



2016 Alaska Maternal Child Health & Immunization Conference Speaker Bios

Julie Atkinson, MS (Workshop C2)

Julie Atkinson is a research professional at the University of Alaska Anchorage Center for Human Development, a university center for excellence in developmental disabilities. She has over 8 years of experience working with community based service providers as well as adults with intellectual disabilities to teach social skills to develop relationships and prevent victimization. Julie holds a Master of Science from Utah State University and has worked as an aide in state government on health and disabilities issues.

Laura Avellaneda-Cruz, LMSW (Workshop A2)

Laura Avellaneda-Cruz, LMSW began this February as the Program Director for the Alaska Resilience Initiative at the Alaska Children's Trust, where she is working to support and grow community efforts across Alaska to prevent child trauma and build healthy, resilient families and communities using a Collective Impact approach. Laura spent the previous 5+ years at the Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium working on the issues of adverse childhood experiences (ACEs), domestic and sexual violence, maternal child health, and health equity. In this role, she collaborated with Alaskans in every region to create culturally-relevant and engaging resources and trainings, to lead quality improvement efforts and coordinate research, and to improve and disseminate data. She has also worked as a sexual assault victim advocate and as an educator at multiple grade levels. Laura's work is also informed by her interests and experience in visual arts, community organizing, and parenting.

Jenny Baker, BA (Workshops C2 & F3)

Jenny Baker is a Public Health Specialist II in the Adolescent Health Program. She collaborates and coordinates with communities in Alaska and nationally on strengthening positive youth engagement opportunities and in institutionalizing best practices of quality youth development within state and community programs. She received a BA degree from Alaska Pacific University in 2009. She facilitates the advisory and community intervention efforts of the Youth Alliance for a Healthier Alaska, and coordinates the programmatic and evaluation efforts of the Teen and Unintended Pregnancy Prevention program. She has previously worked in the juvenile justice and youth enrichment fields in Oregon and in Alaska. She has significant interests in sexual health education, peer education and health equity.

Bethany Berry, CNM, MSN (Workshop D1)

Bethany Berry, CNM, MSN is the Senior Nurse Midwife at Southcentral Foundation in Anchorage, Alaska. She is an active educator for family planning and reproductive health care to primary care, pediatric providers, and community health aides throughout the state of Alaska. Bethany received her Bachelors of Nursing from Johns Hopkins University and her Masters of Nursing from Yale University in 1996. Bethany worked for over 10 years in Indian Health Services at Gallup Indian Medical Center in New Mexico and Pine Ridge IHS in South Dakota. She first came to Southcentral Foundation in 2000 and returned to Alaska and her current position in 2011. She is a faculty member of the IHS/UNM colposcopy course. She is the mother of three active children and enjoys skiing, camping, and fishing.

Lindsey Blumenstein, PhD (Workshop A2)

Dr. Lindsey Blumenstein is an Assistant Professor of Justice at the Justice Center located in the College of Health at the University of Alaska Anchorage. She has a Ph.D. from the University of Central Florida in sociology. Her areas of research include domestic violence and sexual assault with particular focus areas in campus sexual assault, dating violence in teens and young adults, and the intersections of intimate partner violence victimization and health outcomes. She has had her work published in several national peer-reviewed journals including Violence and Victims, Partner Abuse, and Criminal Justice Studies. She also has been awarded several grants from state agencies to complete work in the area of domestic violence and sexual assault, and is currently working on a large federal grant awarded by the Bureau of Justice statistics to complete a University of Alaska system wide campus sexual assault survey. She is also a certified Green Dot trainer.

Matthew Bobo, MPH (Workshop E1)

Matthew Bobo is currently serving as the Deputy Immunization Program Manager for the State of Alaska. He has over 10 years of experience in public health and has worked in health economics, pharmacoepidemiology, infectious disease, and tobacco prevention and control. Mr. Bobo holds a MPH from Boston University in global health and epidemiology.

Zane Boyer (Workshop C2)

Zane Boyer is a peer educator at the R.E.C. Room in Homer, Alaska. He was drawn to this job because he wants to ensure that his peers and fellow adolescents are knowledgeable and safe in their everyday lives. He enjoys teaching alongside his co-workers and training the next generation of Peer Educators and adults. He was born on the East Coast as a Coasty Brat, and has spent most of his life growing up in Alaska, finally finding a home in Homer.

Michael Bruce, MD, MPH (Workshop B1)

Michael Bruce is a public health physician and medical epidemiologist trained in both Internal and Preventive Medicine. He is the Epidemiology Team Leader at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) Arctic Investigations Program in Alaska, USA. For the past 16 years, his work has focused on improving health in Alaska Native communities, creation of a sentinel surveillance system in Alaska for detecting infection caused by *Helicobacter pylori*, and setting up, managing and analyzing data from the international circumpolar surveillance (ICS) system for invasive bacterial diseases. He has received numerous awards and has published over 100 scientific articles and book chapters. Dr. Bruce's current areas of interest include meningococcal disease in the north, ulcer disease and gastric cancer associated with *Helicobacter pylori* infection, invasive respiratory illness caused by *Haemophilus influenzae* & *Streptococcus pneumoniae*, avian influenza, human papilloma virus infection and cervical cancer.

