

Presenter Biographies

Golnaz Agahi

Golnaz Agahi has dual Masters degrees in Public Health and Social Work. She has worked in the field of alcohol and other drugs (AOD) prevention and treatment for over a decade, implementing comprehensive prevention initiatives to address AOD issues in various communities and providing clinical services. Currently, she works as a Health Education Supervisor with the County of Orange, Health Care Agency in the Alcohol and Drug Education and Prevention Team. Also, she was recently appointed to the California Women's Health Council, which provides policy recommendations to the Director of California Department of Health Services through the Office of Women's Health.

John Allen

John Allen currently serves as Project Director with Fighting Back Partnership of Vallejo, California. The project attempts to address the many health issues and obstacles that a felon returning to the community face. As a former drug addict felon himself, he knows only too well the despair that many face upon returning to the community where they may have committed their crimes. With numerous health issues and barriers to employment and housing, the project attempts to educate not only the parolees, but also the community. John Allen was instrumental in the creation of the Solano County BASN Alumni Association in 1998, a support group for felons struggling with addiction.

Lily Alvarez

Lily Alvarez, Behavioral Health Administrator, has worked for the Kern County Mental Health System of Care since 1996. Ms. Alvarez has an extensive background in alcohol and drug prevention services and managed care. As System Administrator for Behavioral Health, Ms. Alvarez serves as the primary administrator responsible for the delivery of publicly-funded substance abuse primary prevention and treatment services, CalWORKs behavioral health services, mental health vocational services, PC 1000 programs, drinking driver programs, and county-operated clinical services in Kern County according to federal, state, and local statutes and regulations. Her responsibilities include program planning, program evaluation, contract management, budget preparation, quality improvement, training and technical assistance, client problem resolution, strategic planning, budget forecasting, Behavioral Health Board liaison, and participation in department executive management.

Jacquelyn Anderson

Jacquelyn Anderson is Senior Program Manager for Policy Research at the Corporation for Supportive Housing (CSH), where she is responsible for managing all research and evaluation for the organization. She has seven years of experience in social policy research and program evaluation. Prior to working for CSH, she was a Research Associate for MDRC, a nonprofit social policy research organization. While there, she evaluated a number of large-scale national initiatives targeted to low-income families and disabled individuals which focused primarily on employment, job retention, and career advancement. She also worked for two years at Mathematical Policy Research in Washington, DC where she studied anti-poverty programs and policies. Ms. Anderson holds a Masters degree in Public Policy from the University of Michigan.

Siara Andrews

Siara Andrews, PsyD, has overseen the MERIT project since its inception and has a wealth of experience in both research and service delivery with dually-diagnosed populations. He has been instrumental in the integration process of methadone treatment operating within an abstinence-based milieu.

Greg Austin

Dr. Greg Austin has over twenty years of experience in the study of drug use. As Director of WestEd's Health Human Development Program, he has responsibility over substance use, health behavior, and youth development projects. He has authored and edited numerous research articles, resource tools, and prevention guides. In addition, he is Co-Director of the California Student Survey and developer and Director of the California Healthy Kids Survey.

Tom Avey

Tom Avey is the CEO/Executive Director of Progress House, Inc., Vice President of the Board of Directors of the California Association of Addiction Recovery Resources (CAARR), and a member of State DADP Director's Advisory Council (DAC). He is responsible for opening four perinatal residential treatment facilities in three counties, a non-residential program tied to two transitional houses for women, and domestic violence services.

JR Ayala

JR Ayala, SBIRT Operations, has 12 years of experience in SBIRT services system operation and development, including implementation and expansion. He has led the development at the nation's only large-scale application of evidence-based SBIRT services for alcohol and drug use in multiple healthcare and community settings, and has demonstrated the effectiveness of SBIRT services in medical settings to patients, communities, and healthcare agencies.

