

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES (in alphabetical order)

Note: Breakout Session speaker bios are posted on line.



Kelsey Allen is the Community Coordinator for Eat Smart Move More South Carolina and works with local coalitions throughout the state providing technical assistance and supporting community change toward improving access to healthy eating and active living. Before working with ESMMSC, she was a health educator for SCDHEC as well as a WIC nutritionist where she counseled mothers of young children on healthy eating and active living. She received her Master's in Public Health from the University of Pittsburgh and a Bachelor's of Science in Nutritional Sciences from Michigan State University. Kelsey is passionate about seeing communities create sustainable changes and working with diverse groups of people.



Naomi Amaha-Gollnick is the Senior Director of State Policy Initiatives for the South-West Affiliate of the American Heart Association (AHA). In her role, Naomi oversees state government relations operations across six states. She previously served as the Oklahoma Government Relations Director for the AHA and successfully secured passage of legislation regarding quality systems to care, access to care and obesity prevention. Before joining the AHA, Naomi served as a Communications Analyst for the URS Corporation in Washington D.C. Additionally while working in the D.C. area, Naomi served as a Legislative Associate at Stateside Associates, one the leading state and local government affairs firm in the country. Her career in government relations advocacy began when she served as a Legislative Assistant to California State Assembly Member, Joe Coto. Mrs. Amaha-Gollnick holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Sociology and Communications from the University of California, Davis. In personal time, Naomi serves as the Public Policy Council Event Chair for the Junior League of Denver and is a mentor through Big Brothers Big Sisters of Colorado. She currently resides in the Denver Metro area and looks forward to making an impact in her new community.



Donyel Barber served as a Child Protective Services worker in Gaston County for nearly 9 years where she conducted investigations of child abuse and neglect. From 2004 until March 2016, she served as the Executive Director of Family Promise of Gaston County (formally Gaston County Interfaith Hospitality Network, Inc.), which is a program dedicated to helping families in crisis and in homeless situations regain their independence and self-sufficiency. As director, she has helped numerous homeless families transition back into their own homes, as well as prevented many under employed individuals from becoming homeless through the services she has been able to provide. Under her great leadership, Family Promise received Gaston Together's 2006 Organizational Leadership Award. She was also one of 10 citizens in Gaston County to be named Family Advocate of the Year for 2005 and she received a medal for this honor. On March 7, 2016 Donyel accepted the call to become the new Community Centered Health Coordinator for Gaston Family Health Services, promoting community engagement, while identifying the social determinants leading to poor health in the community, in hopes to improve the overall health of the community.

#SOSGA2017



Mary Bennett is a Community Coach at County Health Rankings & Roadmaps, a collaboration of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and the University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute. Mary's role is to provide strategic guidance to communities that want to put the County Health Rankings into action for community health improvement. She is part of a team that develops online tools to connect communities to evidence-informed strategies and foster peer learning, delivers technical assistance and training, and recognizes and celebrates health improvement.

Prior to joining the Population Health Institute, Mary worked with non-profit organizations for over 25 years, primarily focusing on improving the treatment of chronic pain through raising awareness and promoting the best pain policy, legislation, and practice. Most recently she was the Director of Alliance Development with the Pain Alliance to Implement a National Strategy (PAINS). Ms. Bennett has received national recognition for her work, and currently serves on the various national boards.



Don Betts is a Senior Project Manager with Georgia Tech's Center for Economic Development Research (CEDR) and has broad experience in developing and delivering innovative economic and community development programs. He is a persuasive communicator who likes finding new solutions and can bring together teams to accomplish a community's economic goals. Recent efforts at Georgia Tech have involved leading the Georgia Centers of Innovation program which unites university and industry thought leaders and uses business incubation to grow six important industry sectors. Don also developed initiatives to identify, connect, and energize early-stage angel investors throughout the state. Don also works with Georgia communities on innovative healthcare strategies and he helps employers operate an employer led organization called EmployersLikeMe which is a peer-to-peer learning network to help employers provide better health care for employees.



Bridget Borgogna is a health education specialist at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Division of Population Health, where she serves as a Project Officer and manager for the Training Tools for Healthy Schools professional development contract. She is a member of the Program and Professional Development team, and provides expertise and technical assistance for professional development internally and with external partners. Bridget was a health and physical education teacher and worked at the GA Department of Education as the state's Safe and Drug Free Schools and HIV Prevention Coordinator. She also was an international Master Trainer for the Lions Quest Programs, as well as for her own Training and Consulting business. She earned her Master of Education degree from the University of Buffalo, Buffalo, NY. Her outside interests include: travel, Yoga, golf, walking and reading.