Jay Butler, MD, CPE (Plenary #4)

Jay C. Butler, MD was appointed Chief Medical Officer for the Alaska Department of Health and Social Services and Director of the Division of Public Health in December 2014. He is a graduate of the University of North Carolina Medical School, has completed clinical trainings at Vanderbilt and Emory Universities, and maintains clinical board certifications in infectious diseases, internal medical, and pediatrics. He has authored or co-authored over 100 scientific papers and medical textbook chapters on infectious diseases and emergency preparedness, and he is an affiliate professor of medicine at the University of Alaska Anchorage. From 2010 to 2014, Dr. Butler was Senior Director for Community Health Services at the Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium in Anchorage, where he was also a clinical infectious diseases consultant and Medical Director for Infection Control and Employee Health. Earlier work includes serving as Chief Medical Officer of the Alaska Department of Health Social Services from 2007 to 2009, Alaska State Epidemiologist, 2005-07, Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) Arctic Investigations

Program, 1998-2005, and medical epidemiologist in CDC's National Center for Infectious Diseases in Atlanta, 1991-98. He completed over 23 years of service as a U.S. Public Health Service medical officer, and participated in a number of emergency deployments including heading the H1N1 Vaccine Task Force at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) in Atlanta in 2009-10; being a team co-leader during the CDC responses to the SARS outbreak of 2003, avian influenza in 2004, and Hurricanes Katrina and Rita in 2005; serving as the CDC liaison to FBI Headquarters in Washington, DC during in the investigation of the anthrax attacks in the fall of 2001, and leading the CDC field response to the initial Hantavirus pulmonary syndrome outbreak in the US in 1993. He still enjoys the "sudden change of priorities" needed to respond to health emergencies and lives in Anchorage with Narda, his very patient wife of over 30 years.

Carrie L. Byington, MD (Plenary #2 and Workshops A1 & B1)

Carrie L. Byington, MD, is the HA and Edna Benning Presidential Professor of Pediatrics at the University of Utah. She serves in many leadership capacities at the University of Utah including as the Associate Vice President for Faculty and Academic Affairs for Health Sciences in the School of Medicine. Dr. Byington is a nationally recognized clinician scientist with research expertise in viral and bacterial pathogens in infants and children. Much of her research has focused on vaccine preventable infections. She is the Chair of the American Academy of Pediatrics Committee on Infectious Diseases and in this capacity helps to develop national policy for prevention and treatment of pediatric infections. Recently, Dr. Byington was appointed the Chair of the Infectious Diseases Advisory Group for the US Olympic Committee and has the opportunity to utilize her experiences and resources to further Zika Virus research.

L. Diane Casto, MPA (Lunch Plenary Panel)

L. Diane Casto, MPA has been a lifelong advocate for children, parents, families and healthy communities. She has worked in the areas of child abuse and neglect, youth services, fetal alcohol syndrome, substance abuse prevention, mental wellness, criminal justice and healthy families and communities since 1978. Currently Diane is the Behavioral Health Policy Advisory for the Department of Health & Social Services, Office of the Commissioner. Her role is to help guide and facilitate the redesign and reform of Alaska's behavioral health system of care; part of the larger Medicaid reform initiative. Prior to this current position she served as Deputy Commissioner for the Department of Corrections, with a focus on positive community reentry and as Manager of the section of Prevention and Early Intervention within the Alaska DHSS, Division of Behavioral Health. Other past positions include the Project Director for the State's Office of Fetal Alcohol Syndrome; the Director of the Alaska Division of Family and Youth Services; and the Executive Director of the Resource Center for Parents and Children in Fairbanks. Diane's philosophy is that partnerships, coalitions and collaboration are always better than working in isolation. Working toward a collective impact has been her life's work. Diane has a B.A. degree in Anthropology from Central Washington University and a Master of Public Administration from the University of Washington, Daniel J. Evans School of Public Affairs.

Louisa Castrodale, DVM, MPH (Workshop F2)

Louisa Castrodale is a veterinary epidemiologist with the Alaska Section of Epidemiology. She practiced veterinary medicine in a small animal clinic outside of Baltimore before coming to Alaska in 1999 as a Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Epidemic Intelligence Service Officer. She stayed with the Section of Epidemiology after the 2-year assignment ended in 2001, serving as a member of the Infectious Disease Team and as the designated Alaska State Public Health Veterinarian. She has a Bachelor of Arts degree from Yale University, a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine degree from Tufts University, and a Master of Public Health degree from Johns Hopkins University, and is boarded in veterinary preventive medicine. In her 15 years with the Section of Epidemiology, she has investigated outbreaks of hepatitis A virus, botulism, norovirus, salmonella, and other pathogens, as well as conducted reviews of non-infectious

conditions such as dog bite injuries. She currently is serving as the Acting Manager for the Infectious Disease Program.

Cheryl Dalena, BS, CTTS (Workshop G3)

Cheryl Dalena's current work focus is providing evidence based technical assistance (TA) to public, private and tribal organizations seeking to change and implement systems to decrease tobacco use and nicotine dependence in Alaska. TA provision has included assisting primary care clinics, community health centers, hospitals, oral and mental health facilities and worksite wellness programs. In addition, Cheryl is a certified Tobacco Treatment Specialist and has coordinated and/or worked in several tribal cessation programs including rural village counseling through tele-video, phone-based programs and hospital based programs. During its initial two years, Cheryl coordinated the Growing Up Tobacco-Free In Alaska project, a collaborative community initiative between ANTHC and RurAL CAP to decrease the prevalence of tobacco use in Head Start families. Cheryl has a wide variety of education and healthcare experience ranging from volunteer work to program development, coordination and evaluation. She has lived and worked in rural Alaska for the last 16 years and understands the challenges of public health initiatives and implementation in rural and tribal communities. Cheryl Dalena has extensive experience as a teacher and adult learning trainer/facilitator. Within the last 5 years, Cheryl has presented poster and lecture sessions at local, state, national and international conferences. Presentations focused on a wide variety of tobacco prevention, cessation and systems change topics including treatment strategies, Ask, Advise, Refer provider training, Alaska Quit Line, Mission 100 and Growing Up Tobacco Free In Alaska.

