



Illinois Academy  
of Nutrition  
and Dietetics

an affiliate of the  
**egri** right Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics

# 2026 ANNUAL SPRING ASSEMBLY

## PROGRAM AGENDA

**DAY 1 - FRIDAY,  
MARCH 20TH**

**5 CPEU**

(PENDING CDR APPROVAL)

\*\* Supported by  
Pediatric DPG

**11:30 AM**

Registration | Vendors | Posters

**12:00 PM**

Event Start

**12:05 PM**

Sylvia Klinger, DBA, MS, RDN - *Advancing Health Outcomes through Culture-Centered Nutrition*

**1:05 PM**

Golda Ewalt, MS, RD, LD, CEC - *Cooking Demo - Exploring the World of Tinned Seafood: Beyond the Sardine*

**1:55 PM**

Break | Vendors | Posters | Snack

**2:10 PM \*\***

Melissa Bernstein PhD, RDN, LD, FAND, DipACLM, FACLM, FNAP & Meryl Fury, MS, RN - *Artichokes - Zucchini: Solutions for "I Don't Eat Vegetables"*

**3:15 PM**

Deanne Brandstetter, MBA, RDN, CDN, FAND, AND President - *Academy in Action*

**4:20 PM**

Break | Vendors | Posters

**4:35 PM \*\***

Lauren Spain, PhD, RDN, LD, CDCES, FAND - *From Breast Milk to Benchtop: Exploring the Clinical Promise of Human Milk Oligosaccharides*

**5:40 PM**

Wylecia Wiggs Harris, PhD, CAE, AND CEO - *Courageous Leadership*

**6:15 PM**

Awards Presentation

**6:45 PM**

Appetizer Reception | Networking  
Vendors | Posters



Illinois Academy  
of Nutrition  
and Dietetics

# 2026 ANNUAL SPRING ASSEMBLY

## PROGRAM AGENDA

DAY 2 - SATURDAY,  
MARCH 21ST

**6.5 CPEU**

(PENDING CDR APPROVAL)

\*\* Supported by  
Pediatric DPG

✦ Supported by  
National Pork Board

**8:30 AM**

Registration | Vendors | Posters

**9:00 AM**

Event Start

**9:05 AM**

Sharon McCauley, MS, MBA, RDN, FADA, FAND, CDR  
Executive Director - *Empowering the Dietetics  
Workforce: Credentialing, Capacity, and Career  
Growth in a Changing Landscape*

**10:05 AM ✦**

Meghan Daw Sedivy, RD, LDN - *Nourishing Health  
and Connection at Every Meal*

**11:10 AM**

Lunch | Vendors | Posters

**11:40 AM**

Brooke Schantz Fosco, MS, RDN, LDN & Maria  
Dellanina, LDN, RDN - *From Assistant to Amplifier:  
Responsible AI in Dietetics*

**12:45 PM**

Kevin Pietro, PhD, RDN, CSSD, LDN, - *Building Allies,  
Guarding Boundaries: The RDN's Path in  
Interprofessional Education and Practice*

**1:50 PM**

Break | Vendors | Posters | Snack

**2:10 PM \*\***

Eileen Vincent, MS, RDN - *Baby Steps for Food  
Allergy Prevention: The CAN DO Study*

**3:15 PM**

Jeanna Rich, RDN, LDN, CSO & Gabrielle Haskell, MS,  
RD, LDN - *Advocating for Enteral Success: Expect  
the Unexpected*

**4:30 PM**

Event End