



Building Pathways to Successful, Healthy, Resilient & Equitable Communities



OCTOBER 14, 2021
AzHealthEquity.org

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

8:30 - 8:45 a.m.	Morning Networking
8:45 - 9:00 a.m.	Welcome and Opening Remarks <i>In-person and live-streamed for remote attendees</i>
9:00 - 9:15 a.m.	Innovation in Health Equity “Stella Kiarie” Award <i>In-person and live-streamed for remote attendees</i>
9:15 - 10:30 a.m.	Keynote Address <i>In-person and live-streamed for remote attendees</i> Jonathan GS Koppell, Ph.D. <i>Montclair State University</i>
10:30 - 10:45 a.m.	Break- Virtual and In-Person Poster Session
10:45 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.	Panel Discussion <i>In-person and live-streamed for remote attendees</i> Alyx Porter Umphrey, MD, FAAN <i>Mayo Clinic ElevateMeD</i> Anne Newland, MD, MPH <i>North Country Health Care</i> Francisco Lucio, JD <i>University of Arizona</i> Tomás León, MBA <i>Equality Health Foundation</i>
12:00 - 12:45 p.m.	Lunch Break
12:45 - 1:30 p.m.	Concurrent Sessions #1 In-Person and Virtual
1:30 - 1:45 p.m.	Networking, Virtual and In-Person Poster Session
1:45 - 2:30 p.m.	Concurrent Sessions #2 In-Person and Virtual
2:30 - 2:45 p.m.	Networking, Virtual and In-Person Poster Session
2:45 - 3:30 p.m.	Concurrent Sessions #3 In-Person and Virtual
3:30 - 3:45 p.m.	Networking, Virtual and In-Person Poster Session
3:45 - 4:15 p.m.	Closing Remarks <i>In-person and live-streamed for remote attendees</i> Aliya Bhatia, MPP <i>Vot-ER</i>

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— Anabell Castro Thompson,
MSN, APRN, ANP-C, FAAN, FAANP
SVP, Health Equity
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KEYNOTE SPEAKER



Jonathan G.S. Koppell, Montclair State University's ninth president, is a nationally recognized scholar of policy, organization and management with a reputation as a visionary leader in higher education emphasizing public service and solutions-oriented engagement in the community.

Before taking office at Montclair State on August 2, 2021, Koppell served as dean of Arizona State University's Watts College of Public Service and Community Solutions and vice provost for public service and social impact, leading the nation's largest comprehensive public affairs college. He also led the College to significantly improve its student retention and graduation rates through new and innovative counseling and student-support initiatives.

Known as one of the most entrepreneurial leaders at ASU, an institution that is widely regarded as one of the nation's most innovative universities, Koppell guided Watts College to add some 20 new degree programs, greatly expand its online offerings and global programs, launch a unique joint college in Hainan, China, and create the nation's first Public Service Academy. National rankings skyrocketed under his leadership with numerous programs now rated in the top 10 nationally.

Koppell is a firm believer that public universities play a fundamental role in advancing society. At ASU, Koppell built productive partnerships with community organizations and launched innovative programs to serve the public interest, increasing student access and success, advancing diversity among the faculty and college leadership, and greatly enhancing research expenditures and philanthropic support.

He earned doctoral and master's degrees in political science from the University of California – Berkeley and a baccalaureate degree in government from Harvard University. At ASU he held the endowed Lattie and Elva Coor Presidential Chair as Professor of Public Administration and Policy and is a Fellow of the National Academy of Public Administration.

Professor Koppell's research and writing broadly examines the design and administration of complex organizations in the public, private and nonprofit sectors. His book "World Rule: Accountability, Legitimacy and the Design of Global Governance" reveals the hidden world of "global governance organizations" such as the World Trade Organization, the International Organization for Standardization and the International Accounting Standards Board that have more effect on our daily lives than we might imagine. Both his academic articles and previous book, "The Politics of Quasi-Government" address many of the key policy issues of the moment; including government involvement in for-profit enterprise, regulation of financial institutions and corporate governance.

Before becoming dean at ASU, Koppell was director of its School of Public Affairs. He began his academic career at Yale University, where he held faculty appointments in the School of Management and led the Milstein Center for Corporate Governance Performance.

He serves on the boards of several nonprofit organizations and has been a visiting scholar at the Brookings Institution, a Markle Fellow at the New America Foundation and a Fulbright Lecturer in Shanghai, China. He is the author of books and articles on global governance institutions, public-private hybrid organizations and corporate governance.

PANELISTS



Alyx B. Porter Humphrey, MD, FAAN is a neuro-oncologist at Mayo Clinic in Arizona and is an Associate Professor of Neurology. Since she arrived in 2008, she has worked diligently to provide care for patients with tumors and cancers involving the nervous system in addition to patients who have neurologic complications resulting from their systemic cancers.

Dr. Porter received her undergraduate education at Spelman College and went on to receive her medical degree at Temple University School of Medicine in 2003. She completed her internship at Mayo Clinic in Rochester in Internal Medicine, residency in Neurology, and Fellowship in Neuro-Oncology in 2008. Dr. Porter serves as the Outpatient Practice Chair and Vice-Chair of the Office of Equity, Inclusion, and Diversity at Mayo Clinic in Arizona, and is co-chair of CNS disease group for the Mayo Clinic Enterprise Cancer Center. She is the medical director of the Undergraduate Plummer Scholars Program, an early undergraduate medical pathway programs for Mayo Clinic Alix School of Medicine and Science and enjoys teaching Cultural Humility and Cross-Cultural Communication in the Mayo Clinic, Alix School of Medicine, Arizona Campus. Her research interests are aimed at ensuring that patients with brain cancers have the best quality of life. She is the primary investigator on the defining study for the utility of psychostimulants to improve quality of life as well as thinking and memory in patients with glioblastoma multiforme, the most aggressive form of brain cancer. Dr. Porter is also co-author of the book, *Navigating Life with a Brain Tumor*, a resource for patients and families.

Recently she and her husband, Dr. Gregory Umphrey awarded \$100,000 in scholarships to medical students through their national non-profit, ElevateMeD, founded in 2019. ElevateMeD is committed to elevating the field of medicine by providing financial support, mentorship and leadership training to future physicians from racial and ethnic backgrounds underrepresented in medicine. Dr. Porter was the 2020 recipient of the Dean's Award for Diversity and Inclusion for the Mayo Clinic Alix School of Medicine. She was also recently awarded the Anne B. Young Diversity Scholar Award from Massachusetts General Hospital for her work in equity and inclusion and is noted to be a top provider by the Mayo Clinic Office of Patient Experience.



Anne Newland, MD, MPH is the Chief Executive Officer for North Country HealthCare, a federally qualified community health center with clinics in 12 communities in northern Arizona. Before joining North Country in 2013, Dr. Newland worked for the Indian Health Service in Kayenta, AZ for eight years. She trained in Internal Medicine-Pediatrics at the University of Tennessee-Memphis, served as Chief Resident for Internal Medicine at UT, and later completed a Master in Public Health degree at Harvard School of Public Health as a Commonwealth Fund Fellow in Minority Health Policy. Her professional interests are in reducing health

disparities for rural and underserved communities and well as strengthening training pathways for underrepresented populations. North Country houses an Area Health Education Center (AHEC) that provides youth enrichment programming to encourage greater diversity in the health professions. Since 2008, North Country has been a community campus for AT Still University medical students. In June 2020, North Country launched its first class of community-based, family medicine residents. North Country is a Teaching Health Center.



Francisco Lucio, JD serves as the inaugural associate dean of Equity, Diversity and Inclusion at the University of Arizona College of Medicine-Phoenix. Lucio is responsible for the continued cultivation of a diverse, inclusive and equitable environment for all faculty, residents, fellows, students, post-docs and staff. He has helped create a five-year inclusive excellence strategic plan, establish a Women in Medicine and Science group and bolster LGBTQ+ programming — amongst other initiatives. In part, these efforts have contributed to the College of Medicine-

Phoenix receiving the prestigious 2019 *INSIGHT* Into Diversity Health Professions Higher Education Excellence in Diversity (HEED) Award.

Before joining the College of Medicine-Phoenix, Lucio was the director of Diversity and Inclusion at New York University School of Medicine, where he helped lead the development of key institutional diversity initiatives. His extensive pipeline program experience allowed him to successfully oversee two \$500,000 New York State of Education Department grant-funded programs. These programs targeted the development of underrepresented and socioeconomically disadvantaged high school and college students into the STEM fields.