Peter Banys

Peter Banys, MD, is Chief of Substance Abuse at the San Francisco VA Medical Center, and a Health Sciences Clinical Professor of Psychiatry at UCSF. Dr. Banys is a Past President of the California Society of Addiction Medicine. He has served on numerous advisory boards, including the ADP Work Group on Co-Occurring Disorders, Prop 36 Advisory Group, and is the CSAM representative to the Director's Advisory Council. Dr. Banys has won numerous awards, and is particularly recognized for his excellence in teaching.

Georgia Barnes

Georgia Barnes designed and implemented an out-patient alcohol and drug program for homeless seniors 55 years and older at St. Mary's Center in Oakland, California in 1995. Prior to that, her experience was in both primary and secondary programs where the average age was 33 years. Ms. Barnes has a Bachelors degree and 25 years experience in the alcohol/drug recovery field.

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Brandon Beckman

Brandon Beckman is a recovering individual with five years of sobriety and is a member of AWARE. Currently, he is the Director of Programs for People in Progress, Inc., working with a team of 26 staff members who deliver comprehensive substance abuse and homeless services in the San Fernando Valley and the Los Angeles areas. Mr. Beckman is a certified Addictions Treatment Counselor with a Bachelors degree from Loyola Marymount University and is currently pursuing a Masters degree in Business Administration.

Bernadette Beltran

Bernadette Beltran is a Health Education Specialist with the San Bernardino County Public Health Department, Alcohol and Drug Abuse Prevention Program. She also serves as Coordinator for the San Bernardino County Friday Night Live Partnership.

Faith Boucher

Faith Boucher is a Research Analyst with the California Department of Alcohol and Drug Programs. She has a background in epidemiology, public and international health, and chronic disease, and is Clinical Associate Professor of Public Health Sciences at UC Davis School of Medicine. She has also worked with non-English speaking immigrant populations on access to care issues.

Cheryl Branch

Cheryl A. Branch has committed over 15 years to improving the quality of life in minority communities. She has participated in local, state and federal projects directed at increasing the distribution of culturally competent health services, educational/training opportunities, and civic and funding resources in urban communities. Today, her personal and professional commitment has paid tremendous dividends to communities throughout the nation. She has become one of the most recognized urban fundraising strategists and policy advocates in the country, establishing levels of corporate, public, community, ecumenical and private participation and competency that is modeled nationwide. As Co-Founder and Chairperson of the African American Alcohol and Other Drug Council (AAAOD) in Los Angeles County, Ms. Branch recruited and provided leadership to a team of treatment advocates, community providers, county administrator and elected officials leading to the creation of a community-based managed care organization with 32 non-profit partners in South Los Angeles. In addition, she has trained more than 5,000 community and faith leaders in California. Ms. Branch is an accomplished writer and frequent lecturer at prestigious academic institutions across the country.

Vivian Brown

Vivian Brown, PhD, is the CEO of Prototypes Center for Innovations serving for Ventura and Los Angeles Counties. Prototypes offers a continuum of prevention, intervention, treatment and recovery services for women, including pregnant and parenting women and their children.

Cheryl Bryson

Cheryl Bryson has been with the Department of Rehabilitation for ten years where she has worked as a Rehabilitation Counselor, Rehabilitation Supervisor, and Policy Analyst. She currently works as a Program Specialist in DOR's Collaborative Services Section, working to develop, and providing support to DOR/County Mental Health collaborative programs. Ms. Bryson has a Bachelors degree in Psychology from California State University, Sacramento; a Masters degree in Rehabilitation Counseling from California State University, Fresno; and is certified as a Rehabilitation Counselor.

Blanca Castro

Blanca Castro is the Project Manager with MAXIMUS, a contractor for the California Department of Alcohol and Drug Programs (ADP). MAXIMUS is responsible for management of the Call Center and Voucher Management System under the California Access to Recovery Effort – CARE Program. Prior to joining MAXIMUS, Ms. Castro was a Project Manager with Prevent Child Abuse California, and oversaw the development and implementation of a statewide federal grant utilizing AmeriCorps volunteers in the statewide Child Welfare system Redesign effort. Ms. Castro holds a Bachelors degree in Political Science from the University of California, Los Angeles and was a Coro Fellow in her class.

