A Panel Discussion About Challenges And Solutions

## Thanksgiving in Times of Covid

YOUR CHOICE TO VAXX OR NOT TO VAXX WILL ABSOLUTELY IMPACT YOUR THANKSGIVING EXPERIENCE

Friday November 12



9:00 AM PST 0:00 AM MST 11:00 AM CST 12:00 RM EST

For more information, click on the <a href="https://bit.ly/3005uDL">link</a>: https://bit.ly/3005uDL









Hosted By: Luisa Bracamonte, CEO, Nxt Wave Founders Founder, Co-Creation Nation Project Moderated By: Sally Kane, CEO, National Federation of Community Broadcasters

#### Featuring Panelists



Meenakshi Bewtra, M.D., M.P.H., Ph.D.





Alan Morgan, CEO





Robin Phillips, Executive Director



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#### **Featuring Panelist**



Patrick Ashley, Senior Deputy Director, HEPRA at DC Department of Health.

#### Featuring Partner





Closing Statement By: Melissa Begay, Operations
Director for Native Public Media

## DC HEALTH

# What Could Happen if you call 911 on Thanksgiving Dinner and nobody comes?

Confronted by the reality of longdistances, challenging terrains and lack of coordinated services, Rural America faces uncertainty of how to best engage those who want the vaccine but cannot get it due to a range of systemic obstacles. Though 58.1% of Americans are fully vaccinated, vaccination rates under 5% in the most remote rural counties make the impact of the pandemic on Rural America undeniable. With the benefits of corporate mandates that increased vaccination in 25% of workers, the challenge does not begin to compare with what we need to do in order to reach the most vulnerable.

Adapting to the demands of reaching more low-income Americans through coordinated services requires significant flexibility on the part of Public Health, hyper-local communities, faith based-organizations and essential workers.

#### **Meet Our Host**

Luisa Bracamonte, MBA, PMP
Founder President and CEO
Nxt Wave Founders. Inv.
Founder, Co-Creation Nation Project

With the social innovative experience at Nxt Wave Founders, Luisa Bracamonte sharpened an empirical background on BIPOC populations. Learning English as a second language; working full-time and attending graduate school, she acquired independent knowledge, experimental design, and interpretation of data science coupled with management, operations and communication skills nourished by key leadership positions in Chase Manhattan Bank; State Farm Insurance and Crown International. Luisa also authored The Project P.E.P.P. for PODS, Clearwater, FL, a \$12M disaster preparedness plan that positioned the company for a \$2B acquisition. Luisa mentors graduates at University of Tampa and Founders at Harvard University. As an immigrant, she is first-generation in her family to graduate from college holding a MBA degree from FMU, and is thrilled to keep pushing forward her transition as a social innovator and woman-business owner.

#### **Meet Our Moderator**

Sally Kane, CEO, NFCB

Sally Kane is a successful nonprofit executive with twenty years of experience in the field of community radio. Prior to entering public media, she worked in the private sector owning her own business, and in the public sector as a maternal health care provider and advocate. She is a trained facilitator, accomplished fundraiser, and impassioned public speaker. As NFCB's CEO Ms. Kane led the organization through a comprehensive restructure and built a team that moved the organization into a new chapter that includes impactful national advocacy, industry thought leadership, customized station services, and innovative initiatives that transform community media organizations. Deeply connected to her agricultural roots in rural Colorado, Sally is passionate about advancing the vitality of rural communities with excellent local media, compelling performance art, and meaningful service.

#### **Meet Our Featured Partner**

#### Melissa Begay

Melissa Begay (Navajo Nation) is the Operations Director for Native Public Media, Inc. With over 20 years of administrative and training experience; Begay supports the efficient delivery of services for Native radio and television stations and the management of organizational programming. Begay contributed to developing the Underwriting and Emergency Communications training curriculum, contributing to the sustainability and resilience of Tribal stations and communities.

### How Thanksgiving Will Be This Year?

Everybody should do their part to come to a Thanksgiving gathering with as much immune protection as they can bring with them.

Dr. Bewtra will help you start planning mitigation strategies to protect yourself, seniors, children and immunocompromised family members and friends.

Meenakshi Bewtra, MD MPH PhD is an Assistant Professor of Medicine and Epidemiology at the University of Pennsylvania Perelman School of Medicine; and a Senior Scholar in the Center for Clinical Epidemiology and Biostatistics at the University of Pennsylvania. Dr. Bewtra sees patients with inflammatory bowel disease at the Perelman Center for Advanced Medicine. Dr. Bewtra has been conducting clinical research for nearly 20 years in inflammatory bowel disease with a focus on natural history of inflammatory bowel disease; outcomes of disease and medication safety using observational data and statistical modeling; measures of risk and risk tolerance for therapies using discrete choice experiment; and clinical trials for educational interventions and novel therapies. Dr. Bewtra is also the PI of the IBD-Immunology Initiative (I3), a prospective clinical and tissue biobank actively enrolling all inflammatory bowel disease patients seen at the University of Pennsylvania. The I3 has collaborators within the University of Pennsylvania, nationally and internationally in academia, private foundations and industry, and is participating in several studies examining the basic mechanisms of IBD and predictors of response to therapies with the goal of improving personalized medicine in inflammatory bowel disease. Dr. Bewtra's work has been funded by the NIH, Crohn's and Colitis Foundation, AGA, PCORI, pharmaceutical industries, and private philanthropy. She is currently a member of the Crohn's and Colitis Foundation, the American Gastroenterology Association, the American College of Gastroenterology, and a founding member of the International Academy of Health Preference Research. Dr. Bewtra is also on the National Boards of the Crohn's and Colitis Foundation and Doctors for America.