Dana Damron, MD (Workshop F2)

Dr. Dana P. Damron graduated from Brigham Young University and attended the St. Louis University School of Medicine. Upon graduation, he completed an internship and residency in Obstetrics and Gynecology at the University of Arizona in Tucson. Dr. Damron and his family then moved to Browning, Montana where they resided for seven years while he worked at the Blackfeet Hospital in the Indian Health Service. Dr. Damron then completed a three-year fellowship in maternal-fetal medicine at the University of Vermont, focusing his time and efforts with ultrasound development and research in preeclampsia, among other things. Upon completion of the fellowship, Dr. Damron and his family resided in Billings, Montana and established one of the first maternal-fetal medicine programs in that region of the country. Since January of this year, Dr. Damron has been working for the Alaska Native Medical Center as a specialist in maternal-fetal medicine.

Jessica Daniels, RN (Workshop G2)

Jessica Daniels is a Senior RN Case Manager in Outpatient Pediatrics at Southcentral Foundation. In addition, Jessica is an instructor for the Pediatric Care Coordination Course offered through UAA. Jessica has been an RN since 2010. She started her post BSN career with Alaska Center for Pediatrics (ACP) where she was part of the team that developed the dynamic Patient Centered Medical Home at ACP. While in this role Jessica developed a passion for Patient Centered Medical Home model of care as she saw the positive impact it had on family outcomes. Following ACP Jessica began working at Southcentral Foundation working with families from around the state of Alaska who are between their medical home and hospitalization or specialty services. In her two years with Southcentral Foundation she has continued to advocate for Pediatric Care Coordination across the state and work to develop systems that support families while they navigate the health care system.

Valerie "Nurr'araaluk" Davidson (Opening Plenary)

Valerie "Nurr'araaluk" Davidson is an enrolled tribal member of the Orutsararmut Native Council (ONC). Davidson has worked for over 15 years as a national policy maker on matters affecting

Indian health. Most recently, she served as the Senior Director of Legal and Intergovernmental Affairs for the Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium, where she represented Alaska Native health needs at federal and state levels. Davidson served as Chair of the Tribal Technical Advisory Group to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) from its inception in 2004 until August 2014. She represented all tribes over a period that spanned the terms of several Secretaries of Health & Human Services and under both Republican and Democratic administrations. Davidson is currently the Commissioner for the State of Alaska, Department of Health and Social Services. Davidson was also the spokesperson, chief political and legal strategist for ANTHC's Dental Health Aide Therapy Program, the country's first mid-level dental program. Davidson served for 11 years as the Technical Co-Lead Negotiator of the Alaska Tribal Health Compact and served on a team to negotiate agreements with the Veterans Administration that allow rural veterans to seek care in their home communities. Valerie also negotiated a tri-party agreement to streamline rural sanitation construction projects with the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the State of Alaska and the Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium. Davidson also served as Chair of The Foraker Group, Chair of the Alaska Commission on Children and Youth, as a member of the Alaska Health Care Commission, and the U.S. Department of Justice Advisory Committee on American Indian and Alaska Native Children Exposed to Violence. She currently serves as a Trustee of the First Alaskans Institute. Davidson earned her juris doctorate, with a certificate in Indian law, from the University of New Mexico School of Law, and a bachelor's degree in education with a minor in bilingual education from University of Alaska Southeast. Davidson, a Yup'ik, was born in Bethel.

Sandrine Deglin, PhD (Workshop D3)

For the past two years, Sandrine has served as a health assessor and health educator in the Alaska Section of Epidemiology's Environmental Public Health Program. Her core mission is to protect human health by preventing or reducing human exposure to potentially harmful contaminants in air, water, soil and food. Sandrine addresses these issues, through quantitative evaluation of exposure to environmental contaminants and associated health risks, as well as risk communication and health education. Sandrine's background is in public health, environmental sciences and chemistry and she holds her Ph.D. in Applied Chemistry from Colorado School of Mines.

Sarah Dewane, PhD (Lunch Plenary Panel)

Sarah Dewane is a licensed psychologist and serves as the Director of Behavioral Science at the Alaska Family Medicine Residency in Anchorage and Co-Director of Training for the APA accredited Alaska Psychology Internship Consortium. Sarah earned her doctoral degree from the University of Alaska (UAA) Doctoral Program in Clinical-Community Psychology with a Rural Indigenous Emphasis. Sarah has over 17 years of clinical experience working with adults, children, adolescents, and families in outpatient, residential, and primary care settings. Dr. Dewane served for 9 years as a project manager and research professor at UAA focusing on mental health and substance abuse research implementation, program evaluation, and behavioral health training.

Alexandra Edwards, MA (Lunch Plenary Panel)

Alexandra Edwards is the project manager for the SAMHSA-funded Arctic SBIRT Training program, a project specialist for the CDC-funded FASD Practice and Implementation Center, and an evaluator for the Northwest Arctic Wellness Initiative's suicide prevention project at the UAA Center for Behavioral Health Research & Services. She graduated from the University of Otago in Dunedin, New Zealand with a bachelor's degree in anthropology, and from the University of Alaska Anchorage with an MA in anthropology. She has more than eight years' experience with educating and training health and allied healthcare professionals on issues related to alcohol misuse and fetal alcohol spectrum disorders (FASD), and has lived in Alaska since 2001.