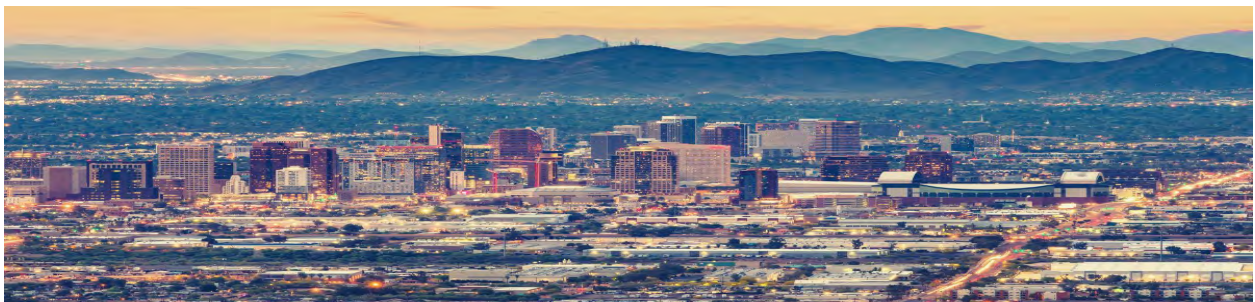
Lucio has served on multiple local and national boards aimed at increasing the diversity of underrepresented students in the health field. He obtained his Juris Doctorate from St. John's University School of Law, where he was the recipient of the American Bar Association, Health Law Section and National Bureau of National Affairs, Inc. Award of Excellence in the Study of Health Law.



Tomás León, MBA serves as the President of the Equality Health Foundation, an Arizona-based nonprofit organization focused on advancing equal health for all. He recently led Equality Health LLC's marketing and strategy, with the responsibility of scaling the brand across multiple markets.

With over two decades of collective experience in healthcare, business development, community mobilization, health equity, policy advocacy, philanthropy and marketing communications, Tomás brings an innovative, purpose-driven approach to advancing equity, diversity, and inclusion in healthcare. In a prior role as the president and CEO of the Institute for Diversity in Health Management, an affiliate of the American Hospital Association, he created and launched award-winning equity of care campaign to eliminate health care disparities that engaged nearly 1,500 hospitals and health systems and 50 state hospital

As a tireless leader on behalf of underserved communities and diverse populations, Tomás has been recognized with numerous awards for his work and advocacy, including Diverse Business Leaders to Watch, Diversity MBA's Top 100 Under 50 Emerging Leaders Award, Wellness Council of Arizona's Executive Champion for Worksite Wellness Award, and achievement honors from the Arizona Healthcare Executives and the Diversity Leadership Alliance.



CLOSING REMARKS



Aliya Bhatia is the Acting Executive Director at **Vot-ER & Civic Health Month**. In her role, she supports **Vot-ER** to advance towards its vision of healthy communities powered by an inclusive democracy. She previously worked at the crossroads of education, housing, and health & wellness at **Purpose Built Communities**. Aliya began her career as a **Teach for America** corps member in New Orleans and as a strategy consultant at the **Boston Consulting Group (BCG)** in Atlanta. While at BCG, she supported a range of clients across sectors both on business strategy and on

diversity & inclusion efforts. She completed her Master's in Public Policy from Harvard Kennedy School as a Sheila C. Johnson Leadership Fellow and is a graduate of the School of Foreign Service at Georgetown University.

NOTES:

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal blue ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.



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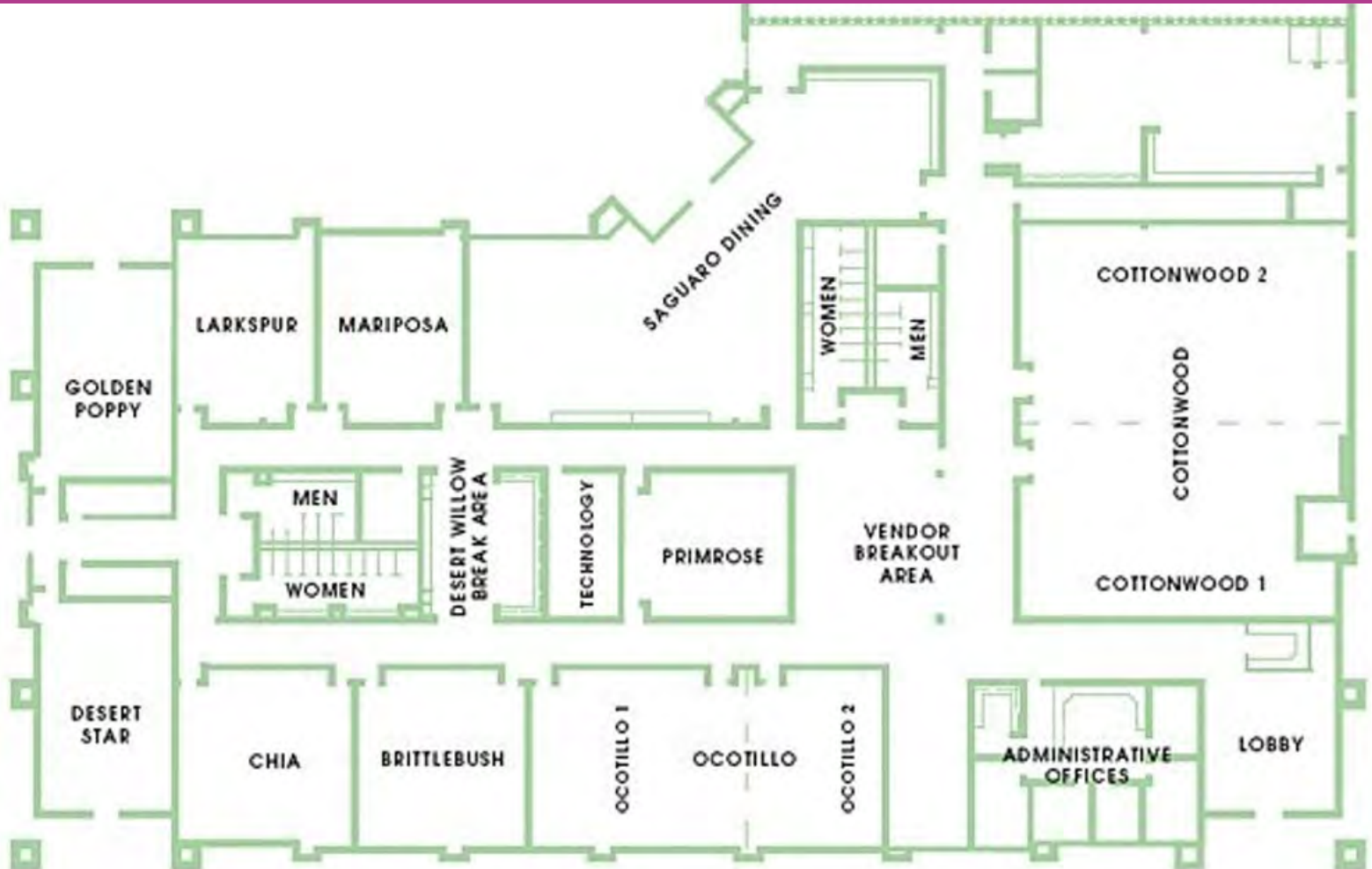
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VENUE MAP



● Novice

● Intermediate

● Expert

CONCURRENT SESSIONS 1

(In-Person Sessions)

12:45 - 1:30 PM

Track	Session Title	Level
Prevention <i>Location: Ballroom</i>	Information to Action: Increasing Equity in the COVID-19 Pandemic Response in Local, County, and State Jurisdictions <i>**Live Streamed session for virtual attendees**</i> Joan Leafman, Corbin's Legacy Ariella P. Dale, Ph.D., MPH, Maricopa County Department of Public Health Lilliana D. Cardenas, AM, Maricopa County Department of Public Health Jhoana Molina, BA, Maricopa County Department of Public Health Urvashi Pandit, DO, MPH, MBS, Maricopa County Department of Public Health Alexandra Oropeza, MNLM, Maricopa County Department of Public Health Ann Carver, Southwest Interdisciplinary Research Center at Arizona Ruby Meraz, MPH, CHES, Arizona Community Health Worker Association, Inc. Kathryn Hamm, MPA, Southwest Interdisciplinary Research Center at Arizona Sabrina Oesterle, Ph.D., MA, Southwest Interdisciplinary Research Center at Arizona	●
Research/ Clinical <i>Location: Ocotillo</i>	Food Insecurities: Underscoring the Impact of Social Determinants of Health on Medical Care Ijeoma Uche, MD, PharmD, Associate Program Director, Internal Medicine Residency Program, HonorHealth Ibraheim Ayub, Medical Student, A.T Still University Wesley Peng, Researcher, HonorHealth	●
Prevention/ Policy <i>Location: Chia</i>	Building Health Communities-And you can too!!! Evelyn Whitmer, M.Ed., CCHC, County Director, University of Arizona Cooperative Extension Michele Walsh, PhD., Associate Research Professor, University of Arizona	●