Zelenne Cárdenas

Zelenne L. Cárdenas is Director of Prevention Services for Social Model Recovery Systems, Inc., a human services organization in Los Angeles. In this position, she works tirelessly for those barely surviving in a marginalized social service system. In L.A.'s "skid row", she observed a vicious cycle of substance abuse, drug treatment and relapse. In an attempt to improve the quality of life, she identified resources and strategies to reduce existing problems and address the root causes of violence specifically related to problems of drugs and alcohol. She mobilized community residents to challenge the status quo and to demand a healthier, safer environment in "skid row". Ms. Cárdenas has served as a Consultant to the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), an agency of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, as well as several counties throughout the State of California. In 2001, she was selected to receive The California Wellness Foundation's Community Leader Fellowship to support her violence prevention projects and in 2004, she was named Local Hero of the Year by KCET and Union Bank of California during Hispanic Heritage Month. In 2004, Ms. Cárdenas received the California Peace Prize from The California Wellness Foundation, an independent, private foundation. She holds a degree from the University of California, Los Angeles.



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Tony Cervantes

Tony H. Cervantes was appointed as the Native American Liaison for the State Department of Alcohol and Drug Programs (ADP) in July 2004. He also manages Indian Health Clinic Services for ADP. This program provides funding to 36 Indian Health Clinics statewide for the CalWORKs Program for Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services. A unique aspect of this program is the provision of traditional alcohol and other drug (AOD) treatment services. He is also involved in other Native American issues impacting AOD program services throughout California. Some of these efforts involve the facilitation of better relationships between county governments and tribal governments/Indian Health Clinics, promoting the licensure and certification of Indian Health Clinics by ADP, promoting the use of (and educating about) traditional treatment services for Native Americans and serving on various committees, including the California Rural Indian Health Board's Access to Recovery Grant oversight committee. He has also been an Equal Employment Opportunity representative on interviews for ADP for 13 years. Outside of family and work, his interests are indigenous spirituality, gardening, hiking, backpacking, camping, bicycling and rafting/kayaking. Tony celebrated his 28th year of sobriety in July 2006.

Christina Chambers

Christina Chambers is an Epidemiologist in the Department of Pediatrics at UCSD, and Director of the California Teratogen Information Service and Clinical Research Program. Her research focus involves identification of human teratogens, understanding the spectrum of effects, and design of prevention measure.

JongSerl Chun

JongSerl Chun is currently a NIDA Postdoctoral Fellow at UCSF, in the Department of Psychiatry Treatment Research Center. Dr. Chun has a background in philosophy and expertise in mental health issues among high-risk youth, stress, and coping.

Virginia Clark

Virginia Clark is the Manager of the County Monitoring Branch of the Department of Alcohol and Drug Programs. She holds a Bachelors degree from St. Mary's University and has been in public service for 25 years.

Christie Cline

Christie A. Cline, MD, MBA, PC, is President of ZiaLogic, a professional corporation that provides strategic planning and implementation consultation and support for behavioral health systems development, performs clinical and administrative trainings, provides technical assistance, and produces a variety of instruments and tools to support clinician development and system change. In addition, Dr. Cline is a community psychiatrist specializing in strategic systems change and statewide co-occurring disorder program enhancement, curriculum development, and staff training. She has been instrumental in designing and implementing utilization of system change toolkit materials for development of the Comprehensive Continuous Integrated Systems of Care (CCISC) Model.

Bill Crane

Bill Crane has served in both the private and public sector of the alcohol and other drug treatment, recovery, and in the prevention field for thirty years. His current interest is the development and advancement of pro-health social, cultural, and economic policies and the development of community conditions that reduce risks of alcohol and other drug problems. Since 1988, he has been with the County of San Diego's Health and Human Services Agency where he serves as a Manager at the Alcohol and Drug Services division.