Elizabeth Edwards, LCSW (Workshop F1)

Elizabeth Edwards is a LCSW, working as a Behavioral Health Consultant with Southcentral Foundation in Primary Care for the past 4 years. Originally from Colorado, Elizabeth moved to Anchorage 6 years ago to complete schooling at UAA. Elizabeth especially enjoys working with and building relationships with women throughout their reproductive and parenting journey.

Sarah Edwards, BA, MA, LPC (Workshop C3)

Sarah Edwards is currently running a private mental health counseling practice (Whole Serenity Counseling) in Wasilla, AK. Sarah provides individual therapy, family therapy, conflict management consultations, and distance counseling. Sarah received her BA in Psychology from Cedarville University in OH and an MA in Professional Counseling from Liberty University in VA and is currently a Licensed Professional Counselor through the state of Alaska. Sarah has worked in the mental health field in Alaska for several years. Her experience includes addiction counseling, marriage counseling, crisis counseling and assessment, work with children and adolescents, as well as group counseling. She has also done case management and outreach with individuals dealing with homelessness and chronic mental illness and case management and treatment planning for individuals with disabilities. Sarah is the mother of two awesome daughters.

Mark Feinberg, PhD (Plenary #3 and Workshop E2)

Mark Feinberg, Ph.D., is a Research Professor in the Prevention Research Center at The Pennsylvania State University. He conducts basic and applied research on youth, families, and communities, with a particular focus on family dynamics and family-focused prevention. He has developed and tested several prevention programs, including Family Foundations (FF), a transition-to-parenthood program designed to enhance coparenting among first-time parents. Dr. Feinberg has also co-developed prevention programs addressing sibling relationship conflict, adverse birth outcomes, and childhood obesity, and has been involved in the long-term evaluation of large-scale community prevention systems, including Communities That Care, PROSPER, and Evidence2Success. He has also written about and examined the community epidemiology of adolescent problem behaviors, i.e., the ways in which risk factors are linked to behavior problems within and between communities.

Karol Fink, MS, RDN (Workshop C1)

Karol Fink, MS, RDN is the program manager for the State of Alaska obesity prevention and control program. Karol has been a Registered Dietitian for over 20 years and has a Master of Science degree in nutritional science from the University of Washington. She has worked in public health for 17 years and is the 2009 recipient of the Alaska Public Health Association's Barbara Berger "Excellence in Public Health" award. Currently, Karol manages the planning, development, implementation and administration of the State of Alaska's obesity prevention plan.

Christie Flanagan, MPH, CTTS (Workshop G3)

Christie Flanagan is the Tobacco Research Program Manager at the Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium. Currently, Christie coordinates a study to promote tobacco cessation in pregnant Alaska Native women using biomarker feedback to illustrate maternal and fetal exposure to harmful chemicals found in tobacco. For her graduate thesis practicum, Christie investigated and wrote a manuscript on the effect of age of tobacco initiation on current tobacco use behaviors in Alaska Native people. A lifetime Alaskan, Christie is knowledgeable about the unique conditions and diverse populations in the state.

Alyssa Givens, BSN, MSN (Workshop D1)

Lieutenant (LT) Alyssa Givens, a Commissioned Officer in the U.S. Public Health Service, earned her BSN in 2012 from Thomas Jefferson University in Philadelphia, PA. After graduating, she was assigned to the Bureau of Prisons (BOP) facility FMC Carswell in Fort Worth, TX, where she worked as a nurse providing comprehensive care to female inmates in a range of settings from low to maximum security. During her time in the BOP, she worked on quality assurance measures to increase documentation compliance for The Joint Commission Requirements in order to maintain accreditation. LT Givens accepted her current position as an OB/GYN RN Case Manager in 2014, providing care to Alaska Native (AN) and American Indian (AI) women throughout the state of Alaska. LT Givens obtained her Masters of Nursing in Community Systems Administration in 2015 from Thomas Jefferson University. During her studies, she worked closely with Bethany Berry, CNM on gaining an inclusive understanding of the thoughts of AN/AI women regarding satisfaction and continuation of Long Acting Reversible Contraception.

Debbie Golden, RN, MS (Workshop G3)

Debbie is the Maternal Child Health Director for March of Dimes, Alaska Chapter. In 2013 she retired from her position as a perinatal nurse consultant for the Alaska Division of Public Health. For over 30 years she has worked in Alaska in a variety of public health positions for both state and municipal governments and March of Dimes. Her primary focus has been perinatal health, and she also has worked in the areas of school health, childcare health, sexually transmitted infections, healthcare provider training, and staff development. Debbie received her Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree from University of Nevada-Reno and her M.S. degree in nursing from University of Portland in Oregon. She is a member of the American Nurses Association and the Alaska Public Health Association.

Prabhu Gounder, MD, MPH (Workshop D2)

Dr. Gounder is a medical epidemiologist with CDC's Arctic Investigations Program and a physician with the Liver Disease and Hepatitis Program at the Alaska Native Medical Center. His research interests include understanding the natural history of chronic hepatitis B and C virus infections, describing health disparities in viral hepatitis-associated illnesses, and evaluating the effectiveness of the hepatitis A and B virus vaccines. Prior to moving to Anchorage in 2012, Dr. Gounder served two years as an Epidemic Intelligence Service officer with the New York City Department of Health. He completed medical school at the University of California, Los Angeles, and received his Masters in Public Health from Johns Hopkins University.