Track	Session Title	Level
Prevention/ Research <i>Location:</i> <i>Golden Poppy</i>	“We don’t have those problems”: Stigma and Other Barriers to Mental Healthcare Among Resettled Refugees in AZ, NV, UT, and MN. Eniola Idowu, B.S., Evaluation Coordinator, Arizona Center for Rural Health Velma Gesimba, B.S., Intensive Case Management Intern, International Rescue Committee Nidal Kram, MPH DrPH (ABD), Mariposa Community Health Center, Mariposa Project Coordinator	●
Prevention/ Research <i>Location:</i> <i>Brittlebush</i>	Data-Driven Health Equity Program Implementation Shayne Gallaway, Ph.D., MPH, CDC State Assigned Epidemiologist, Arizona Department of Health Services Anjin Singh, MPH, Epidemiologist, Arizona Department of Health Services Amanda, Swanson, MPH, Senior Epidemiologist, Arizona Department of Health Services	●
Prevention/ Policy <i>Location:</i> <i>Desert Star</i>	Using ACEs and substance use data from Arizona AYS and BRFSS surveys to inform prevention practices Wendy Wolfersteig, Ph.D., Director, Office of Evaluation & Partner Contracts, ASU-Southwest Interdisciplinary Research Center Marisol Diaz, JD, Senior Research Analyst, Office of Evaluation & Partner Contracts, ASU-Southwest Interdisciplinary Research Center Maria Aguilar-Amaya, DM, Associate Director, Office of Evaluation & Partner Contracts, ASU-Southwest Interdisciplinary Research Center	●





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CONCURRENT SESSIONS 2

(In-Person Sessions)

1:45 - 2:30 PM

Track	Session Title	Level
Prevention/ Policy <i>Location: Brittlebush</i>	Development of a Multi-sector Community-Focused COVID-19 Response Team —Guadalupe, Arizona Megan Jehn, Ph.D., MHS, Associate Professor, Arizona State University Gloria Karirirwe, Program manager_ ASU field epidemiology team, Arizona State University Kip Schlum, Emergency Planning Supervisor, Maricopa County Department of Public Health Timothy Dennehy, Senior Research Analyst, Arizona State University Hanna, Maroofi, Program Manager, Arizona State University Daniela Ledesma, Program Manager, Arizona State University Jasmine Truong, Program Manager, Arizona State University Laura Meyer, Program Manager, Arizona State University Julia Jackman, COVID-19 Case Investigator, Arizona State University Jennifer Jackman, Supervisor- ASU COVID-19 field epidemiology Team, Arizona State University Jeff Kulaga, Manager, Manager, Town of Guadalupe Susan Levy, Program Manager, Native Health	●
Clinical/ Prevention <i>Location: Ocotillo</i>	Reducing Health Disparities in Arizona Rural Communities: COVID-19 and beyond Vicki Bucha, MS, RN, NEA-BC, Vice President of Care Improvement, Arizona Hospital and Healthcare Association	●
Prevention/ Policy <i>Location: Ballroom</i>	Supporting Healthy Communities: An Actionable Framework for Healthcare and Community Partnerships <i>**Live Streamed session for virtual attendees**</i> Lauriane Hanson, M.Adm, Sr. Manager, Equality Health	●
Prevention/ Research <i>Location: Chia</i>	Interdisciplinary Approaches to Advance Liver Cancer Prevention for Arizona Mexican-origin and Indigenous Communities David Garcia, Ph.D., FACS, Associate Professor, University of Arizona Timian Godfrey, DNP, APRN, FNP-BC, Clinical Assistant Professor, University of Arizona	●

Track	Session Title	Level
Research <i>Location:</i> <i>Desert Star</i>	Combined Arizona Child Homicide, 2009 – 2019 Alexis Griffin, Epidemiology, Arizona Department of Health Services	●





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Notes

CONCURRENT SESSIONS 3

(In-Person Sessions)

2:45 - 3:30 PM

Track	Session Title	Level
Policy <i>Location: Brittlebush</i>	Global Health Equity: Progress and Challenges Bringing Access to COVID-19 Vaccine to Developing Nations Will Humble, Executive Director, Arizona Public Health Association	●
Policy/ Clinical <i>Location: Desert Star</i>	Innovations to Address Health Needs of Men Receiving Treatment in a Reentry Program Rebecca Wolf, JD, MPH, OTR/L, Assistant Professor and Doctoral Capstone Coordinator, A.T. Still University, Department of Occupational Therapy Scott Howell, DMD, MPH, Associate Professor and Director of Public Health Dentistry & Teledentistry, A.T. Still University, Arizona School of Dentistry & Oral Health Megan McGlynn, Ph.D., Project Manager, Maricopa Reentry Center, Arizona Department of Corrections Rehabilitation and Reentry John Zimmerman, Deputy Warden/Facility Administrator, Maricopa Reentry Center, Arizona Department of Corrections Rehabilitation and Reentry	●
Policy/ Research <i>Location: Ocotillo</i>	Rural and Frontier Health Innovations From Low and Middle-Income Countries Robert Hess III, MPH, PMP, CPHQ, SSBB, Chief Executive Officer, The Health Innovations Network, by Hess III Consulting	●
Prevention/ Research <i>Location: Chia</i>	Ready for Action: Utilizing a Scorecard and Index Tool to Advance State-Level Suicide Prevention Efforts and Identify High-Risk Populations Rachel Larson, Lecturer, Arizona State University Ashlyn Pfeiffer, Project Coordinator, Arizona State University	●
Prevention/ Research <i>Location: Ballroom</i>	Keeping it Culture-Centric: The Future of Esperança's Preventative Health Education in Rural Communities <i>**Live Streamed session for virtual attendees**</i> Maria Valenzuela, Domestic Program Director, Esperança Valeria Lopez Macias, Community Health Educator, Esperança	●

Notes



Mercy Care is proud to support the Arizona Health Equity Conference. Thank you for the work you do to improve the health, wellness and safety of our members.

Mercy Care orgullosamente apoya la conferencia Arizona Healthcare Equity Conference (Conferencia de Equidad en el cuidado de la salud de Arizona). Gracias por el trabajo que hacen para mejorar la salud, bienestar y seguridad de nuestros miembros.

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ABSTRACTS AND LEARNING OBJECTIVES

CONCURRENT SESSION 1 – IN-PERSON

Information to Action: Increasing Equity in the COVID-19 Pandemic Response in Local, County and State Jurisdiction

Organizations and agencies, including governmental and nongovernmental partners, have been responding to the needs of Arizonans throughout the COVID-19 pandemic. As part of this response, attention has been given to increasing equity to reduce health disparities for underserved communities. Information gathering through focus groups, surveys, and data have guided community outreach efforts by state, county, and local partners to meet the needs of these communities. In this panel presentation, we will highlight strategies to increase equity by the Arizona Community Engagement Alliance Against COVID-19 Disparities, Maricopa County Department of Public Health, and Corbin's Legacy.

- Discuss recommendations for communicating COVID-19 health-related information to African American, Native American, and Hispanic/Latino communities from both a community perspective and a community health worker perspective.
- Identify key strategies and interventions that future public health initiatives should incorporate to help promote health equity and decrease disparities, particularly for refugee, farmworker, and Asian and Pacific Islander communities.
- Understand the importance of developing and implementing community-based initiatives for underserved populations heavily impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Food Insecurities: Underscoring the Impact of Social Determinants of Health on Medical Care

Although U.S. health care spending is the highest in the world, life expectancy is significantly lower than in many industrialized nations. Health and health care inequities: systematic, measurable, and avoidable differences in health-related outcomes between populations are increasing in the United States. Access to healthful food, reliable transportation, safe housing, and quality education are a few of the social determinants of health (SDoH) that account for a significant proportion of these gaps in health and health care. The preliminary findings of a pilot study to evaluate the magnitude of food insecurities in urban communities within Phoenix, AZ are presented and discussed in this session.

- Characterize the extent of food insecurities in urban communities within Phoenix, Arizona.
- Understand which populations are affected by food insecurities.
- Understand how food insecurities and other social determinants of health exacerbate health care disparities.
- Learn effective strategies to combat food insecurities at the organizational, county and state-wide levels.

Building Health Communities-And you can too!!!

The Building a Healthy Community Project creates a healthier community environment by developing collaborations with community leaders and its citizens to reach common goals and by creating its leadership through leadership academies geared towards health equity. Focusing on the Social Determinants of Health through Collective Impact, this project has: increased the number of healthy foods to the rural areas of the county with increased food pantries, gardens, and other partnerships; created new county wide school policy; increased transportation to shopping and medical appointments; and the project has created a community that works together and connects.

- Learn how to create partnerships that work together with limited resources. Create a leadership team that will work together for common goals.
- Learn to partner with communities through collective impact and the Social Determinants of Health with Policy, Systems, and Environmental Changes.
- Understand how to increase the capacity of and access to food, reducing food disparities, expand school health initiatives, and learn how to influence policy.
- Learn simple ways to change health outcomes with existing programs and resources.

“We don’t have those problems”: Stigma and Other Barriers to Mental Healthcare Among Resettled Refugees in AZ, NV, UT, and MN.