Patrick Cullinane

Patrick Cullinane has been active in community health development for over 38 years, including community mental health development programs; comprehensive health systems planning; service on the Illinois legislature's joint committee to facilitate the implementation of legislation to decriminalize public intoxication and establish a statewide network of detoxification facilities, later chairing the state advisory council to oversee implementation; developing Illinois's first care coordination unit for 2,000 frail elders to maintain them safely at home; at the American Society Aging (ASA), contributing author to *The Blues: Not a Normal Part of Aging* and developer of ASA's CD-ROM on late-life depression and suicide; and director of a SAMHSA/CSAP inaugural study of a brief alcohol prevention intervention with at-risk older drinkers in traditional aging network settings. He has a Masters degree in Community Development from Southern Illinois University and a Bachelors degree in Psychology from St. Louis University.

John de Miranda

John de Miranda is the Executive Director of the National Association on Alcohol, Drugs and Disabilities, Inc., a network of individuals and organizations dedicated to improving access to substance abuse prevention and treatment services for people with disabilities. With a professional background in the alcohol and drug problems field that spans over 30 years, Mr. de Miranda has served as Program Administrator, Management Consultant, Therapist, Educator, Government Official, Researcher, and Trainer. He is a member of the Advisory Committee of the University of San Francisco, College of Professional Studies, Faces and Voices of Recovery, and the Addiction Technology Transfer Centers.

Sharon Di Pirro-Beard

Sharon Di Pirro-Beard, LMFT, RD, has over 20 years of experience with Sacramento County Department of Health and Human Services; fifteen years working for Child Protective Services as a Social Worker, Supervisor and Program Specialist and five years for Alcohol and Drug Services as an Evaluation Specialist and Program Coordinator. Currently, she is the liaison between all collaborative groups involved with the Dependency Drug Court. She is the Co-Chair for the work group and oversight committee, and assists in the development and maintenance of the Dependency Drug Court policy and procedures. She earned a Bachelor of Science degree from Colorado State University in Food Science and Nutrition and a Master of Science degree in Counseling Education from California State University. She is credentialed as a Registered Dietitian and Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist.

James Douglas

James Douglas is a first generation urban Indian, and a certified Substance Abuse Counselor. Mr. Douglas believes that best practices for Native Americans are programs that have Native American culture as the core design.

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Benjamin Eiland

Ben M. Eiland, MA, CATS, has been in the Chemical Dependency Treatment field for over 30 years. He is currently the Director of Substance Abuse Treatment Services for the Haight-Ashbury Free Clinic. He is the Founder and former Co-Director of Integrated Counseling and Consulting Services and has held positions as the Director of inpatient and outpatient chemical dependency treatment programs that serve both adults and adolescents. Mr. Eiland has been a trainer and consultant in such areas as chemical dependency treatment, co-occurring disorders treatment, domestic and workplace violence, drugs in the workplace, conflict resolution/team building and cultural/gender diversity. He is currently on the Board of the California Association of Alcohol and Drug Abuse Counselors (CAADAC), and California Association of Drug and Alcohol Educators (CAADE), and has most recently been appointed to the Aging Constituent Committee of the California Department of Alcohol & Drug Programs Director's Advisory Council.

Michele Eliason

Mickey Eliason is currently Associate Professor at the University of California, San Francisco, where she is a member of the State Medical Director Team, California Department of Alcohol and Drug Programs, and provides advice and consultation on issues related to substance abuse treatment. From 1987 to 2006, she was a faculty member at the University of Iowa in the College of Nursing, where she taught and conducted applied research on issues related to gender, sexuality, and substance abuse. She was also affiliated with the Iowa Consortium on Substance Abuse Research and Evaluation where she directed the Iowa Practice Improvement Collaborative, a CSAT-funded project on implementation of evidence-based practices in drug abuse treatment. Ms. Eliason received her Doctoral degree in Educational Psychology from the University of Iowa, and she has recently completed a book on the evidence-based practice movement in substance abuse treatment, which will be available through Sage Publications in early 2007.