Sarah Hanson, MD (Lunch Plenary Panel)

Dr Hanson attended the Medical College of Virginia for medical school and completed her Ob/Gyn residency training at The Johns Hopkins Hospital. She has a particular interest in the health care of women in developing and under-resourced settings. She currently works domestically with the US Public Health Service at Alaskan Native Medical Center in Anchorage and with Planned Parenthood of the Great Northwest. Recently she spent time with the Indian Health Service on the Navajo reservation in the SW. Additionally, she is involved with family planning and HIV projects both in the US and abroad. Internationally, she currently works with Medecins Sans Frontieres (Doctors Without Borders) and Surgeons Overseas, with recent maternal health projects in Southern Sudan and India. In the past, she has worked internationally with HIV/AIDS public health programs in South Africa and Uganda, emergency Obstetric care in Honduras and Costa Rica, and evidence-based Obstetric education in Thailand with the WHO. She has husband and daughter who are very supportive of her frequent travels!

Roald Helgesen, MS (Welcome Plenary)

Roald Helgesen is Chief Executive Officer and Hospital Administrator of the Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium. In his role, he oversees the statewide Alaska Native health services, including the tertiary and specialty care hospital at the Alaska Native Medical Center, environmental health and engineering, community health and business support services that serve Alaska Native and American Indian people living in Alaska. Prior to joining the Consortium, Mr. Helgesen held several positions of progressive responsibility in the Alaska Tribal Health System. Early in his career, he also provided direct health care services as an emergency medical technician. Mr. Helgesen grew up in Sitka and is an enrolled Tribal member with Sitka Tribe of Alaska and Central Council of Tlingit and Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska. He graduated magna cum laude from the University of Alaska Anchorage with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science. While earning his Master of Science degree in Health Care Administration from Trinity University in San Antonio, Texas, he also earned the department's award for excellence in graduate education. Mr. Helgesen is a member of the American College of Healthcare Executives and the Healthcare Financial Management Association. He also serves on the Alaska Tribal Health System Directors committee of the Alaska Native Health Board, the executive committee of the Alaska State Hospital and Nursing Home Association, and steering committees for Recover Alaska and Healthy Alaskans 2020.

Thomas Hennessy, MD, MPH (Workshops E1 & G1)

Dr. Hennessy is trained in both Family and Preventive Medicine. He received his MD from the Mayo Medical School and has a Master's in Public Health from Emory University. He is a career officer in the US Public Health Service. Tom worked on the Navajo Indian Reservation from 1990-94 as a family doctor and was involved in the early detection and response to the Hantavirus pulmonary syndrome outbreak in 1993. He joined CDC through the Epidemic Intelligence Service (EIS) program, where he worked on foodborne disease outbreaks and led the investigation of the largest salmonellosis outbreak in U.S. history. In 2014-15, he was part of the Ebola outbreak response in West Africa and led an investigation of risk factors for Ebola transmission within households in Sierra Leone. Since 1998, he has worked at CDC's Arctic Investigations Program to reduce infectious disease risk among the peoples of the Arctic and Subarctic through disease surveillance, research, and domestic and international partnerships; he has been director since 2006. His interests include vaccine-preventable diseases, food and waterborne infections, zoonotic infectious diseases and reducing health disparities. Tom is an affiliate faculty member of the University of Alaska, Anchorage in the Department of Health Sciences. He is also the Co-chair for the Arctic Human Health Experts Group, a multinational advisory group to the Arctic Council.

Sherrell Holtshouser, RN, MPH (Lunch Plenary Panel)

Sherrell Holtshouser has worked in rural and urban Alaska as a nurse for the State Division of Public Health for over 30 years. Currently, she is focused on reducing infant mortality in Alaska by through prevention of substance misuse and harms among women of reproductive age through the promotion of initiatives such as the Oregon Foundation for Reproductive Health's One Key Question tool, and alcohol screening, brief intervention and referral to treatment (SBIRT). Sherrell now lives in Anchorage with her husband Jerry and their dog Pepper.

Katherine Huffman, MAT (Workshop C2)

Katherine Huffman has provided sexual health education for young Alaskans, and trainings for the adults who care for them for 18 years. She loves being on the Education team for Planned Parenthood, and the local facilitator team of Our Whole Lives, a comprehensive sex education program spanning K-Adult. She loves being creative, and delights in a "McGyver" approach to explaining reproductive processes in the classroom - often involving feather boas, found objects and surprised volunteers.

Kami Hutchins, RN, ANP (Workshop D1)

Kami Hutchins, RN, ANP is a Senior Public Health Nurse with the Disease Prevention and Control and Reproductive Health Clinics at the Municipality of Anchorage Department of Health and Human Services. Ms. Hutchins has more than 20 years of experience as a Reproductive Health Clinician. She is experienced counseling women of all ages, including teens, on choosing the most appropriate birth control for each individual. She is also experienced with providing LARCs, both IUDs and implants, to health clinic clients.

Sam Hyde-Rolland, MS, MPH, PhD (Workshop A3)

Jennie “Sam” Hyde, MS, MPH, PHD is an epidemiologist in the Section of Women’s, Children’s, and Family Health in the Alaska Division of Public Health. Sam serves as the program manager for the Alaska Maternal Infant Mortality Review - Child Death Review (MIMR-CDR) program, which seeks to identify causes and contributing factors to maternal, infant, and child deaths in Alaska and develop recommendations to prevent future deaths. Sam received her MS in microbiology from Brigham Young University, her PhD in microbiology and molecular genetics from the University of Vermont, and her MPH from Johns Hopkins.

Jimael Johnson, BA (Workshop G2)

Jimael Johnson is a Public Health Specialist with the State of Alaska’s Division of Public Health in the state’s maternal child health (Title V) program. She has worked in this role since 2009 to improve systems of care for Alaskan children with special health care needs. Prior to this, Jimael spent eight years as a care coordinator and case manager for individuals with developmental disabilities and complex behavioral health needs. The families she worked with in her care coordination role offered a unique and powerful perspective of the fragmented system of healthcare. As a patient-centered medical home patient and advocate, Jimael views care coordination as a central role to improve health outcomes and reduce healthcare costs for children and adults.