Don Bradley, MD, MHS-CL holds a position as an Associate Consulting Professor in the Department of Community and Family Medicine at Duke, and serves as Executive Director for The Practical Playbook (www.PracticalPlaybook.org). He retired from Blue Cross and Blue Shield of North Carolina (BCBSNC) where he served in a number of roles, including Executive Director for BCBSNC's federally qualified Health Maintenance Organization, Senior Vice President for Healthcare, and Chief Medical Officer.

Dr. Bradley continues his work in the North Carolina Healthcare Quality Alliance, the National Academy of Medicine Health and Medicine Division (formerly Institute of Medicine) Roundtable on Obesity Solutions; and serves as chair of the Roundtable's Innovation Collaborative workgroup for Interdisciplinary Provider Training and Education for obesity competencies. He recently completed a term as public member of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics Board of Directors.



Dr. Deborah Bujnowski is the Chronic Disease Epidemiologist at Harris County Public Health. She received her BS in Dietetics from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, and after completing her dietetic internship at Loyola University Chicago, earned her Registered Dietitian credential. Dr. Bujnowski holds an MPH in Epidemiology from Tulane University, where she was a recipient of the university's Population Research Award in Epidemiology for her work on a meta-analysis examining the association of dietary soy protein intake with serum lipids. She also received her PhD in Public Health Studies from Saint Louis University, where her dissertation work focused on novel approaches for preventing obesity in underserved populations through examination of mothers' attitudes surrounding their children's body weight. Prior to her arrival at Harris County, she was Assistant Professor of Nutritional Epidemiology at the University of Nevada, Reno, where she was awarded USDA funding to continue exploring maternal perceptions of children's weight status.



Dr. Charles Carlini is the National Medical Director for United Health Group/Optum HealthCare responsible for the care of commercial high-risk pregnancy members of Optum HealthCare (MSP – Maternity Support Program, HPP – Healthy Pregnancy Program, Alere Maternity and Healthy First Steps) in addition to the commercial ASO (Administrative Services Only) members of the Bariatric Resource Services (BRS) who are potential candidates for weight-loss surgery. Additionally, he is in charge of nurse educational programs for the MSP, HPP, Alere and BRS programs including the administration and evaluation of clinical competency testing. He is also a national speaker for the March of Dimes. Some of Dr. Carlini's other duties associated with the BRS include the construction and administration of the BRS Centers of Excellence Program where facilities are selected according to, inter alia, their clinical competency. Thus, he is very familiar with trends and traits of practices across the USA reviewing data on a regular basis that describes said traits and trends.



Brian C. Castrucci, MA, is the Chief Program and Strategy Officer at the de Beaumont Foundation. The Foundation's mission is to strengthen and transform public health in the United States. Once described in an Inside Philanthropy article as a "fount of knowledge and passion when it comes to health" who speaks with "sound-bite-perfect urgency" on the social determinants of health, Castrucci's commitment to improving population health, furthering multisector collaborations, and strengthening public health infrastructure in the United States is informed by a decade of experience working in state and local health departments. In his time with the de Beaumont Foundation, he has developed several national programs including the Practical Playbook, the BUILD Health Challenge, the Public Health Workforce Interests and Needs Survey, and CityHealth.

As an award-winning epidemiologist and public health leader, Castrucci has published scientific papers in the areas of public health systems and services research, maternal and child health, health promotion, and chronic disease prevention. His recent work has focused on the public health needs of large cities, the need for better data systems, and public health system improvements. He is an editor and contributing author to The Practical Playbook. Public Health. Primary Care.



Larry Cohen is founder and Executive Director of Prevention Institute, a national nonprofit that has helped to shape the way that the country thinks about health and prevention: improving community conditions and taking action to support health, safety, and equity in the first place. Larry helped catalyze the nation's first multicity no-smoking laws; advance chronic disease prevention through physical activity and healthy eating; define violence as a preventable public health issue; incorporate a focus on prevention as part of national health systems transformation; and promote better understanding of the underlying community factors that lead to illness, injury, and health inequities. Larry's new book, *Prevention Diaries: The Practice and Pursuit of Health for All*, reveals the unexpected (yet foreseeable) parts of daily life that shape our health. It tells the story of a movement to remake our communities to support health and equity and amplifies the critical need for prevention as our most transformational tool.



Lee Ann Else is the OST Sector Director at HealthMPowers. In this role, Lee Ann has trained 279 OST providers across Georgia impacting over 30,000 youth and led a pilot intervention with Boys & Girls Clubs of Metro Atlanta based on HealthMPowers' successful program model. This pilot has expanded into a comprehensive multi-year intervention that includes trainings, direct services and resources empowering all of the Boys & Girls Clubs of Metro Atlanta centers to create and sustain positive health outcomes and environmental changes. Prior to joining HealthMPowers, Lee Ann was the Regional Network Manager of the Alliance for a Healthier Generation, a national non-profit founded by the William J. Clinton Foundation and the American Heart Association to reduce the prevalence of childhood obesity. As the Regional Network Manager, Lee Ann created and delivered professional development strategies for school districts and out-of-school time providers working to change their environment to support the health of young people.