Timothy Fong

Dr. Timothy W. Fong is an Assistant Clinical Professor of Psychiatry at the UCLA Neuropsychiatric Institute and Hospital. Dr. Fong completed his undergraduate and medical schoolwork at Northwestern University in Chicago. He then completed his residency in General Psychiatry in 2002 and was the first accredited Addiction Psychiatry Fellow at the UCLA Neuropsychiatric Institute (2002-2004). He is currently Director of the Impulse Control Disorders Clinic and Co-Director of the UCLA Gambling Studies Program. He teaches psychiatry residents in the UCLA Addictions Medicine Clinic. In the area of substance abuse, Dr. Fong's research includes medication development for methamphetamine dependence, neuroimaging of substance abuse, and psychoneuroimmunology of substance abuse.

Sage Foster

Sage B. Foster has worked with the homeless populations of the San Francisco Bay Area for the past 18 years. He has developed and implemented partnerships between community-based organizations and government agencies providing permanent housing and supportive services to the homeless, chronically homeless, and disabled populations. He has worked successfully with homeless persons with mental illness, substance use, co-occurring disorder, HIV/AIDS and chronic illness by utilizing a low threshold/harm reduction, integrated services approach to "housing first" and long-term housing retention. He is currently the Supportive Housing Program Manager for the Contra Costa County Department of Public Health, Homeless Program responsible for the Shelter Plus Care Program, providing housing and support services to 300 previously homeless individuals and families. He presently serves as Project Manager of both the Interagency Council on Homelessness, Chronic Homeless Initiative Grant and the Housing and Urban Development (HUD), Housing Chronically Homeless Persons Addicted to Alcohol (Serial Inebriate Program) Grant for Contra Costa County.

Thomas Freese

Thomas Freese, PhD, received his PhD in Clinical Psychology from the California School of Professional Psychology in 1995. He has served as Project Director on a number of studies including research on methamphetamine use, HIV risk in gay/bisexual men, and smoking cessation interventions. Dr. Freese has worked in the substance abuse field since 1983. He oversees the NIDA Institutional Training Grant and has planned and implemented major CSAT and NIDA-funded conferences. He has developed and conducted trainings for various CSAT and NIDA Clinical Trials Network (CTN) multi-site projects in 15 states and directs all of the ISAP in-house trainings. He has provided clinical training and workshops for clinicians-in-training at the doctoral and masters level. Dr. Freese and other ISAP staff developed the materials that are being used nationally for training CTN Nodes on Good Research Practices.

Veda Gamez

Veda Gamez is a first-generation urban Indian and a certified Substance Abuse Counselor. Ms. Gamez believes that best practices for Native Americans are programs that have Native American culture as the core design.

Toni Garcia

Toni Garcia is of Mayan and Spanish decent. She has held many jobs, from seamstress to industrial mechanic, but has found her calling as a social worker, substance abuse counselor, herbalist, and horse therapist. She has worked in the Sacramento community as an herbalist for over thirteen years, has worked in the Native American community as a certified substance abuse counselor, using horses in her work with individuals, groups and families. Ms. Garcia will receive her Masters degree in Social Work this year.

Robert Garner

Robert Garner is Director of the Santa Clara County Department of Alcohol and Drug Services, and has been an administrator in the substance abuse field for 35 years. He is a founding member and past Chairman of the County Alcohol and Drug Program Administrators Association of California.



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Portia Glassman

Portia Glassman is a Deputy County Counsel for the County of Alameda, providing legal counsel to the Board of Supervisors, the Public Health Department, the General Services Agency and other County departments. She holds a Bachelors degree in Social Welfare from UC Berkeley and a J.D. from Boalt Hall. Among other things, she has worked extensively in the area of nuisance abatement through her work in Oakland's Neighborhood Law Corps. Ms. Glassman has achieved considerable success in the battle against blight, drug trafficking, illegal sales to minors, loitering, gang activity and other activities that occur with problem liquor stores. She continues this important work in the unincorporated areas of Alameda County.

