



Connection And Synergy Presents:

The Space Between Life
and Loss:

What Caregiving Teaches
Us About Being Human

**A Presentation
By Susan Bloom,
Master Equine Gestaltist,
Healthcare Relationship
Advocate, and Storyteller**

- Caregiving changes us—in unexpected ways.
- Speaking from the space where caregiving, loss, and healing meet.



Program Overview

Caregiving is often framed as a role, a responsibility, or a season of life. But in truth, it is a threshold—one that quietly reshapes identity, relationships, and the way we understand what it means to be human.

After losing her husband during an air ambulance transport, Susan Bloom found herself standing in a space no one prepares us for: the space between life and loss, hope and reality, doing everything right and having no control at all.

In this deeply human and resonant keynote, Susan invites audiences into that liminal space—where caregiving, communication, and presence collide. Drawing from lived experience as a caregiver, patient, and Master Equine Gestaltist, she explores what happens when expertise is present, connection is not—and how healing begins when we are truly seen, regulated, and not alone.

This is not a talk about tragedy.

It is a talk about what remains—and what caregiving reveals about who we are when life doesn't go as planned.

Key Learning Points

Audiences will leave with:

- A deeper understanding of the invisible emotional load of caregiving
- Insight into how communication and presence impact people in crisis
- A deeper understanding of the role presence and regulation play alongside expertise
- Language for the liminal space between before and after
- A new lens on connection as a human necessity, not a luxury
- Permission to slow down, regulate, and return to themselves

Signature Moments in the Talk

- The Air Ambulance Story—A powerful, restrained account that grounds the talk in lived experience and immediately establishes trust and gravity.
- Naming the Liminal Space—Giving audiences language for the “in-between” they’ve lived in but never had words for.
- The Cost of Disconnection—A moment that gently but clearly illustrates how absence of presence—not lack of skill—leaves lasting wounds.



- The Turning Inward—A shift from story to reflection, inviting listeners to examine their own caregiving roles—past or present.
- The Return to Humanity—A grounded close that emphasizes connection, regulation, and the courage to remain human in hard spaces.

Why This Talk Matters

Caregiving touches nearly every family, workplace, and community—yet caregivers are often unsupported, unseen, and isolated. In healthcare, leadership, and caregiving roles alike, we are trained to perform, solve, and endure, but rarely taught how to stay connected to ourselves or each other in crisis.

This talk matters because it:

- Gives voice to experiences many silently carry
- Bridges the gap between clinical competence and human connection
- Offers a path toward more humane caregiving, leadership, and care systems
- Reminds audiences that presence is not a soft skill—it is essential



5 Reasons This Work Lights Me Up

Because caregivers deserve language for what they've lived

Naming experience is the first step toward healing.

Because I've lived on every side of the caregiving equation

As a caregiver, patient, and daughter of a physician, I understand the complexity from the inside out.

Because connection changes outcomes—emotional and physical

I've seen what happens when it's missing, and when it's restored.

Because slowing down is a radical act in a culture that rewards endurance

Creating space is not weakness—it's wisdom.

Because staying human in hard moments is a skill we can relearn

And when we do, everything changes. Turns reaction into intention, and intention into connection.

Who This Talk Is For

- Caregivers and caregiving organizations
- Healthcare professionals and physician groups
- Women's leadership and community conferences
- Rural, agriculture, and resilience-focused audiences
- Organizations seeking more humane, relational leadership

About Susan Bloom

Master Equine Gestaltist | Healthcare Relationship Advocate | Storyteller

Susan Bloom is a lifelong horsewoman, a Master Equine Gestaltist®, and an Equine Assisted PlayShop facilitator who helps people rediscover authenticity, connection, and wholeness through the wisdom of horses.

As a Master Equine Gestaltist, Susan is trained in the Equine Gestalt Coaching Method® (EGCM), a four-year intensive program that blends experiential coaching with the healing presence of horses. In this work, she partners with her herd to help clients uncover unfinished business, release limiting patterns, and find new pathways to healing and growth.



As an Equine Assisted PlayShop facilitator, Susan designs interactive, horse-guided experiences that foster connection, self-awareness, and emotional intelligence for both individuals and groups — from healthcare professionals and corporate teams to caregivers and families. Her programs invite participants to explore communication, leadership, and mindfulness through direct, authentic engagement.

Beyond the arena, Susan brings a rich personal perspective to her work. She is a breast cancer survivor, a reluctant caregiver for both her husband and son, and a western lifestyle photographer and writer. With a B.A. in Communications, she weaves her lifelong passion for storytelling into everything she does.

Today, Susan partners with doctors, caregivers, and professionals to create spaces where healing conversations can begin—places where both people and horses remind us what it means to be truly present, human, and whole.

Contact

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