Suzi Gates has worked in public health at the local, state, national, and international levels for more than 20 years and is the communication team lead for community and web support in CDC's Division of Nutrition, Physical Activity, and Nutrition. Her experience ranges from marketing, audience research, and campaign implementation to consumer health informatics, personal health records, and contact center management. She is a Returned Peace Corps Volunteer.



Starla Hairston Blanks, MBA, MPH, CPHP is the Director of Community Voices: Healthcare for the Underserved of Morehouse School of Medicine which is dedicated to addressing health disparities, research, policy and practice. Mrs. Blanks oversees all Community Voices operations and research efforts focused on health equity, health disparities, training and technical assistance. To this position she brings local, state, and national level experience in health promotion, health policy, diversity and access to care issues. Ms. Blanks holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Political Science, Master's degree in Business Administration with a specialization in non-profit leadership and a graduate degree in public health.



Dr. Danielle Y. Hairston Green has served as an Adolescent Health Educator and Prevention Specialist for 15 years at various nonprofit organizations. She also successfully implemented two leadership development training centers for teens, two worksite wellness programs, and has written and designed several health and wellness curriculum and presentations, and currently serve as a qualitative methodologist on several research projects. In addition, Dr. Hairston Green served her native city as Vice President of the elected school board for 4 years. Currently, she is a program specialist with Prairie View A&M University Cooperative Extension Program and an adjunct professor for the College of Agriculture and Human Sciences. She is the founder of Embracing ARMS, Inc. (member of the Table Salt Group) which is a non-profit organization with a vision to engage students and empower parents to take charge of their health, education and safety within the community in which they live. She has also designed C5E, the conceptual framework that looks at soft skill development among college graduates. Her leadership vision includes transparency, empowerment, innovation, and joy.



Richard Hamburg is Executive Vice President and COO at Trust for America's Health (TFAH). Previously Interim President and CEO and Deputy Director, Mr. Hamburg oversees public policy initiatives, advocacy campaigns, and internal operations and has more than 30 years of experience as a leading health policy advocate. He has helped lead TFAH's efforts to ensure disease prevention is a centerpiece of health reform, and has been instrumental in TFAH's work on obesity prevention, building national pandemic flu and public health emergency response capabilities, and increasing support for public health programs. Prior to TFAH, Mr. Hamburg served in a number of roles with the American Heart Association (AHA), including as its national Director of Government Relations. At AHA, Mr. Hamburg led the AHA's advocacy on health topics ranging from healthcare reform to tobacco control to public access to defibrillation. He is also a past Director of Government Affairs at AHA's New York City affiliate. A native New Yorker, Mr. Hamburg is a graduate of the State University of New York at Albany, from which he received a B.A. in Political Science and a Masters of Public Administration.



Harry J Heiman, MD, MPH is Clinical Associate Professor in the Division of Health Management and Policy at the School of Public Health at Georgia State University (GSU). Prior to joining GSU, he served as Director of the Division of Health Policy at the Satcher Health Leadership Institute at Morehouse School of Medicine, where he was also Associate Professor in the Department of Family Medicine. He is a Fellow of the American Academy of Family Physicians, with over twenty years of clinical practice experience. Leveraging his experience as a primary care physician and expertise and experience in health policy, Dr. Heiman's work focuses at the intersection of health policy and health equity. Dr. Heiman's areas of interest and expertise include health policy, health equity, health-in-all-policies, and health system transformation. In July 2014, he was appointed to the Southeastern Health Equity Council, one of ten regional health equity councils in the U.S. formed as part of the National Partnership for Action to End Health Disparities.



Dr. James Holt is the Team Leader for Analytic Methods, in the CDC National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion. Jim has been with the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) in Atlanta since 1992. He earned his Ph.D. in Geography from the University of Georgia in 2003. His research focuses on the application of geospatial analysis methods for chronic disease surveillance and epidemiology. He is the CDC Co-PI for the 500 Cities project.