# What Happens if you call 911 on Thanksgiving and nobody comes? Or, will someone come?

Any facilities where employees deliver healthcare services or healthcare support services must abide by the emergency regulation. According to CMS, this includes, but is not limited to, ambulatory surgical centers, hospices, Programs of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE), hospitals, long-term care facilities, clinics, and community mental health centers.

#### Alan Morgan, MPA

Mr. Morgan is recognized as among the top 100 most influential people in healthcare by Modern Healthcare Magazine, Alan Morgan serves as Chief Executive Officer for the National Rural Health Association. He has more than 30 years experience in health policy at the state and federal level, and is one of the nation's leading experts on rural health policy.

Mr. Morgan served as a contributing author for the publications, "Policy & Politics in Nursing and Health Care," "The Handbook of Rural Aging" and for the publication, "Rural Populations and Health." In addition, his health policy articles have been published in: The American Journal of Clinical Medicine, The Journal of Rural Health, The Journal of Cardiovascular Management, The Journal of Pacing and Clinical Electrophysiology, Cardiac Electrophysiology Review, and in Laboratory Medicine.

Mr. Morgan served as staff for former US Congressman Dick Nichols and former Kansas Governor Mike Hayden. Additionally, his past experience includes tenures as a health care lobbyist for the American Society of Clinical Pathologists, the Heart Rhythm Society, and for VHA Inc.

He holds a bachelor's degree in journalism from University of Kansas, and a master's degree in public administration from George Mason University.

#### **Meet Our Panelists**

# How RTAP Programs can support immunizations in rural areas?

Creating rural and tribal transit solutions through technical assistance, collaboration and free training and transit industry materials.

**Robin Phillips** joined National RTAP in December 2014 with almost 18 years of experience working with FTA programs.

Robin went to law school after getting a BA in history from Reed College in Portland, OR, and practiced law for five years. She decided that municipal bonds and energy litigation were not connected enough to community development issues to be truly satisfying, so she went on to work for Oregon DOT, where she was hired to write and implement a multimodal intercity policy. The Oregon Intercity Network was the result. This collaboration between the 5311 program and the rail program shifted the paradigm from community projects to regional connectivity and access to transportation networks.

Parallel to service development was the realization that information about services was as important as the services themselves. In 2005, as Administrator of Coordinated Transportation at Washington State DOT, Robin hired staff to create the simplest data schema possible to run the Google transit trip planner. She then worked on finding ways to help rural providers input their data, to increase awareness and access to services.

Finding the right balance of public and private investment has been integral to Robin's career. In Oregon there was little money, and private transportation services needed to stay in business in order to meet access and connectivity goals. The integration of public and private operators into the OR and WA state networks was key to their success.

In 2007 Robin was hired as Senior Policy Director at the American Bus Association, where she facilitated private operators trying to work with the states and federal programs, and vice versa.

Working at National RTAP is a natural culmination of Robin's experience and her dedication to improving transportation options in rural communities.

# D.C.'s door-to-door COVID vaccine program hopes to increase trust among the hesitant

"We're not going to get everybody with this program, but it does provide yet another option for individuals to get vaccinated so that we're not just doing seven out of 10. We're hoping for 10 out of 10 eventually." ~ Patrick Ashley, PBS Newshour, Nov. 3, 2021. Patrick Ashley is the Senior Deputy Director of the Health Emergency Preparedness and Response Administration (HEPRA) at the District of Columbia Department of Health (DC Health). Patrick is responsible for leading the administration in preparing for and responding to public health and healthcare emergencies, permitting medical response to special events, to include National Special Security Events such as the Inauguration and State of the Union, as well as serving as the regulator for the District's Emergency Medical Services (EMS) and Trauma Program. He also serves on the National Disaster Medical Response System as an adjunct Administration and Finance Officer. Prior to joining DC Health in June of 2019, Patrick served as a Senior Program Manager with the Virginia Department of Health, Office of Emergency Preparedness.

Patrick is a Certified Emergency Manager through the International Association of Emergency Managers. He received his undergraduate degree in Homeland Security from Virginia Commonwealth University, a Masters of Science in Emergency Management from Eastern Kentucky University and a Masters of Business Administration from Louisiana State University Shreveport.

# Thank you!