Refugees experience distress which can result in mental health disorders. Although studies are limited, the prevalence of anxiety ranges from 4-40%, PTSD and depression are at 9-36%, and 5-44% respectively. To promote healing and self-sufficiency, refugees are resettled in countries like the U.S.; Arizona is one of the top states for resettlement. While refugee resettlement agencies utilize the Refugee Health Screener-15 to identify mental health conditions, agencies lack the tools to identify barriers preventing refugees from accessing services post referral. We will report findings from 15 interviews with former refugees and resettlement agency staff about refugee barriers to mental healthcare.

- Provide background information on the prevalence of mental health disorders and the need for mental health support among refugee populations
- List common barriers to mental healthcare experienced at the individual, community, and systems levels as reported by former refugees and resettlement agency staff in AZ, NV, UT, and MN
- Discuss data-driven strategies to improve access to mental health care for resettled refugees

Data-Driven Health Equity Program Implementation

Addressing health equity is more than a written commitment, it’s a commitment to action. The 2021-2025 Arizona Health Improvement Plan (AzHIP) Health Equity Action Plan strategies and action steps focus on operationalizing health equity; enhanced community partnership and engagement; and policy, system, and environmental change. ADHS Bureau of Chronic Disease and Health Promotion epidemiologists are prioritizing health equity as a key indicator throughout program planning using epidemiological and geospatial analyses. We’ll provide a

high-level overview of the new AzHIP mission and vision, how we've changed our thinking and an analysis of population health, internal initiatives, and associated barriers and challenges.

- Summarize ongoing ADHS "Health in All Policy" strategies to address health equity, social determinants, and urban/rural disparities as part of the new Arizona Health Improvement Plan (AzHIP).
- A brief overview of the ADHS Health Equity Initiative to advance racial equity to further the ADHS' vision of health and wellness for all Arizonans.
- Increase awareness of epidemiologic strategies and publicly available data sources to highlight health disparities.
- Describe specific program examples (lessons learned, barriers, gaps), epidemiologic analyses, and public health surveillance informing programmatic planning and implementation with regards to health equity.

Using ACEs and substance use data from Arizona AYS and BRFSS surveys to inform prevention practices

This session describes a replicable study that provides a comprehensive understanding of the relationships between adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) and substance use as analyzed from statewide survey datasets from youth (Arizona Youth Survey – AYS) and adult (Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System – BRFSS) samples. For both datasets, the more frequent use of substances was directly associated with the group with more ACEs. Differences and similarities across the youth and adult findings and gender and ethnic groups suggest priorities for current prevention programs and indicate how these priorities may need to change as today's youth become tomorrow's adults.

At the end of the session, participants will be able to: 1) comprehend the association between ACEs and multiple substance use outcomes; 2) understand the comparison between Arizona youth and Arizona adult samples regarding substance use, ACEs, gender, and ethnicity; 3) describe the importance of these data findings in local and statewide prevention program and policy planning; and 4) learn how to access AYS and BRFSS data.

- Explain how the CASPER serosurvey methodology was used to inform public health response in Maricopa County during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- List multiple applications for a community survey to guide health equity interventions."

ABSTRACTS AND LEARNING OBJECTIVES

CONCURRENT SESSION 2 – IN-PERSON

Development of a Multi-sector Community-Focused COVID-19 Response Team —Guadalupe, Arizona

The town of Guadalupe (TOG) is a community of approximately 6,200 Native American and Hispanic residents in Phoenix, Arizona. After detecting elevated levels of SARS-CoV-2 in the town's sewage system, the TOG declared State of Emergency in June 2020. The Guadalupe COVID-19 Community Response Team (CRT) was rapidly established to deliver a community-led program whose mandate was to enhance public health surveillance and household support to mitigate the spread of COVID-19. This presentation will discuss the strategies used by the CRT to improve public health, build trust, and provide health interventions to populations disproportionately impacted by COVID-19.

By the end of the presentation, participants will be able to identify factors that facilitate and sustain a community presence during public health interventions. By discussing the cultural and governmental uniqueness of the Guadalupe community, session attendees will be able to recognize public health efforts designed to cultivate trust and relationships to build healthy and equitable communities. Participants will also be able to specify how holistic approaches to community public health nurtures trust and acceptance of interventions. These aims will be achieved by discussing how the CRT adapted established public health systems to meet the unique cultural needs of Guadalupe.

Reducing Health Disparities in Arizona Rural Communities: COVID-19 and beyond

In this session, the presenters will discuss an initiative to reduce healthcare disparities deliberately and intentionally in hospitals, Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHC) and post-acute care in rural Arizona. We will describe the use of a systematic approach and tool to identify gaps, system issues, and educational opportunities focused on incorporating an equity lens for quality, patient safety, and population health. Each participating organization will have a progress report that will support them in taking action for internal process improvement, strategic planning and for collaborating with community partners. Progress reports may be used to measure improvement statewide.

At the end of this session participants will be able to:

- Describe the structure and process of identifying disparities in healthcare organizations, including hospitals, FQHCs and post-acute care facilities, using CMS's Health Equity Organizational Assessment (HEOA).
- Explain the importance of incorporating an equity lens into all improvement strategies, including quality, patient safety and population health, to improve the patient experience and health outcomes for people experiencing various health conditions, such as COVID-19.

Supporting Healthy Communities: an actionable framework for healthcare and community partnerships

Societal factors such as early childhood development, education, living wages, having enough money for basic needs, housing, and community environments impact people's health. Roughly 80% of the health equation is attributed to these factors, normally referred to as SDOH. Healthcare alone cannot solve for these factors and must work with others to improve linkages to programs that can improve conditions in which people are born, grow, live, work and age.

At the end of the session, participants will be able to

- Describe effective strategies for partnerships between healthcare and community-based organizations
- Formulate elements of meaningful and equitable partnerships
- Identify opportunities to leverage organizations strengths and build common purpose

Interdisciplinary Approaches to Advance Liver Cancer Prevention for Arizona Mexican-origin and Indigenous Communities

Mexican-origin and Indigenous communities experience higher rates of liver cancer incidence and mortality, particularly in the Southwest United States. Common risk factors for liver cancer include having hepatitis B/C, cirrhosis, excessive alcohol consumption, lack of physical activity, non-alcoholic fatty liver disease (NAFLD), and obesity. Despite the clear need to develop effective liver cancer prevention strategies, a gap remains among these communities and the scientific literature. This presentation will highlight an interdisciplinary team approach and innovative strategies to reduce liver cancer disparities that exist for Mexican-origin and Indigenous communities who are considered at a high-risk and underserved population in Arizona.

At the end of this session attendees will be able to:

- Understand the rationale for, and barriers to, enrollment of Mexican-origin and Indigenous communities in liver cancer prevention research.
- Describe effective strategies and approaches to engage Mexican-origin populations in research, including evidence from Nosotros, a program developed to foster community-engaged research.
- Understand the importance of an interdisciplinary team approach to improve health equity in under-represented communities to improve health equity.

Combined Arizona Child Homicide, 2009 – 2019

Arizona has experienced a recent and drastic increase in child homicide. Arizona child homicides disproportionately affect certain age groups, races, and children, so the presenter will discuss these disparities and provide a historical and systemic context to these variations. The presenter will review research from a 2009 - 2019 cross-sectional study that analyzes trends in child homicide in Arizona. Then, the presenter will identify noted risk factors associated with child homicide and provide potential strategies for intervention.

This session will help participants describe how the Arizona child homicide rate has changed over 10 years. Participants will also be able to identify risk factors, vulnerable populations and possible interventions to child homicide. Lastly, attendees will learn the long-term individual impacts of child homicides as well as the generational and systemic trauma that contributes to some of the child fatalities in Arizona.



ABSTRACTS AND LEARNING OBJECTIVES

CONCURRENT SESSION 3 – IN-PERSON

Global Health Equity: Progress and Challenges Bringing Access to COVID-19 Vaccine to Developing Nations

There is no bigger global health equity issue than equitable and fair access to the COVID-19 vaccine. Developed nations have far more vaccines than they need to cover their populations while developing nations have far less than they need. This session will summarize the current lay of the land for getting the vaccine to developing nations through the COVAX Global Initiative.

COVAX brings together governments, global health organizations, manufacturers, scientists, the private sector, civil society and philanthropy, to provide equitable access to COVID-19 vaccines. It is the only truly global solution to this pandemic because it is the only effort to ensure that people in all corners of the world will get access to COVID-19 vaccines once they are available, regardless of their wealth.

This session will provide a situation update and highlight policy, operational and resource barriers to achieving global health equity to the COVID-19 vaccine."

- Learn the current state of vaccine administration across the globe
- Learn what COVAX has achieved to improve access to COVID-19 vaccine in developing nations
- Learn what policy, operational and resources are needed to further improve global access to the vaccine"

Innovations to Address Health Needs of Men Receiving Treatment in a Reentry Program

This session will report on a community partnership between Maricopa Reentry Center (MRC) and A.T. Still University (ATSU). Through this partnership, representatives from ATSU's dental school utilized teledentistry and in-person dental services to meet dental and oral health needs, which allowed MRC residents to remain in the reentry program to completion. Additionally, students from ATSU's Department of Occupational Therapy implemented a health education program to educate residents about lifestyle changes to improve health outcomes. Finally, occupational therapy doctoral capstone students provided programming and counseling to MRC residents to support their transition back into the community.