Cass Isidro serves as the Executive Director for the Safe Routes to School National Partnership. In this role Cass works in sync with the Board of Directors and Senior Staff to establish partnerships at the national level, to implement the strategic plan of the organization and to provide leadership for the day to day success of the National Partnership mission. Cass has more than 20 years nonprofit experience at both the Executive and Senior Staff level. In her most recent position as the Senior Director of Development and Strategic Initiatives for SHAPE America Cass was part of the leadership team who built and implemented Let's Move! Active Schools of which the Safe Routes to School National Partnership is a Supporting Organization. Cass is a mission-driven fundraiser who, as Executive Director, spearheaded events for the USO of Hawaii to welcome home our troops and spent more than 10 years with the American Red Cross directly supporting the disaster response for four typhoons in the Pacific Islands. Cass also served as COO and Interim CEO for the Hawaii Red Cross leading program delivery throughout the state of Hawaii.



Lindsey Jorstad is the Outreach Manager for Gwinnett County's Department of Community Services. She has been involved in community services and parks and recreation operations for more than 10 years. She is a member of the National Recreation and Park Association, Georgia Recreation and Park Association, a Certified Park and Recreation Professional, and has served on multiple boards, committees and state conferences related to these organizations. In 2016, she was identified as a top-achieving out-of-school time professional and was recognized by the National AfterSchool Association as a Next Generation of Afterschool. Lindsey impacts the Gwinnett community on a variety of boards and steering committees which include the Gwinnett Coalition for Health and Human Services Board of Directors, its Health and Wellness Committee and is an active member of the Gwinnett United in Drug Education (GUIDE) Board where she advocates for positive youth development and substance abuse education and resources.



Christopher J. Kissler, MPH currently serves as a Project Officer with the CDC, NC-CDPHP, DPH, Healthy Schools Program. He joined CDC in January of 2005 and has previous experience in tobacco prevention and control, diabetes, and HIV/AIDS/STD/TB programs. He worked at the Florida Department of Health for 10 years prior to joining CDC. Chris earned a master's degree in Public Health Practice from the University of South Florida and a bachelor's degree in Community Health Education from the University of Nebraska.



Jamie Kleinsorge, MS, is a Project Director at the Institute for People, Place, and Possibility. Jamie has been on the development and training teams for communitycommons.org since 2011. She has trained thousands of organizations, community-level professionals, government agencies, and healthcare systems on the use and application of data and GIS for community assessment, programming, and evaluation. Jamie has a Master's of Science in Rural Sociology with an emphasis in community development from the University of Missouri and a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from Western Illinois University.



Kathryn Lawler serves as the first executive director for the Atlanta Regional Collaborative for Health Improvement (ARCHI). She brings experience in the development and implementation of cross-sector interventions to address complex social issues. ARCHI is a collaborative founded by the United Way, Atlanta Regional Commission, and the Georgia Health Policy Center. As an interdisciplinary coalition, ARCHI works to improve the overall health of metro Atlanta residents through a collective impact approach. Lawler helped ARCHI develop its 28-year strategy focused on both immediate health conditions and the larger, upstream issues that result in poor health. As executive director she is responsible for leading strategic planning, fundraising, reporting, and partner engagement. She brings experience in policy development and program management focused on vulnerable populations.



Leandris Liburd, PhD, MPH, MA has served as the associate director for minority health and health equity for CDC/ATSDR since 2011. In this capacity, she leads and supports a wide range of critical functions in the agency's work in minority health and health equity, women's health, and diversity and inclusion management. She has played a critical leadership role in determining the agency's vision for health equity, ensuring a rigorous and evidence-based approach to the practice of health equity, and promoting the ethical practice of public health in vulnerable communities.

Dr. Liburd has been instrumental in building capacity across CDC and in public health agencies to address the social determinants of health, and in identifying and widely disseminating intervention strategies that reduce racial and ethnic health disparities. She has skillfully executed innovative models of collaboration that have greatly expanded the reach, influence, and impact of the Office of Minority Health and Health Equity (OMHHE), and raised the visibility of health equity through peer-reviewed scientific publications, engagement with academic institutions, presentations at national and international conferences, partnerships with national and global organizations, and other communications and educational venues



Mike Lopez joined the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service's Family and Community Health Department in 2011. As an Extension Health Program Specialist, Mike focuses his effort on human populations and the effect of the built environment on healthy living. He provides leadership for the development, implementation, and evaluation of Extension educational programs in the areas of planning for active communities, physical activity, and healthy food access. Mike's educational background includes a B.S. degree in Biomedical Sciences and a Master of Urban Planning (MUP) degree, with a concentration in Active Living and Healthy Communities, both coming from Texas A&M University. He also earned a certificate in Environmental Hazard Management. He has a Professional Designation in Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design and last year he graduated from the Walking College Fellowship Program, a four-month distance-education training through America Walks, a national organization that promotes walking and walkable communities.



