

Dr. Keren Brown Wilson has worked in community-based care since 1976. She was an owner and the operator of the first assisted living project in Oregon (1981-1986). In 1985 she developed the first Medicaid reimbursed program for assisted living. Dr. Wilson has been involved in more than 200 housing projects for the elderly throughout the United States. She has been an advisor to numerous state governments and foreign countries has been President of the Jessie F. Richardson Foundation (JFR), a non-profit charitable organization, since 2000.

JFR mission is to work with the most vulnerable elders. Since 2001 JFR has had an Initiative in Nicaragua, 2nd poorest country in the Western Hemisphere providing short-term aid, as well as developing in-country capacity and sustainable solutions to provide care for a growing elder population. In 2010 JFR began the Elder Initiative of Appalachia. This Initiative is designed to address growing gaps in service for low and very-low income elders. JFR also has currently has projects in Portland OR and Miami FL that target hard to serve elders.

Dr. Wilson is a Past Chair of the Assisted Living Federation of America, has served on the Boards of the American Society of Aging, Institute of Medicine Panel on Quality in Long Term Care, Portland State University Foundation Board, and, Generations Editorial Board. She currently serves on Concordia University and Albertina Kerr, Assistance to the Elderly and JFR Boards.

She also is an associate professor at Portland State University, serves on numerous other advisory panels and is a published author in the area of assisted living and long term care.