Session attendees will learn about this case study of ATSU's partnership with MRC, a substance use treatment program. Additionally, they will learn about the administrative framework that ATSU developed when establishing this partnership. Finally, attendees will learn about the cultural factors ATSU accounted for in gaining trust with this population before implementing these public health initiatives.

Rural and Frontier Health Innovations From Low and Middle-Income Countries

Low and middle-income countries (LMICs) offer unique insights and innovations for how to develop population health and healthy communities in resource-strained environments. This session will review strategies for health system transformation from LMICs and apply them to rural and frontier Arizona. Examples include strategies to braid funding and pool resources, spearheading public-private partnerships, piggy backing the supply chain, capacity building initiatives, workforce recruitment and incentive strategies.

By the end of this presentation, attendees will:

- Have a framework for health systems strengthening in resource-constrained environments such a rural and frontier Arizona.
- Be able to identify assets and resources in their local community that can be engaged to increase health system capacity.
- Have a roadmap for engaging local assets and resources to meet local health needs.

Ready for Action: Utilizing a Scorecard and Index Tool to Advance State-Level Suicide Prevention Efforts and Identify High-Risk Populations

Over the past decade, the risk of suicide among Arizona veterans has been over 2x the rate of civilians. State and local level efforts are essential in addressing veteran suicide disparities in alignment with federal efforts. This session will focus on the development of a scorecard and index tool designed to equip state and local agencies with the knowledge needed to best address veteran suicide in their communities. By better understanding the progress and areas of opportunities of state-level suicide prevention programs across the country, the overall effort to reduce deaths by suicide in the veteran population can advance further.

- The audience will have a greater understanding of veteran suicide disparities in Arizona and across the country.
- The audience will be able to describe how data can be used to proactively engage and connect with high-risk populations.
- The audience will understand how the scorecard and index tool can be used to reduce deaths by suicide in the veteran population.

Keeping it Culture-Centric: The Future of Esperança's Preventative Health Education in Rural Communities

The past year has opened eyes to the dire health needs of under-resourced, under-served communities throughout our state. At Esperança, we use grassroots methods along with cultural and community immersion to form deeper connections with urban and rural communities. These steps are essential to the success and sustainability of any health program, but especially those serving rural communities that face different economic factors, cultural, social and educational challenges, and often a lack of recognition and representation from state legislators. Join us as we share in the past year of Esperança's rural preventative health outreach; successes, challenges, and recommendations moving forward.

This session will dive deeper into the importance of keeping culture at the center of rural health programming while working toward health equity. You will come away with a better understanding of how to empower community ownership of health programs, best practices for keeping rural staff engaged, how to establish the appropriate relationship between your urban and rural programs and more. For anyone currently serving or looking to expand into rural populations, this is a conversation you won't want to miss.

NOTES:

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

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Mobilize AZ is Blue Cross * Blue Shield of Arizona's public health initiative. As a steward of our company commitment to inspiring health, Mobilize AZ is targeting Arizona's most critical health issues: the opioid epidemic and rising use of substances, mental health conditions, and diabetes.

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to strengthen statewide
resources for prevention,
treatment, resiliency
and recovery

Cultivating cross-
sector partnerships
to drive collective
impact

COMMITTED TO OUR COMMUNITY

As a non-profit health system, HonorHealth's team members and physicians are focused on doing what's right for those we serve. We stay in lock-step, always assessing the health needs of the community.

And when it comes to the most pressing challenges, we know meeting expectations isn't enough - we aim to exceed them by going further and providing important resources. Especially for those who are often forgotten. Because when we make good on what our community asks for, we continue to grow with them.

What we offer:

- ✔ A team of primary and specialty providers
- ✔ Six full-service hospitals with emergency services and 40 urgent care locations
- ✔ A wide range of community services through Desert Mission, including offerings ranging from a food bank to early childhood education
- ✔ The HonorHealth Military Partnership Program provides trauma and deployment skills training to members of the military

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POSTER SESSION ABSTRACTS

For sessions available in-person

Additional posters are available at azhealthequity.org/poster-presentations

Arizona Overdose Data to Action Program: Collaboration, Community Readiness, and Partnership Evaluation

Dr. Maria Aguilar-Amaya, Arizona State University

Mara de Luca Funke, Arizona State University

This poster aims to visualize and showcase complex collaboration processes of the statewide “Overdose Data to Action (OD2A)” program that involves the Arizona Department of Health Services and 11 county health departments, Arizona Board of Pharmacy, and Banner University Medical Center. Grounded on key informant interviews, this poster will translate research findings into three infographics on community readiness, collaboration, and partnerships. Through the infographics, audiences will be able to see the OD2A processes and takeaway messages. Audiences will also benefit from learning new instruments such as Wilder Collaboration Factors Inventory, PARTNER Tool surveys, and the Community Readiness Model.

Patient satisfaction with telemedicine visits during COVID-19 outbreak: Experience among federally qualified health centers in Arizona

Katherine Chuang, MD, MPH, University of Arizona

The purpose of this study was to expand upon the work of a previously accepted study and assess whether patients in two Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs) in Arizona were satisfied with their experience with telemedicine after the COVID-19 outbreak. This study showed that most participants were satisfied with telemedicine, found telemedicine to be comparable to traditional in-person visits, and most would be willing to try telemedicine again. Given that these FQHCs provide care to underserved populations, telemedicine may be a viable option for those faced with healthcare access barriers, helping reduce the health equity gap.

Reimagining School Safety Without Resource Officers: Discussing Alternative Programs and Practices

Tara Bartlett, Participatory Governance Institute

Lara Law, Southwest Interdisciplinary Research Center

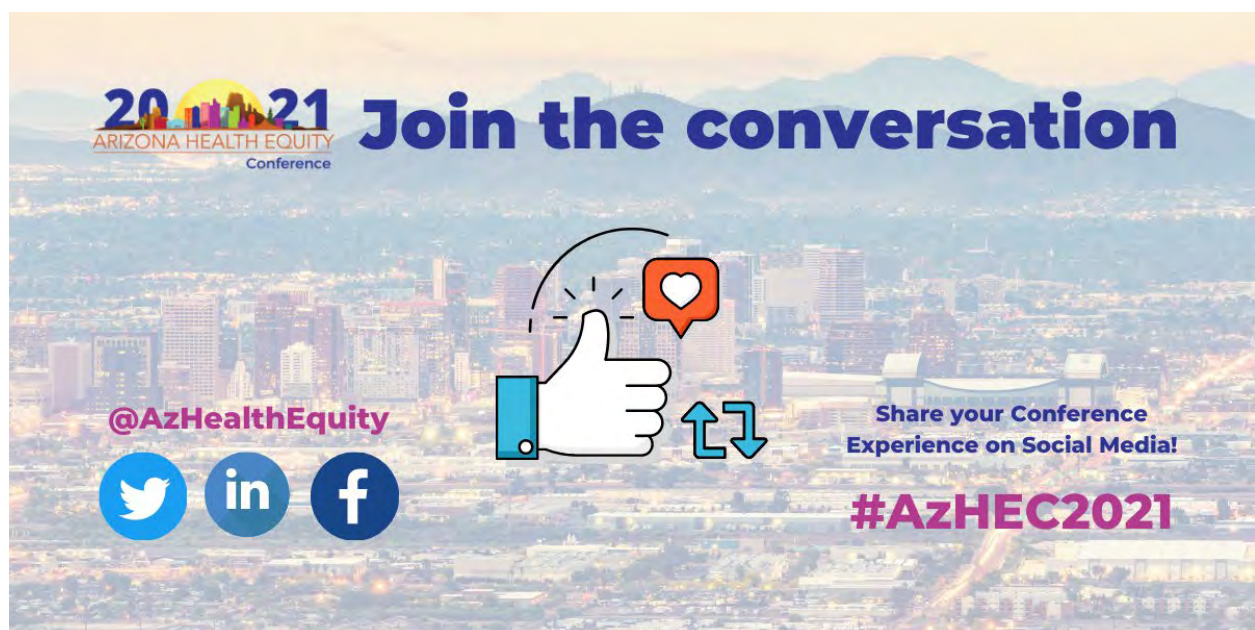
This poster will present findings from a comprehensive literature review on 17 school safety alternatives to School Resource Officers (SROs). Meta-analyses, randomized controlled trials, and other targeted research studies inform our findings on the efficacy of alternative programs for achieving school safety and student equity. This information is especially pertinent to schools and districts across the country, including Phoenix Union High School District (PXU), which have recently chosen not to renew contracts with police departments. Specifically, PXU is in the midst of a participatory budgeting process involving students, parents and guardians, and staff in determining how to reallocate this funding.