Caitlin Merlo is a health scientist and serves as the School Health Branch's lead for school nutrition. She develops science-based guidance and provides content expertise and technical assistance on strategies to improve the school nutrition environment and support healthy eating among youth. She is a registered dietitian and earned a Master of Public Health degree from the University of California, Berkeley. Prior to joining CDC in 2009, Caitlin was a research assistant at UC Berkeley's Center for Weight and Health and a nutrition educator at the Alameda County WIC program in Oakland, CA.



Danielle D. Morris, MPH is the Sr. Director, Social and Behavior Change at Boys & Girls Clubs of America (BGCA). She manages a multi-million dollar portfolio that provides evidence-based, Club- and culturally- responsive resources and support that promote a Culture of Wellness in Clubs leading to healthy young people with a plan for their future.

In her role, Danielle leads BGCA's efforts to develop and implement a national youth risk-prevention and reduction strategy to address complex public health issues. Specifically, this work exists within the domains of childhood obesity, gang involvement, substance abuse and misuse, and sexual and reproductive health. She is the principal investigator of a five-year, cooperative agreement with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to promote a Culture of Wellness within out-of-school-time to improve youth healthy eating and physical activity outcomes, nationally.



Allison Nihiser, MPH is a health scientist at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC), Division of Nutrition, Physical Activity, and Obesity. Allison works on the Early Care and Education (ECE) team to develop guidance for states on improving physical activity and healthy eating in the ECE setting. Much of her work focuses on physical activity and providing technical assistance to grantees and partners on obesity prevention policies and practices in ECE.

Prior to joining the ECE team, Allison's work focused on preventing obesity through school-based strategies. Relatedly, Allison authored CDC's School Health Guidelines to Promote Healthy Eating and Physical Activity and Body Mass Index Measurement in Schools. Allison has worked at CDC since 2004. She received two bachelor degrees from Miami University (Ohio) in Exercise Science and Zoology. Allison obtained a Master's Degree in Public Health from Yale University, where she focused on Chronic Disease Epidemiology.



Alexandra (Lexi) Bambas Nolen, PhD, MPH, Vice President for Impact, Episcopal Health Foundation is responsible for EHF's Evaluation and Learning work, the Texas Community Centered Health Homes Initiative, and the foundations work with 150 churches in 57 counties. Her areas of expertise include addressing health inequities through health systems and social determinants of health, leadership development for social change in health, intersectoral action for health, strengthening health information systems, and community empowerment approaches to health. She served on the Secretariat of the WHO Commission on Social Determinants of Health between 2005 and 2007; and from 2002 to 2004 as the Coordinator of the Global Equity Gauge Alliance, an international non-governmental organization focused on health equity initiatives in Latin America, Africa and Asia.



Jean O'Connor, JD, MPH, DrPH is the Chronic Disease Prevention Director for the Georgia Department of Public Health (DPH) where she is responsible for statewide programs related to cancer, chronic disease and adolescent health. Dr. O'Connor has worked in public health research, policy, and program development for almost 20 years, starting out as Emergency Medical Technician and doing research in the Emergency Department at Grady Hospital. That experience taught her firsthand about the role of systems and environments on health status, and she pursued her JD and MPH at Emory University, and then her DrPH from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Before joining DPH in 2013, Dr. O'Connor served as a state deputy health director and a health insurance policy advisor; and a Health Scientist at CDC working on policy and strategy issues across multiple centers. For the past 13 years, she has taught public health law and policy at the Rollins School of Public Health at Emory University. She is the incoming president of the National Association of Chronic Disease Directors.



Devon Okasako-Schmucker is an ORISE research fellow at the Community Guide Branch. She is working with the cancer, obesity, and women's health review teams. Prior to working at the Community Guide Branch, Ms. Okasako-Schmucker worked with the Forum for Collaborative HIV Research in Washington D.C as a graduate intern.





Chris Parker, MPH, MSc, MBBS is an associate project director at the Georgia Health Policy Center. He holds a leadership role in many of the center's projects related to public health and program evaluation. His areas of expertise include strategic planning and evaluation, with a particular interest in projects that link population health and health care. Parker is a skilled facilitator who has guided a significant number of multisectoral, state, and local organizational strategic and evaluation plans. He is the co-principal investigator for Bridging for Health: Improving Community Health through Innovations in Financing, sponsored by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. He also leads the center's growing health care workforce portfolio with a focus on Georgia's primary care assets to address gaps in light of the Affordable Care Act, as well as the center's work on community health needs assessments. As a trained family physician, who has worked with underserved populations and faith-based organizations, Parker brings his clinical and community linked experiences to addressing current and long-standing public health issues.