Janet Johnston, PhD, MPH (Workshop D1)

Janet Johnston, PhD, MPH is the Clinical Services Supervisor for the Disease Prevention and Control and Reproductive Health Clinics at the Municipality of Anchorage Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS). Dr. Johnston has more than 15 years of experience with clinical and applied health research and program evaluation. Prior to joining DHHS, she served as the Lead Biostatistician for the Institute for Circumpolar Health Studies at the University of Alaska Anchorage and as a Senior Epidemiologist and Health Research Director for the Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium. From 2002 to 2007 she served as Co-Principal Investigator for the Coordinating Center for the Study of Women’s Health Across the Nation.

Lauren Kelsey, MPH (Workshop C1)

Lauren Kelsey, MPH, is the School Partnership Coordinator for the State of Alaska Obesity Prevention and Control Program, and on serves as a specialist and resource person other youth focused projects. She provides one-on-one technical assistance to K-12 obesity prevention district partners and coordinates their training needs. Lauren has worked in public health programs focusing on tobacco prevention, HIV and maternal & child health, and was an educator in Anchorage for five years before working with the State of Alaska Department of Public Health. She has lived in Alaska for 15 years, and graduated from Tulane University with her Masters of Public Health.

Leanne Kim, BS (Workshop A3)

Leanne Kim, BS has worked as a health program associate in the Alaska Division of Public Health since 2014, abstracting and obtaining medical records for the Alaska Birth Defects Registry and the Maternal, Infant, and Child Death Review program. She has a Bachelor of Science in Emergency Medicine from the University of Pittsburgh and is pursuing a second Bachelor's degree in Nursing at the University of Alaska Anchorage. Her primary focus is to abstract data consistently for the Alaska Birth Defects Registry and to ensure that her method of obtaining records for the Maternal, Infant, and Child Death Review program allows Committee members to form a consensus in hopes of preventing maternal, infant, and child mortality in the state of Alaska.

Monique Martin (Workshop B3)

Monique Martin is a Health Care Policy Advisor at the Department of the Health & Social Services. Prior to joining DHSS, Monique worked at the Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium (ANTHC) as the Special Assistant to the Chairman & President before accepting a position in the Intergovernmental Affairs Department. She extensively worked on issues related to the Affordable Care Act (ACA) and how it impacts Alaskans. In this role, she served as Navigator during the initial open enrollment period of the ACA. Her work at ANTHC included providing training to tribal health organizations, non-profits, governmental partners and other stakeholders on the ACA as well as extensive work and review of ANTHC's reports on Medicaid Expansion and the fiscal and population health benefits for all Alaskans. Monique served on the Tribal Technical Advisory Group to the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services and was Chair of the Outreach & Education Subcommittee.

Anna Meredith, BA (Workshop C2)

Anna Meredith is the Youth Health Education and Program Manager at KBPFC's R.E.C. Room. She loves having the opportunity to work with and hopefully empower young people on a daily basis. Teaching alongside her co-workers who are peer educators is an honor and daily enjoyment for her. Anna is also a Resilience Coach and Youth Mental Health First Aid Instructor. She was born in Alaska, raised on the East Coast and now has a home she built in Homer with her partner, Jake, and their two dogs. Together they make sweet Bridge Creek Birch Syrup.

Evelyn Mujica-Larson, LPC, CRC, CDCI (Workshop F1)

Evelyn Mujica-Larson is a Licensed Professional Counselor, Certified Rehabilitation Counselor, and Chemical Dependency Counselor I. She works as a Clinical Supervisor for Southcentral Foundation (SCF), providing behavioral health in an integrated primary care team, and has 15 years of experience in the mental health field. She is an SCF customer-owner and has worked for SCF for almost ten years.

Arlene Patuc, RN, MPH (Workshop G2)

Arlene Patuc is a pediatric nurse case manager with Southcentral Foundation and an officer with the US Public Health Commissioned Corp. Arlene has worked in Indian Health for 25 years as a pediatric nurse in the neonatal ICU, pediatric ICU and as the pediatric discharge care coordination for inpatient pediatrics. She collaborated with Seattle Children's in developing regular communication about native children receiving care out of state with the goal of improved transition of care. Prior to arriving in Alaska, Arlene worked as a traveling pediatric nurse working in 10 pediatric centers throughout the country over 6 years. She recently graduated with her MPH from UAA. Arlene is passionate about care coordination and transition of care. She is a strong advocate for improving transition of care by improved communication among regional hubs and empowering parents to be knowledgeable advocates for their children.

Diane Peck, MPH, RDN (Workshop C1)

Diane Peck, MPH, RDN, is a Public Health Nutritionist with the Alaska Department of Health and Social Services, Obesity Prevention and Control Program. Diane is a Registered Dietitian Nutritionist with over 25 years of experience in the field of nutrition and public health. She earned her undergraduate degree from the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center and her Masters in Public Health from the University of California at Berkeley. Diane partnered with several other state and non-profit agencies to establish the Alaska Food Policy Council and the Alaska Farmers' Market-Quest (SNAP) Program.