Strategies to Improve Healthcare Access in Underserved Communities: A Mapping Review

Tiffany Ostovar-Kermani, Alliance of Medical Graduates

Saidieh Farahmandnia, Alliance of Medical Graduates

Rural areas have higher risks of financial instability in households across the U.S. and could benefit from equitable healthcare access. However, primary care access limitations lead to deteriorating health outcomes, unmanaged conditions, and reduced mobility to perform day-to-day activities or operate in professional settings. Attending regular visits to primary care in these areas can address chronic healthcare conditions, increasing the possibility of recuperating financial losses from work leave, land and property seizures, and homelessness. Our mapping review assesses potential solutions that address physician shortages.





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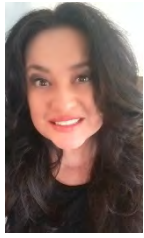
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CONCURRENT SESSION BIOS

In-Person Presenters



Dr. Maria Aguilar-Amaya is Associate Director of the Office of Evaluation and Partner Contracts at the Southwest Interdisciplinary Research Center of Arizona State University. She is a Faculty Associate in the College of Integrates Sciences and Arts where she teaches statistics. Her current research focuses on health disparities, substance use disorder, and opioid use disorder. She has extensive experience in conducting quantitative and qualitative research and survey development for the past 25 years and strong skills in all areas of program evaluation, having worked with juvenile and adult probationers as well as victims of crime.



Ibraheim Ayub is a second-year medical student at A.T Still University. He is an Arizona native with a desire to serve Arizona communities as a future healthcare provider and to reduce health inequities. He is currently a researcher for the HonorHealth's Research, Quality Improvement, and Patient Safety Program (ResQIPS) working on identifying, screening, and implementing interventions for social determinants of health. His work has been presented at conferences hosted by the NIH, AcademyHealth, and SGIM. Ibraheim serves as a liaison for the American College of Surgeons AZ chapter and currently mentors pre-med students as well as tutors first-year medical students. His goals are to advance healthcare by addressing health disparities in marginalized groups for our local Arizona communities.



Vicki Buchda, MS, RN, NEA-BC serves as the Vice President, Care Improvement for the Arizona Hospital and Healthcare Association. She is responsible for contributing to the organization's mission: "Making Arizona the healthiest state in the Nation" by leading collaboratives to improve patient safety and experience, healthcare outcomes, and health equity. She is a highly-skilled professional with demonstrated expertise in clinical and system leadership. Vicki is passionate about harm prevention, including opioids, maternal health, and advance care planning. Vicki has served in nursing and leadership roles within health systems including Mayo Clinic, Hawaii Pacific Health and Banner Health.



Lilliana (Lily) Cardenas, AM leads the CHNA work for Maricopa County and Health in All Policies grant from ADHS. She serves as PI for the CDC National Initiative to Address COVID-19 Health Disparities Among Populations at High-Risk and Underserved and the HHS OMH Collective Approach to Improve Health Literacy for Vulnerable Populations. Lily has over 20 years of experience in community-level mobilization to address health disparities and cross-sector collaboration. She currently serves as the Diverse Community Vaccine Outreach Division Supervisor and Regional Liaison Branch Director for the Maricopa County COVID-19 Unified Command Response. She is a graduate of the University of Chicago and University of Arizona.



Ann Carver is an emerging researcher at Arizona State University School of Social Work Southwest Interdisciplinary Research Center (SIRC). Ann has extensive experience in policy, practice, teaching, and training on child welfare and disparities affecting African American children, youth, and families. Ann presently works as a researcher with the NIH CEAL to address health equity and disparities with communities of color in Arizona. She is also a program evaluator for the Arizona Department of Health Teen Pregnancy Prevention Program and former research project coordinator for Arizona's Pregnancy Assistance Fund grant to the Arizona Governor's Office of Youth Faith and Family.



Ariella P. Dale, Ph.D., MPH is a member of the 2020 class of CDC's Epidemic Intelligence Service and is jointly assigned to the Maricopa County Department of Public Health and Arizona Department of Health Services. In the Maricopa County COVID-19 response, Ariella serves as Refugee Outreach Unit Lead focused on delivering culturally and linguistically appropriate public health efforts to refugee, immigrant, and migrant communities. She completed her Ph.D. in Epidemiology in 2018 at the University of Georgia where her research focused on respiratory viruses and previously worked at the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment within their healthcare-associated infections program.



Timothy J. Dennehy is a Ph.D. Candidate in the School of Human Evolution and Social Change at Arizona State University. His dissertation research focuses on the archaeology of pre-Maya groups in Belize, Central America, from the initial colonization of the area by humans to the dawn of agriculture. Before starting his graduate studies, Tim worked as a helpline operator and development associate in NYC's nonprofit health sector. He joined ASU SORT as a Graduate Research Associate in August 2020 and transitioned to his current role of Senior Research Analyst in January 2021.



Marisol Diaz received her J.D. from the Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law at Arizona State University, her M.Ed. from Northern Arizona University, and her B.A. from the University of Arizona. She grounds her work as a program evaluator in community-centered and culturally inclusionary research methods with an interest in health equity for underserved communities. Marisol has over 21 years of first-hand experience conducting training in diversity, inclusion, and community engagement. Her recent projects include a study for a crisis hotline and testing a child abuse prevention program for elementary, middle, and high school students through a randomized controlled trial.



Shayne Gallaway, Ph.D., MPH is an epidemiologist with 15 years of experience working for the Federal Government. He currently works for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), assigned to the Arizona Department of Health Services in Phoenix, Arizona (since 2019). Shayne provides epidemiologic support across various Offices and Programs. He was previously assigned to the CDC in Atlanta, GA; in various roles including program management, evaluation, measurement, epidemiology, and informatics. Before joining CDC, Shayne was an epidemiologist for the Army for eight years focusing on behavioral and social health outcomes.



David Garcia, Ph.D., FACS is an Associate Professor in the Mel and Enid Zuckerman College of Public Health at the University of Arizona. His research has focused on the development and establishment of “Nosotros Comprometidos a Su Salud -Committed to Your Health”, a program developed to support research through community service and partnering with underserved Tucson residents. Dr. Garcia also is the Assistant Director for Community Outreach & Engagement for the University of Arizona Cancer Center. In this role, he is currently examining the burden of obesity-related disease and cancers, such as non-alcoholic fatty liver disease and hepatocellular carcinoma, in Mexican-Origin adults.



Velma Gesimba, BS is a second-year MPH student in Maternal and Child Health at the University of Arizona. She received her B.S in Child Psychology from the University of Minnesota, Twin Cities. Velma’s interests include addressing barriers to accessing care for marginalized populations, global health, prenatal and infant health, and reproductive rights. Currently, Velma is an Intensive Case Management intern at the International Rescue Committee in Tucson where her team addresses barriers to health and wellness for resettled refugee and asylum clients. Clients include individuals with severe health conditions, LGBTI clients, single mothers, the elderly, and sexual and gender-based victims.



Timian Godfrey, DNP, APRN, FNP-BC a clinical assistant professor at the University of Arizona College of Nursing, is an enrolled member of the Navajo Nation, has a Doctor of Nursing Practice degree and is certified in public health training. Dr. Godfrey’s DNP degree had a focus in leadership from Johns Hopkins University and her public health training, specializing in American Indian Healthcare, was attained from the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health. In addition to her faculty position, she is an advanced practice nurse working in emergency medicine in rural tribal communities and has been doing so for over eight years.



Alexis Griffin is a Child and Infant Epidemiologist at the Arizona Department of Health Services. She works to plan detailed cross-sectional studies of public health issues to discover ways to prevent issues and promote universal health equity for children in Arizona. She also works closely with the Arizona Child Fatality Review team to review all deaths of children in Arizona. Maternal and child health and safety issues - including Sudden Unexpected Infant Death, child abuse and homicide and maternal or child drug use - are Ms. Griffin's focus. Before joining the Arizona Department of Health Services, Ms. Griffin worked as a teacher for the public education system in Arizona.



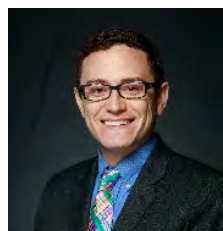
Kathryn Ham, MPH has extensive experience in conducting all types of evaluations for the past 26 years. Ms. Hamm currently serves as the project manager for the ASU CEAL and Maricopa County Department of Public Health COVID-19 Focus Group project. She is also lead evaluator for two Native Youth literacy grants on the Gila River Indian Community and is assisting in the evaluation of the SIRC Specialized Center of Excellence award from NIH. She also coordinates the evaluation of the statewide teen pregnancy prevention project with the Arizona Department of Health Services and recently led a county community health needs assessment.



Lauriane Hanson, M.Admin serves as the Community Platform Resource Sr. Manager at Equality Health. Since calling Phoenix her home seventeen years ago, she has worked diligently to improve the health of Arizona's diverse communities. Since joining Equality Health, Lauriane aims to build bridges in siloed health and social services landscapes to meaningfully address social determinants of health and improve health outcomes of historically excluded communities. Lauriane carefully applies herself to grounds her work in equitable, cultural and anti-racist practices. Lauriane is a member of the American Public Health Association and its local affiliate, the Arizona Public Health Association.



