has also made significant contributions to clinical nutrition in areas such as oncology, dialysis, weight management, and diabetes education.

Tammy holds a Lean Six Sigma Green Belt certification and focuses her work towards advancing patient care, improving patient outcomes, and enhancing the value of nutrition and dietetics credentialed practitioners in service delivery. Her passion for quality and innovation continues to drive meaningful improvements across the nutrition and dietetics profession.

Rickeya Feggans, RDN



Rickeya is the Nutrition Services Manager with Feeding America, where she focuses on supporting the work around promoting nutrition and culturally preferred foods, as well as guidance around food based interventions in food and health programming, in a national network of 199 partner food banks. She is also serving on the State of Virginia's Commission to End Hunger, where she focuses on the development and success of "ending the line work" across the state, participating in things such as shaping relevant policy agenda, increasing access to healthy foods for neighbors across the state, and working with

other citizen and legislative members to advocate for research and solutions to food insecurity. She obtained her bachelor's in Nutritional Sciences from Howard University and has twelve years of combined experience in both clinical and community dietetics.

A self-proclaimed food nerd, Rickeya loves all things food, science and nutrition. A long time Hampton Roads resident, she enjoys being in nature and caring for her bearded dragons and crested gecko, as well as her dog. She is now based in Newport News, Virginia. Her family keeps her grounded but also supports her in helping neighbors in need reach their dreams of a hunger-free, healthy life.

Dana Mitchel, RDN, LD



Dana Mitchel is a Registered Dietitian with 16 years of experience in public health nutrition. She is the Director of Community Health and Nutrition at the Lowcountry Food Bank (LCFB) in coastal South Carolina. In her role, Ms. Mitchel leads a multi-pronged approach to support the adoption of healthy behaviors through policies, systems, and environmental changes and hands-on culinary nutrition education. Her work in the non-profit sector spans securing sustainable funding, training communities and organizations in creating healthy environments, and advising health care institutions on integrating food insecurity screening and interventions into workflows. Dana is passionate about working towards nutrition security and overcoming barriers to food access through cross-sector partnerships.

Dana has served on the board of the South Carolina and Charleston Dietetic Association as well as advises on several state health coalitions. She has been an adjunct instructor at the Culinary Institute of Charleston, a guest lecturer at the College of Charleston, Charleston Southern University, Citadel, USC Beaufort, and the Medical University of South Carolina as well as a group fitness instructor. Dana graduated from Virginia Tech with a BS in Dietetics and Exercise Science and completed her dietetic internship at the Medical University of South Carolina.