Alice Gleghorn

Alice Gleghorn, PhD, is a Clinical Psychologist who works as the Deputy Director of Community Behavioral Health Services at the San Francisco Department of Public Health. Dr. Gleghorn received her PhD in Clinical Psychology from the University of South Florida, and completed her internship and a post-doctoral fellowship in Neuropsychiatry at UC San Diego. She joined Johns Hopkins University School of Public Health in 1989 as an Assistant Professor. Her primary research programs focused on syringe-cleaning strategies of injection drug users and on community-level interventions for high-risk populations of drug users, women, and African-American young adults. Dr. Gleghorn has worked for the SFDPH for over a decade, first at the AIDS Office with homeless youth in the CDC-AESOP grant, then with Community Substance Abuse Services leading the Treatment on Demand evaluation, the Practice Improvement Collaborative grants, and the "Bridging the Gap" harm reduction conferences. She is the Executive Director of the Office-Based Opiate Treatment (OBOT) and Mobile Methadone Treatment (Methadone Van) programs, and facilitates the CBHS Integration Advisory Committee. As Deputy Director, Dr. Gleghorn oversees the implementation of the Mental Health Services Act and the continued integration of mental health and substance abuse services at CBHS.

Angela Goldberg

Angela Goldberg, MA, MFCC, has been active in community-level AOD prevention since 1983. She has consulted with several community prevention programs, including Bridge-Focus in the San Fernando Valley and Day One in Pasadena, and has worked extensively with San Diego County Alcohol and Drug Services (ADS) in several capacities, most notably for an organizer of the county's annual Prevention Summit through 2003, and since then as a consultant to the county's nationally-recognized Meth Task Force. Ms. Goldberg has been with Prevention by Design since 2004, where she is a Regional Trainer who assists Orange, Riverside, and San Bernardino Counties. She is lead author on Taking Charge: Managing Community AOD Risk Environments.

Millicent Gomes

Millicent Gomes has served as Deputy Director for ADP's Office of Criminal Justice Collaboration (OCJC) since August 2005. She came to ADP from the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation, Division of Adult Parole Operations, where she served as the Chief of Mentally Ill Offender Services. Prior to that appointment, she served in Governor Gray Davis's Office of Planning and Research as a Policy Analyst in the area of public safety. Ms. Gomes is a graduate of California State University, Sacramento with a degree in Criminal Justice. She also graduated from Lincoln Law School with a Doctor of Juris Prudence and is a member of the California State Bar.

Elizabeth Gong-Guy

Dr. Elizabeth Gong-Guy is the Co-Principal Investigator of the UCLA Access to Care Program and Director of UCLA Student Psychological Services (SPS) where the project's alcohol and substance screening and brief intervention services are provided. She is a licensed clinical psychologist with specialties in mental health service delivery and training, trauma, and multicultural issues in mental health. Prior to joining the staff at SPS, Dr. Gong-Guy worked in community mental health and directed multiple California Department of Mental Health programs, including the Stockton Family Coping Project and the California Refugee Mental Health Program. From 2001 to 2003, Dr. Gong-Guy served as a site visitor for the American Psychological Association's Committee on Accreditation. She has also played an active role in working with the National Research Center for Asian American Mental Health, Asian American Women Psychologists (APA), and the California Board of Medical Quality Assurance.

Lynne Goodwin

Lynne Goodwin, a Program Analyst for the California Friday Night Live Partnership, has been in the prevention field for over fifteen years. Her experiences range from local, site-based programming to her present work at the state level. Currently, she is coordinating efforts for a statewide enforcement partnership called TRACE: Target Responsibility for Alcohol-Connected Emergencies.

Tom Greenfield

Tom Greenfield is Director of the Alcohol Research Group of the Public Health Institute, and also of its National Alcohol Research Center funded by NIAAA, now in its 26th year. He holds a PhD from the University of Michigan, with a doctorate in Clinical Psychology. He is on the clinical faculty in the Department of Psychiatry, University of California San Francisco, involved with its clinical services research postdoctoral program. With over 100 publications, his research interests and grants have been in areas of the epidemiology alcohol problems, self-report measurement, alcohol and mental health services research including assessment of services satisfaction, and alcohol policy development and analysis. An Assistant Editor of *Addiction*, he has held leadership positions in the American Public Health Association (ATOD Section), the Kettil Bruun Society, and the International Council on Alcohol and Addiction; he currently serves on NIAAA's Extramural Advisory Board.