Jordan Perlow, MD (Plenary #1 and Workshop B2)

Jordan H. Perlow, MD, has been a partner with Phoenix Perinatal Associates and has cared for high-risk pregnancy patients in private practice since 1992. He is a graduate of the Northwestern University Medical School (now, the Feinberg School of Medicine at Northwestern University) and completed his residency in Obstetrics and Gynecology at Rush-Presbyterian St. Lukes Medical Center/ Rush Medical College; both in Chicago. During residency, Dr. Perlow was named "Outstanding Resident of the Year" in both his third and fourth years of training. He was also selected as Chief Resident during his fourth year. Dr. Perlow then completed additional sub-specialty fellowship training in Maternal-Fetal Medicine at the University of California-Irvine and Long Beach Memorial Medical Center, and is Board Certified and Recertified in both Obstetrics and Gynecology and Maternal-Fetal Medicine. Dr. Perlow has been a career-long volunteer with the March of Dimes, and has served in many capacities, including Board of Directors, Director of the Folic Acid Education Program for the State of Arizona, and Prematurity Awareness Campaign Chairman. He was named to serve on the National Office of Volunteers and was awarded the 2002 Distinguished Volunteer Service Award for the March of Dimes, the highest honor bestowed on a March of Dimes Volunteer. He has participated in numerous television, radio and print media appearances on behalf of the March of Dimes mission: To improve the health of babies by preventing birth defects, premature birth and infant mortality. Working with the March of Dimes, Dr. Perlow created two educational CDs that were used extensively, and distributed throughout the United States, as well as overseas. These CDs covered the critical topics of preterm birth, as well as the prevention of birth defects with preconceptional use of folic acid. Dr. Perlow hosted the nation's first Prematurity Symposium for the March of Dimes, attended by March of Dimes President Dr. Jennifer House, when this organization first launched their "prematurity campaign" to reduce the numbers of preterm births occurring in the United States.

Kathy Perham-Hester, MS, MPH (Workshop E3)

Kathy Perham-Hester was born and raised in Alaska. She went to Lewis and Clark College in Portland, Oregon for her undergraduate studies in mathematics. She then earned a Masters degree in Biostatistics from UCLA. As a Rotary International Graduate Scholar, she traveled to Mexico and received a Masters of Public Health from the Instituto Nacional de Salud Pública in Cuernavaca, México. She returned to Alaska where she worked for the State initially in the Section of Epidemiology, then as an analyst/programmer for the Alaska Fetal Alcohol Syndrome Prevention Project, and finally as an Epidemiology Specialist with the State of Alaska's Section of Women's, Children's and Family Health, Maternal and Child Health Epidemiology Unit. She has worked in Alaska's public health arena since 1988. Currently, she is the Coordinator and Data Analyst for Alaska's Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring System (also known as PRAMS) and has been involved with administering and shaping the project for over 20 years.

Marilyn Pierce-Bulger, ANP, CNM, MN (Lunch Plenary Panel)

Marilyn Pierce-Bulger is a certified nurse-midwife and family nurse practitioner with over 30 years experience providing care and creating services in the field of maternal and child health. She has lived in Alaska since 1975. She has expertise working with high social risk women and designed a nationally-recognized infant mortality reduction project for the Alaska Native Medical Center (Nutaqsiivik). She founded the Anchorage FASD Diagnostic Team in 2009 at Assets, Inc. The

team's growth has led to the creation of FASDx Services LLC a business that she now owns and manages. She serves as a consultant for the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development Healthy Native Babies program, University of Alaska Center for Behavioral Health Research and Services and others.

Ann Potempa, MPH (Workshop C1)

Ann Potempa, MPH, is a public health communications specialist with the Section of CDPHP and the manager of the Play Every Day campaign to reduce childhood obesity prevalence. Ms. Potempa's career has focused on health communication and education. She worked as a journalist for ten years, writing news and feature articles at daily newspapers; most of her journalism career was as the health reporter for the Anchorage Daily News. In 2003, she was named one of eight international journalists selected for the Knight Journalism Fellowship at the CDC. In 2014, Ms. Potempa was named one of the 40 Alaskans under age 40 recognized for professional excellence and commitment to community for running Play Every Day.

Katie Reilly, MPH (Workshop C2)

Katie Reilly, MPH, is an Adolescent Health Project Coordinator for projects related to healthy relationships education and reproductive health promotion. Her primary area of focus is the Fourth R for Healthy Relationships program in Alaska. In 2004 she was a community health educator with the U.S. Peace Corps in Tanzania. Upon returning to the U.S., Katie received a MPH from UNC at Chapel Hill in 2011. She has worked on international HIV/AIDS prevention education and advocacy in Tanzania; urban substance abuse research in NYC; and a rural intimate partner violence social norms assessment in Chatham County, NC. Katie's public health interests include health communications and promotion, health equity and positive youth development, qualitative research methods, program development and implementation, and the social determinants of health.

Jamie Reyes (Workshop G2)

Jamie Reyes began working at Alaska Center for Pediatrics (ACP) in 1997. In 2004 she decided to focus her energy full time on her two young children and returned to ACP in 2010. Jamie is passionate about the care patients receive within ACP and beyond. Her role as a care coordinator was developed as the practice began recognizing gaps in patient care and a need for change. With this change ACP also embarked on a practice transformation to become a recognized Patient Center Medical Home. In September 2014, Alaska Center for Pediatrics was recognized by the National Committee for Quality Assurance as a Level III Patient Center Medical Home. In addition, Jamie has served on the Board of Directors for Programs for Infants and Children for the past three years and enjoys getting outdoors for a variety of activities with her children (who have since become teenagers).

Jaclynne Richards, BA (Workshop C2)

Jaclynne Richards, "Qalukisaq", works as a Community Outreach Specialist at the Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium (ANTHC)'s HIV/STD Prevention Program. Her contributions to ANTHC also involve violence prevention efforts, focusing on developing Alaskan tools and dissemination of resources, and data improvement. Her background also includes communications support, and direct support professional (DSP) work, specializing in service delivery around developmental disabilities. She volunteers for programs such as the Special Olympics Alaska, and Alaska Native Dialogue On Racial Equity (ANDORE). Jaclynne holds her Bachelor of Arts in Psychology from the University of Alaska Anchorage.