Dr. Ruth Petersen serves as the Director of CDC's Division of Nutrition, Physical Activity, and Obesity (DNPAO). The Division provides national leadership on nutrition, physical activity and obesity prevention through policy and guideline development, surveillance, epidemiological and behavioral research, and technical assistance to states and communities. Dr. Petersen has a breadth of experience and leadership from multiple settings including health care, local and state health departments, national advisory groups, academic settings, the private sector, and global health platforms. Her broad, deep and diverse experience with populations and partners and stakeholders are strong assets for leading DNPAO in its focused efforts to prevent chronic diseases through population-wide public health initiatives and health system innovations. Dr. Petersen received her MD and MPH from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. After training in obstetrics and gynecology in Rochester, New York, she completed the UNC Preventive Medicine Residency and a post-doctoral fellowship in health services research. Throughout her career, she has drawn on her expertise in patient care, health system change, disease prevention and community engagement to develop and guide programs, research, and policy to improve health behaviors and reduce chronic disease.



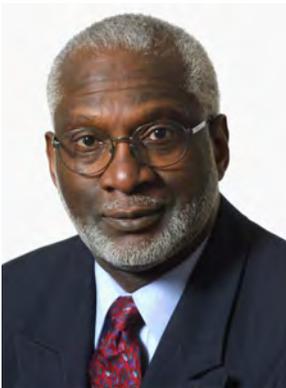
Bill Rencher, MPH, JD, BA is a research associate II at the Georgia Health Policy Center. His expertise includes federal and state Medicaid regulations, compliance reviews, data analysis, and report writing. Rencher also has experience with hospital financial assistance programs, federal and state health care laws and regulations, the Affordable Care Act, and research ethics. Rencher serves on the Medicaid Policy and Business team, working under a contract with the Georgia Department of Community Health to provide the state's Medicaid agency with research and technical assistance for the Georgia Medicaid program. As an attorney, Rencher contributes his legal knowledge and research skills to the team and their work, focusing primarily on regulatory and legal compliance issues, as well as report writing. Rencher is a member of the State Bar of Georgia, Health Law section. His research has appeared in the American Journal of Public Health.



Dave Roberts, ASLA, Vice President Planning & Business Development at Crafton Tull is the Vice President of Planning & Business Development at Crafton Tull, a multidiscipline Engineering & Architecture firm with 7 offices in Arkansas and Oklahoma. He collaborates with a talented planning team on projects that include community planning & urban design, corridor revitalizations, campus master planning, parks & recreation system planning, as well as bicycle & pedestrian network planning. Dave serves as the co-chair for the Built Environment Team at ARCOP (Arkansas Coalition for Obesity Prevention) and was recently appointed to the Governor's Advisory Council on Cycling. Aside from his day job; Dave is the parent of a teenager, Alex Madison, who navigates the world in a power wheelchair due to cerebral palsy. Dave and Alex love to analyze quality design vs. unnecessary barriers in the U.S. cities they visit.



Melody M. Robinson currently serves as a Program Manager in the Clinical Transformation Portfolio for the Louisiana Public Health Institute. She has served as the Clinical Director of St. Thomas Health Community Health Center, where she was instrumental in the development and management of two new clinical sites, diabetes education program, grant writing and program development, fiscal management and direct staff supervision. She previously served as the Program Manager for the Louisiana Comprehensive Cancer Control Program. Ms. Robinson was responsible for overseeing the implementation of the State of Louisiana Comprehensive Cancer Plan, management of regional staff across the state and the development of regional cancer control plans. She also served as the Co-Chair of the Executive Committee of the Louisiana Cancer Control Partnership. She has also been responsible for the development of the Women's Health Department, Adolescent health Development, and developed the School linked clinic program for St. Thomas. Ms. Robinson has also served as an adjunct Professor for Dillard University and Tulane University School of Public Health. She received a B.S. in Biology from Xavier University of New Orleans and double MPH degrees in Material and Child Health and Health Communication and Education from Tulane University School of Public Health.



David Satcher MD, PhD is a physician-scientist and public health administrator with an extensive track record of leadership, research, and community engagement. He is a Phi Beta Kappa graduate of Morehouse College and holds MD and PhD degrees from Case Western Reserve University. Dr. Satcher served as the 16th Surgeon General of the United States (1998-2002) and the 10th Assistant Secretary for Health in the Department of Health and Human Services (1998-2001). He also served as Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and Administrator of the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR). Dr. Satcher has also held top leadership positions at the Charles R. Drew University for Medicine and Science, Meharry Medical College, and the Morehouse School of Medicine. He has received over 50 honorary degrees and has received numerous awards from diverse organizations and agencies. Currently, Dr. Satcher is the Founding Director and Senior Advisor for the Satcher Health Leadership Institute at the Morehouse School of Medicine, Atlanta, Georgia.