Robert Hess III, MPH, PMP, CPHQ, SSBB has 20 years of experience designing, implementing and optimizing health systems for vulnerable populations including homeless individuals, children in foster care, individuals with serious mental illness, LGBTQ populations, and refugees. Robert's work has affected over 50 million lives in all 50 states for multiple Fortune 50, 100 and 500 companies, local/State/Federal governments; in addition to work in Mexico, India, Costa Rica, the Republic of the Philippines, Kenya, Tanzania. Robert completed his Bachelor's degree in Social Work at Arizona State University, his Master's in Public Health at Johns Hopkins University and executive education at the Harvard Business School.



Scott Howell, DMD, MPH is an associate professor and Director of Public Health Dentistry & Teledentistry at A.T. Still University, Arizona School of Dentistry & Oral Health (ATSU-ASDOH). He is also a board-certified public health dentist and an Atlantic Fellow for Health Equity. In 2015 he came to ATSU-ASDOH to develop a teledentistry program. Interested in learning more about the broader aspects of oral health, he completed a dental public health residency at UT Health San Antonio in 2019. He has spoken and written extensively on teledentistry and has advocated for changes in teledentistry policy and laws in Arizona.



Will Humble, MPH is a long-time public health enthusiast and is currently the Executive Director for the Arizona Public Health Association (AzPHA). His 35 years in public health include more than 2 decades at the Arizona Department of Health Services, where he served in various roles including as the Director from 2009 to 2015. Will is a believer in using evidence-based health policy to improve health outcomes and in leading and managing with emotional intelligence.



Eniola Idowu BS is a second-year MPH student in Health Behavior Health Promotion at the University of Arizona, where she also received her B.S. in Psychology. She currently serves as the Evaluation Coordinator at the Arizona Center for Rural Health, where her team is evaluating a mentorship program for healthcare providers to increase their capacity in providing medication-assistance treatment (MAT) services for opioid use disorder in Arizona. Eniola's main interests include addressing disparities among populations with substance use disorder, promoting access to mental health services, positive youth development, and utilizing community-based participatory research to address those challenges.



Julia Jackman is a Case Investigator and Research Assistant at Arizona State University's COVID-19 Case Investigation and Community Response Team. In 2021, Julia received a BS degree in Biochemistry and a BA degree in Global Health from Barrett, the Honors College at ASU. She was recently selected as a Fulbright Scholar to Norway, where she will continue to study health disparities while pursuing her Master of Science in Global Health from the Norwegian University of Science and Technology (NTNU).



Jennifer Deprey Jackman earned a Master of Public Administration from the Henry H. Bloch School of Management. She is also certified to teach elementary education and has worked in Title One and charter schools as a principal and teacher. Jennifer is currently a Field Epidemiology Supervisor on the ASU COVID-19 Case Investigation and Community Response Team and her passion is connecting students and volunteers with community health opportunities.



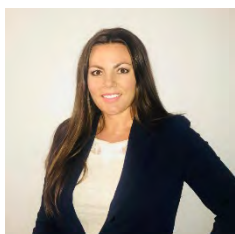
Megan Jehn, Ph.D., MHS is an Associate Professor of Epidemiology in the School of Human Evolution and Social Change at Arizona State University. Her scholarship and community engagement broadly focuses on the resilience of social-ecological systems to disasters. Dr. Jehn works with state and local public health departments to assist with disaster research and response programs, design of public health training exercises, and community engagement activities. She currently serves on Arizona's statewide COVID-19 Modeling Team and directs the ASU COVID-19 Community Response Team, an on-the-ground field epidemiology team supporting state and local public health partners to implement disease control and pandemic response activities.



Gloria Karirirwe is the program manager for the ASU COVID-19 Field epidemiology team. In May 2020, Gloria attained her Masters of Science degree in Health Service Delivery from Arizona State University. Her life purpose is to improve access to healthcare for all through policy and health promotion.



Nidal Kram, MPH is a DrPH candidate in Maternal and Child Health at the University of Arizona. Nidal is working on her dissertation to develop a questionnaire for measuring barriers in mental health care access among resettled refugees. She is also a consultant with the Arizona Border Health Collaborative Innovation and Improvement Network, where her team developed a chatbot to increase the utilization of prenatal care services in Nogales, Arizona. She is hired as a virtual Training Program Developer at the North Carolina Division of Public Health, Injury, and Violence Prevention Branch to support the overdose prevention team and implement technical assistance addressing overdose responses.



Dr. Rachel Larson is a Lecturer in the College of Health Solutions and Program Director for the Masters in Strength and Conditioning at Arizona State University. She serves as the PI of a community-based collaboration to prevent veteran suicide in Arizona and previously managed a CDC Foundation subcontract for a veteran suicide prevention evaluation demonstration project. She has experience working with military personnel, specifically with U.S. Army Reserve Commands. As a certified Tactical Strength and Conditioning Facilitator (NSCA-TSAC-F), she has consulted with Reserve commands and worked with the 301st Battalion on their preparation for the Army Combat Fitness Test (ACFT).



Dr. Leafman is the Executive Director of Corbin's Legacy, a 501c3 charity dedicated to the elimination of food and healthcare inequity among underrepresented elementary school children and their families. Joan is also a professor at AT Still University in the Department of Public Health and professor emeritus at Northeastern Illinois University. Her areas of scholarship and publications are focused on the elimination of healthcare inequity among populations in need. Dr. Leafman holds a Ph.D. from Northwestern University.



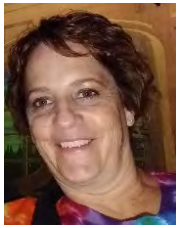
Daniela Ledesma has been a Program Manager for case management at Arizona State University's COVID-19 Case Investigation and Community Response Team since its inception in June 2020. Previously, Daniela received her Bachelor's degree in Global Health from ASU and is currently pursuing her Masters's of Health Science (MHS) in Epidemiology from Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health.



Valeria Lopez Macias received her bachelor's in psychology from Universidad Autonoma de Baja California. Her experience serving rural populations includes positions at the Sunset Community Health Center in San Luis, AZ where she worked with children, adults, seniors and individuals with disabilities, promoting one-on-one or group sessions for emotional wellness programs. Valeria also has experience coordinating and promoting community events to provide free medical services (blood pressure, glucose and cholesterol levels, COVID-19 vaccinations and more), and developing new community programs. She has played an integral role in establishing Esperança's first remote preventative health program in Somerton,



Hanna Maroofi has been a Program Manager for case management at Arizona State University's COVID-19 Case Investigation and Community Response Team since its inception in June 2020. Her research interests focus on infectious diseases, health systems, and refugee health issues. Hanna holds a B.S. in Biological Sciences and a B.A. in Global Health from ASU, and is currently pursuing her Masters of Health Science (MHS) in Infectious Disease Epidemiology from Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health.



Megan McGlynn, Ph.D. is currently the Project Manager at the Maricopa Reentry Center within the Arizona Department of Corrections Rehabilitation and Reentry (ADCRR). Her current position is responsible for programming within the reentry center, including substance use treatment services and reentry programming. Before coming to ADCRR her professional experience included working in various correctional settings such as the Arizona Department of Juvenile Corrections and Maricopa County Jails to bring sound, evidence-based services to incarcerated populations. She also founded a non-profit designed to bring social services and supports to justice-involved youth.



Ruby Meraz, MPH, CHES, currently serves as the Training Center Director for the Arizona Community Health Worker Association, Inc. (AzCHOW). In her current role, Ms. Meraz develops training, materials, and tools for the Community Health Worker (CHW) Workforce in Arizona so they are equipped to meet the needs of their communities.



Laura G. Meyer holds a BA in Psychology and Neuroscience from the University of Colorado and an MSW from Arizona State University. Laura's research interests center on resilience and grief and how they relate to well-being. In 2019, Laura studied at MD Anderson Cancer Center in Houston under an NCI R25 Fellowship to develop an empathic training tool for physicians. Laura has led workshops on empathic communication for medical students, fellows, and, most recently, for COVID-19 case investigators. Today, Laura is the Program Manager of training & team development for the Arizona State University COVID-19 Case Investigation & Community Response Program.



Jhoana Molina BA is the current Spanish-speaking PIO for Maricopa County Public Health as well as the Hard to Reach Population Coordinator. Before joining the Marketing and Communications team, Jhoana was an anchor, reporter for Univision for seven years. She was also a producer, reporter for Phoenix 11 for three years. In her current role in Public Health, she manages the Spanish website and social media as well as the Building Bridges to Health Network (BBTH). Jhoana founded the BBTH network to serve and equip hard to reach populations with information and resources to be better prepared for emergencies including pandemics.