Evelyn Rider, MD (Lunch Plenary Panel)

Dr. Evelyn Rider received her MD at University of Hawaii School of Medicine, Pediatric Residency training at University of Utah Medical Center, and completed her Neonatology Fellowship training at Harbor-UCLA Medical Center in 1990. She joined the University of Arizona Dept. of Pediatrics faculty in 1992, then was Medical Director of the Level 3 NICU at Benefits Healthcare in Montana for 6 years before joining Alaska Neonatology Associates group in 2006. She and her partners provide care for all sick newborns (premature or otherwise) in Alaska. She actively leads Quality Improvement projects at Providence NICU and has served as Medical Director of Alaska Regional Hospital NICU and NEST Program since 2015. Thru her 26 year career in Neonatology, Dr. Rider has remained passionate and dedicated to the care of these most vulnerable fragile patients and their families.

Joe Sarcone, MSPH (Workshop D3)

In more than 30 years of public service Joe Sarcone has worked widely at the interface of the federal government with indigenous people. As a Peace Corps Volunteer he served as a Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Officer in the Solomon Islands. Later he took an assignment as a Sanitarian with the International Rescue Committee (IRC), Malawi Medical Program for Mozambican Refugees. For more than three years he served in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI), Department of Public Health and Environmental Services as a technical advisor. He came to Alaska to work with the Alaska Native Health Board to implement a rural water and sanitation demonstration project. For ten years he was the Rural Sanitation Coordinator for the U.S. EPA, Alaska Operations Office, and currently he is an Environmental Health Scientist with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) where he works with communities to create a better understanding of the relationship between chemical contaminants in the environment and the potential for human health impacts. In 2015 he was detailed to the CDC Sierra Leone Trial to Introduce a Vaccine Against Ebola (STRIVE), a clinical trial to vaccinate health care workers against Ebola. Joe received his MSPH from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, School of Public Health and he is a Registered Environmental Health Specialist (REHS) with the National Environmental Health Association (NEHA). Joe is a published essayist on public service and work with the underserved <http://patimes.org/?s=sarcone&x=6&y=5>.

M. Claire Schleder, MPH (Lunch Plenary Panel)

M. Claire Schleder earned her Master of Public Health in Epidemiology from Eastern Virginia Medical School in 2011. Her work on multidisciplinary research designs that link population-level health data and socio-cultural context has provided her with a unique perspective that is useful in the evaluation and improvement of community-level, grant-funded outcomes. Claire enjoys collaborating with community stakeholders across Alaska in the utilization of data-driven processes for the purpose of evaluating the effects of community-based interventions on preventable behavioral health outcomes.

Rosalyn Singleton, MD, MPH, (Workshop G1)

Rosalyn Singleton attended Northwestern University Medical School, Chicago, and completed a Pediatric residency at Children's Memorial Hospital, Chicago, and a MPH from Loma Linda University. She worked as a pediatrician 1985-88 in a Navajo hospital. Since 1988 Dr Singleton has worked as a part-time pediatrician at Alaska Native Medical Center, Immunization Consultant and now Research Physician for Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium, and Guest Researcher with Arctic Investigations Program – Centers for Disease Control with research in vaccine preventable infections and respiratory disease.

Kaerin Stephens, MA (Workshop A3)

Kaerin Stephens is a medical anthropologist employed as a research analyst in the Maternal and Child Epidemiology Unit of the Section for Women's, Children's and Family Health for the Alaska Division of Public Health. Kaerin designed and conducted a qualitative evaluation of telemedicine in Western Alaska funded by the National Library of Medicine (NLM). Doctors at regional hospitals in Alaska used telemedicine technology to assist community health aides in isolated villages to diagnose ear infections correctly and thus prevent the overuse of antibiotics. Kaerin taught in the Department of Anthropology at the University of Alaska in Anchorage from 1995 to 2001. She has also worked as a research interviewer with the Japanese-American Community Diabetes Study at the University of Washington in Seattle (1988-1990) and conducted field research on the remaking of traditional Tibetan medicine in India as a Fulbright-Hayes scholar (1992-1994).

Sarah Switzer, LCSW, CDCI (Workshop F1)

Sarah Switzer is a licensed clinical social worker who began her work in Alaska after college, as an AmeriCorps*VISTA volunteer with the state domestic violence network. While in Sitka, she worked for SEARHC's youth adventure-based substance abuse treatment program for two years before attending graduate school at the University of Maryland, interning at Hopkin's Center for Addiction and Pregnancy. Sarah is a Behavioral Health Consultant Clinical Supervisor in the Primary Care Clinics at Southcentral Foundation, working there as a part of integrated behavioral health for 11 years. She is passionate about her family, integration, maternal child health, and building on strengths and resiliency to motivate health behavior change.

Jennifer Williamson (Workshop C2)

Jennifer Williamson joined the Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium (ANTHC) HIV/STD Prevention program spring of 2013 to work on a teen pregnancy prevention and healthy life skills curriculum for youth which is part of a research project called Native It's Your Game. Jennifer has worked in Community Health Services at ANTHC for over 7 years, previously coordinating a worksite wellness research project with a focus on chronic disease prevention. Her non-profit work began 16 years ago at the YWCA of Anchorage Women's Health Programs, then the Alaska Health Fair, Inc. focusing both on early detection and health promotion.