Shana Scott, JD, MPH is the Health Systems Project Director for the Chronic Disease Prevention Section at Georgia Department of Public Health. Shana works on opportunities to implement health systems transformation and creating partnerships with public health and primary care. Prior to working for the Department of Public Health, Shana worked in policy at the CDC and has been in public health for over 10 years. Shana Scott earned her JD from Loyola University School of Law and her MPH from Armstrong Atlantic State University in Savannah, GA.



Jana Scoville, MBA, is a Project Director at Banyan Communications and has 18 years of experience in the planning, implementation, training and technical assistance of public relations and health communications across a variety of topics including obesity and chronic disease prevention. Ms. Scoville is responsible for leading the webbased communication support team for CDC's Community Health Media Center (CHMC) and Success Stories Application. For more than 6 years, she has worked with CDC grantees and partners leading to a deep understanding of their communication-related needs and challenges. Through this work, she has provided in-depth technical assistance and training to organizations on topics such as communications strategy, plan development, materials identification, target audience segmentation and writing strong success stories. In addition, she oversees and manages a team of communication experts who carry out the day-to-day operations and maintenance for the CHMC and Success Stories Application.



Michael L. Sells currently works as a Public Health Advisor on the Advancing Population Health Team in the Division of Heart Disease and Stroke Prevention. His interests lie in the application of research to practice with a specific emphasis on advocating on behalf those sub-populations who face health inequities. He is also the chairman of the National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion's Health Equity Workgroup at CDC. Prior to working in heart disease, he has served in numerous roles across the Division of Adult and Community Health Community Health, the Division of Adolescent and School Health, the Division of Nutrition, Physical Activity and Obesity, and the Division of Diabetes Translation. He holds a Bachelor's in Psychology, a Master's in Health Education and Health Promotion, he is a Certified Health Education Specialist and he is a Doctoral candidate in Public Health with a concentration on Community Health Promotion and Education.



Sarah Sliwa is a Health Scientist with the School Health Branch in the Division of Population Health at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in Atlanta. She has over a decade of experience working on initiatives to prevent childhood obesity in community, school, and out-of-school settings (OST). As part of the Research Application and Evaluation Team in the School Health Branch, Sarah leads work related to school-based OST programs as well as school-based obesity prevention strategies. Sarah earned a PhD in Food Policy from the Friedman School of Nutrition Science and Policy at Tufts University.



Jessica Smith is a senior research associate at the Georgia Health Policy Center (GHPC). Her areas of expertise include behavioral health policy, comparative effectiveness research, and cost effectiveness analysis. She focuses on health care delivery and health outcomes for publicly insured populations. Smith is a member of the Medicaid Policy and Business team at the GHPC. Current projects include: evaluating an increase in provider reimbursement for antepartum care and health care access for pregnant women in the Georgia Medicaid program; examining how the addition of an annual preventive care visit for adult Medicaid beneficiaries affects demand and expenditures for health care services; and assessing the impact of federal regulations to expand Medicaid eligibility for children on enrollment in PeachCare for Kids, the state Children's Health Insurance Program.



Michelle Smith is a marketing and research consultant who became active in social marketing for school health when she became a parent. She is currently the State Coordinator for Texas Action for Healthy Kids and is Director for the Southern Obesity Summit, a 16-state working conference on obesity prevention. In 2012 Michelle completed a project for Action for Healthy Kids with a goal of engaging middle school parents in wellness activities in schools. She managed a national level community awareness project promoting coordinated school health for the American Cancer Society (ACS) in the late 90s. Michelle is an active advocate for school health issues on a state as well as a local basis, serving as chair for the Partnership for a Healthy Texas for two legislative sessions. She also has served for over 15 on her local school health advisory council as well as serving on the Texas Action for Healthy Kids Steering Committee for 15 years.



Charlotte Smith has been with UnitedHealth Group for 6 years and is currently a VP Business Development with Real Appeal, Inc. Charlotte's responsibilities include maintaining relationships with insurance carrier account management teams and their clients with the purpose of education surrounding the program Real Appeal which was developed by UHG to address the epidemic of obesity in our country. Prior to July 2011 when she joined UnitedHealth Group, Charlotte worked for many years in the pharmaceutical industry with several years of healthcare experience before that. Charlotte graduated from Texas A&M University with a degree in Biology and a Business minor. Charlotte has been married to her husband Ryan for 7 years and they have two daughters, Caden (4) and Mallory (2). She resides in the Dallas, TX area.



Sallie Stearns joined Optum in 2014 as a Client Executive where she serves as the business face for the clinical team. She works collaboratively with the Clinical and Account Management teams to ensure delivery of high quality care management to her client and their members. Her focus is flawless execution. Prior to Optum, she was a consultant to Fortune 500 financial services and employee benefits Companies. Sallie began her career working for a group of pathologists in their private laboratory before transitioning to a hospital environment. She has worked for physicians in both clinical and financial services settings. Her background enables her to address the physical and fiscal health and wellbeing of her clients. Sallie's education includes Bachelor of Science Business and Finance studies. She holds Accident Life & Health, Property & Casualty and Georgia Counselor's Insurance licenses as well as a Chartered Retirement Plan Specialist certification.