Sabrina Oesterle, PhD, MA is an Associate Professor in the School of Social Work and Director of the Southwest Interdisciplinary Research Center in the Watts College of Public Service and Community Solutions. Dr. Oesterle is a prevention scientist with a focus on life course research and the prevention of behavioral health problems among adolescents and young adults. Dr. Oesterle is currently the Principal Investigator of the National Community Engagement Alliance (CEAL) Against COVID-19 Disparities.



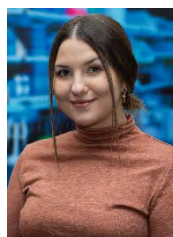
Alexandra Oropeza, MNLM is the Southwest Maricopa Public Health Liaison for the Maricopa County Department of Health. She holds a Bachelor's degree in Psychology and a Master's degree in Nonprofit Leadership and Management from Arizona State University. Her role is to have a thorough understanding of the Southwest region and the public health needs the community is facing. Alexandra works to connect the community to existing resources and collaborates with internal and external stakeholders to ensure that The Department of Public Health is aware of the needs, assets and opportunities that are impacting the cities and towns in her region.



Urvashi Pandit DO, MPH, MBS is a Medical Epidemiologist at the Maricopa County Department of Public Health (MCDPH). She studied medicine at the Rowan University School of Osteopathic Medicine and completed her Master of Biomedical Sciences and Master of Public Health degrees at Rutgers University (previously UMDNJ). Before attending medical school, she worked as a clinical research coordinator at New Jersey Medical School studying the effects of remote ischemic preconditioning on transplanted organs procured from neurological death donors. During her time at MCDPH, she has been a lead coordinator of the Maricopa County serosurvey and served on the COVID-19 vaccine planning committee.



Wesley Peng is a researcher at HonorHealth focusing on Social Determinants of Health at Academic Affairs. Wesley is an active member in HonorHealth's Research, Quality Improvement, and Patient Safety Program (ResQIPS). As an Arizonan native, he has worked on many initiatives including "Vaccines for Vulnerable," "Telemedicine for the Underserved," and "Targeted Food Insecurity Screenings" all to tackle health inequity in our local community. Wesley Peng has presented and published his research on health disparities in many areas including NIH, Academy Health, National Health Policy Conference, and SGIM, leading to an active discussion of disparities specific to the Arizonan community. His projects have led to a tangible benefit to over 7,000 patients. Additionally, his research has recently won accolades and recognition by the American College of Physicians' Arizona Chapter as well as by the NASDAQ MarketSite Billboard in Times Square. His philosophy is to tackle the needs of patients and underserved communities through data-driven innovation.



Ashlyn Pfeiffer is currently a Research Project Coordinator at Arizona State University in the College of Health Solutions. Under the leadership of Dr. Rachel Larson, she coordinates a team of undergraduate and graduate students to perform data analysis to service the lives of veterans, service members, and military families. As a current graduate student in the Thunderbird School of Global Management, she aspires to make a global public health impact through research management and leadership.



Kip Schlum is the Emergency Planning Supervisor for the Maricopa County Department of Public Health. As part of the COVID-19 Pandemic response, he served as the Public Health Branch Lead for Maricopa County, the 4th largest county in the United States serving over 4.7 million residents. Kip's planning experience spans many areas of emergency and large event preparation. Additionally, he spearheaded opening the first COVID-19 isolation hotel in the state, providing a safe location for thousands of people suffering from COVID-19 to isolate themselves and prevent further spread of the virus throughout the community.



Anjin Singh, MPH is the epidemiologist for the Office of Cancer Prevention & Control. Anjin graduated from the University of Arizona with a Bachelor of Science in Biomedical Science and went on to receive her Master's in Public Health from the Colorado School of Public Health in 2019. She has been in her role as an epidemiologist for two years and serves both the Well Woman Healthcheck Program and the Comprehensive Cancer Control Program.



Amanda Swanson, MPH is a senior epidemiologist at the Arizona Department of Health Services (ADHS) in the Office of Injury and Violence and Prevention with a focus on unintentional injuries, traumatic brain injury, and sexual assault. She previously worked as an epidemiologist in the ADHS Tuberculosis Control Program.



Jasmine Truong is currently the Program Manager of Operations for the COVID-19 Case Investigation Program at Arizona State University. In December 2019, Jasmine received her Master of Science in Public Health (MSPH) in International Health from the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health. She is passionate about addressing health equity and access, particularly through the lens of community partnership development.



Ijeoma Uche, MD, PharmD is an internist with a background in medicine, pharmacy and research. She began her career as a hospital pharmacist for several years before training as a physician. Her approach to medicine is multi-dimensional yet holistic and patient-centered. Driven by the pursuit of knowledge and professional development, Dr. Uche is passionate about using scientific tools derived from evidence-based medicine to solve complex medical problems. She firmly believes that physicians play an integral role in ameliorating health care disparities.



Maria Valenzuela established what would become one of the largest minority-centered preventative health programs in the state of Arizona in 2000. Serving 22 years as the Domestic Program Director of Esperanza, Maria and her team of community health educators have provided over 40,000 Hispanic and refugee families with education on chronic disease, nutrition, oral health, and more. She has presented for the United States Congress, the WHO and the Aspen-Aetna Healthy Communities Fellowship. Maria serves on the Board for Valley Leadership, as a member of the Mayo Clinic Community Advisory Board and the Health Improvement Partnership of Maricopa County.



Michele Walsh, Ph.D. is a program evaluator and health services researcher with considerable experience in the design and implementation of community-based studies of social and health-related issues. She has a particular interest in identifying and measuring social and cultural factors that impact health and well-being. Dr. Walsh and the Community Research Evaluations & Development (CRED) teamwork together with community partners to examine a wide range of topics that affect children and families across Arizona. Dr. Walsh also works closely with tribal and rural communities.



Evelyn Whitmer, MEd, CCHC is Director and Family and Consumer Sciences Area Agent. For over 20 years she has served the state of Arizona developing and delivering research-based, objective, informal education programs to Arizona families. She develops and conducts programs which address priority needs. She continues to work with the community leadership, partners and citizens to develop sustainable changes in the community with policy, systems and environmental changes. She has developed or assisted in developing peer reviewed curriculum for various trainings for The University of Arizona.



Rebecca Wolf, JD, MPH, OTR/L is an attorney and occupational therapist. Currently, she is an assistant professor and doctoral capstone coordinator at A.T. Still University in the Department of Occupational Therapy. Additionally, she is a Ph.D. student in Health Behavior Health Promotion at the Mel and Enid Zuckerman College of Public Health at the University of Arizona. She educates students about policy, advocacy, ethics, and health promotion, and is actively involved in state and federal legislative advocacy.



Wendy Wolfersteig, Ph.D. serves as Director of Evaluation and Partner Contracts at the Southwest Interdisciplinary Research Center at ASU. For over 20 years, her work in substance abuse prevention and evaluation in Arizona has focused on the use of effective evidence-based strategies and data-driven decision-making. She leads her team in working collaboratively with state, county, city and local partners to design and perform evaluations, provide training and disseminate findings aimed at preventing, reducing and eliminating health disparities. Her community-based participatory research addresses health equity with underserved populations and diverse subgroups.



John Zimmerman currently holds the position of Deputy Warden/Facility Administrator at the Maricopa Reentry Center-MRC within the Arizona Department of Corrections Rehabilitation and Reentry (ADCRR). He served with ADCRR for 15 years in various levels in the corrections officer series. He then left ADCRR and worked in the social services and public health arena where he managed a bio-terrorism and emergency management program. Mr. Zimmerman has successfully developed relationships among staff, service providers, and community organizations, which has resulted in significant support to individuals returning to their communities after incarceration.



Jeff Kulaga was unanimously appointed Town Manager/Clerk for the Town of Guadalupe, Arizona on September 28, 2017. He also serves as the Town's Zoning Administrator, Business License Administrator, Cemetery Administrator, Community Development Director and Chief Financial Officer. He is responsible for the day-to-day operations of the Town, implementing Town Council policy and overseeing the \$21.8M annual budget. He has more than 35 years of Arizona municipal government experience, previously serving as Assistant City Manager in Tempe for 9 years and multiple roles in the Cities of Mesa and Scottsdale, including Government Relations Director and Executive Assistant to the Mayor.

Kulaga is a double Devil earning his Bachelor of Science Degree and his master's degree in Public Administration from Arizona State University. He is a member of the Arizona City and County Management Association, the Arizona Municipal Clerks Association, the Urban Land Institute, and a lifetime member of the Arizona State University Alumni Association.



Susan Levy is the Communications and Community Relations Director at NATIVE HEALTH. She has been at NATIVE HEALTH for almost 16 years and works in program and community development bringing in such programs and partners as Arizona Department of Economic Security, Reach Out and Read literacy classes, food distribution programs, online cultural classes, and the Summer Food Service Program to name a few. She is also responsible for the online newsletter and other NATIVE HEALTH communications. She believes that there are opportunities everywhere, you just need to ask and have an open mind.

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