Anna Stelter, LMSW, MPH is a Health Policy Analyst at the Texas Health Institute. A member of THI's Health Equity team since 2014, Stelter has contributed to projects and publications analyzing the impact of national health care reform on health disparities, safety net care, and the health of vulnerable populations including veterans, LGBTQ persons, and racial/ethnic minorities. As a licensed social worker with clinical training, Stelter's professional interest areas include access to integrated behavioral health care and social determinants of mental health. Stelter holds a Master of Science in Social Work from The University of Texas at Austin and a Master of Public Health from The University of Texas Health Science Center School of Public Health.



Stephanie Stuckey received both her undergraduate and law degree from the University of Georgia. She graduated cum laude from the University of Georgia School of Law in 1992. After law school, she served as a public defender and then went into private practice before being elected to the Georgia General Assembly in 1999. Stephanie served as a State Representative from the Decatur area for 14 years, during which time she was a member of the Judiciary and Natural Resources Committees. She then went on to serve as Executive Director of GreenLaw, an Atlanta-based public interest law firm dedicated to giving Georgia's environment its day in court. On May 15, 2015, she was appointed by Mayor Kasim Reed to be Director of Sustainability for the City of Atlanta. She was named Chief Resilience Officer for Atlanta in November of 2016 as part of the 100 Resilient Cities program, pioneered by the Rockefeller Foundation.



Christopher Thomas works in the Office of Policy, Partnerships, and Communication at CDC's Division of Nutrition, Physical Activity, and Obesity. Since 2002, Chris' work has focused on chronic disease at state or federal public health agencies. He has experience in program planning, implementation, and evaluation; health education; coalitions; and using communication to support program objectives. Chris has a master's degree in health education and health promotion from Mississippi State University, and he completed CDC's Public Health Prevention Service, a three-year training and service program. He is also a Master Certified Health Education Specialist.



Nikkole E. Turner, Program Manager, Eat REAL's REAL Certified® in Tennessee began pursuing her interest at a young age. By 10 she was a 4-H member, representing Head, Heart, Hands, and Health nationwide. As part of the National Institute of Food and Agriculture (USDA), Nikkole began to build and understand a base of knowledge about the connection between food and agriculture. She received a Bachelor's of Science at Eastern Michigan University with a focus on communication and marketing and, upon graduation, began her career with a major television network developing new business partners and securing sponsorships. As the Program Manager for Eat REAL, in contract with the State of Tennessee, Ms. Turner and the Eat REAL team facilitate the goals established through their grant funding from the Tennessee Department of Health. Now Eat REAL is in its fourth year in partnership with the state and has expanded the role of Eat REAL by developing partnerships with the Tennessee Governor's office and with the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation. The mission of Eat REAL continues to support a fundamental change within the food culture for the State of Tennessee.



Venise White currently manages the Office of Health Promotion and Education and Grants Administration at the Florida Department of Health in Seminole County. Mrs. White has over 20 years of public health experience working for universities, government and not-for-profit agencies in several public health areas: Alcohol, Tobacco and other Drugs Prevention, HIV Prevention Education, Community Health and Safety, Teenage Pregnancy Prevention, Cultural Relevancy and currently focusing on Chronic Disease Prevention as related to the Social Determinants of Health.

Prior to returning to the Florida Department of Health in 2013, Mrs. White provided public health consultation to federally funded drug-free coalitions for about 8 years. Since her recent appointed position with the State of Florida, she has lead health and wellness initiatives receiving the following recognitions: Orlando Business Journal's Healthiest Employer of the Year; American Heart Association Workplace Food & Beverage Impact Award, American Diabetes Association Health Champion Designation and American Heart Association's Fit-Friendly and Bronze Recognition.

Cheryl Williams serves as a Deputy Chief of the State Health Benefit Plan (SHBP) within the Georgia Department of Community Health. In her role, Cheryl leads the SHBP Clinical Performance, Quality and Outcomes Unit, providing oversight of the vendors' medical, behavioral health, pharmacy and wellness programs. The State Health Benefit Plan Division serves as the state's administrator of health insurance coverage for the more than 630,000 state employees, teachers, school system employees and retirees, and covered dependents.

Cheryl is a Registered Nurse (RN) and she is also a Certified Case Manager (CCM). She joined SHBP in 2000 serving in various roles such as the Clinical Director, Managed Care Policy Coordinator and Utilization Manager.