Mary Claire Heffron

Mary Claire Heffron, PhD, is the Clinical Director of the Early Childhood Mental Health Program (ECMH) of Children's Hospital, Oakland (CHO), where she has clinical oversight of the ECMH, the community-based Harris Early Childhood Mental Health Training Program, and the CHO Consultation and Training Team. She graduated from the Wright Institute (1996).

William Hendricks

William Hendricks is in his 33rd year with the Department of Rehabilitation. He was a Senior Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor (SVRC) for 19 years, a Supervisor of SVRCs for 7.5 years, an Associate Government Program Analyst in the Cooperative Education Programs for 5 years and Rehabilitation Administrator I in the Human Services Cooperative Programs for the past 1.5 years. He has a Bachelors degree in Sociology and worked as a Los Angeles County Deputy Probation Officer II, Juvenile Hall and Camps Division, before joining the Department of Rehabilitation.

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Mary Hermann

Mary Hermann has spent her recent career working with college populations on developing alcohol-related policies and trainings to promote responsible alcohol service and consumption, as well as reducing the risks associated with alcohol consumption.

Daniel Horton

Daniel Horton has over fourteen years experience as a lawyer in the area of Juvenile law, representing children and parents. The last five and a half years have been spent as a Juvenile Court Referee in Sacramento, sitting in both Delinquency and Dependency. He has presided over the Dependency Drug Court during his time as Referee and has been regularly hearing that calendar since January of 2006.

Bob Hulsey

Bob Hulsey is the current President of CAARR and has worked in the field of social model treatment and recovery for 24 years.

Martha Jessup

Marty Jessup is an Associate Adjunct Professor and Clinical Nurse Specialist at the University of California, San Francisco School of Nursing. She has 27 years of experience in clinical work, health services policy, and program development in women's issues and alcohol, tobacco, and other drug dependency. Dr. Jessup provides technical assistance and consultation regionally and nationally and has written and published extensively on these issues. In addition, she serves as a member of the State Medical Director Team, California Department of Alcohol and Drug Programs. Dr. Jessup's program of research focuses on health services and treatment access for drug dependent women and has included research on adolescent and adult women in the criminal justice system, barriers to treatment for perinatal women, and health issues of drug dependent women in general. Her current research project is examining tobacco-related clinical practices and policies in residential drug treatment for pregnant and parenting women. She received her undergraduate degree from Columbia University School of Nursing, and received her Masters degree and Doctoral degree in Nursing from the University of California, San Francisco, School of Nursing.

James Jukich

Sergeant Jim Jukich is a 23-year veteran of the Alameda County Sheriff's Office. He has worked a variety of assignments, including the Detentions & Corrections Unit, Patrol, Sexual Assault Felony Enforcement (S.A.F.E.) Task Force, Highland Hospital Police Services, and the Investigations and Hostage Negotiations Unit. Sgt. Jukich is also a Drug Recognition Expert. He has been a Sergeant for three years and currently supervises the Community Oriented Policing and Problem Solving Unit, also known as the COPP SHOP. As a COPP SHOP Sergeant, he and his unit are in charge of crime prevention, community problem solving and working one on one with the community to address their needs and concerns. The COPP SHOP is also in charge of the Alameda County Alcoholic Beverage Sales Ordinance and Tobacco Enforcement.

Lee Ann Kaskutas

Lee Ann Kaskutas, DrPH, is ARG Center Associate Director and Director of Training, and Adjunct Associate Professor in the School Of Public Health, UC Berkeley. She has been funded as PI of numerous NIAAA and NIDA services research grants and contracts.

Janet King

Janet King is a first-generation urban Indian. She is currently working on her culminating project to receive a Masters of Social Work. Ms. King believes that best practices for Native Americans are programs that have Native American culture as the core design.

Jim Kooler

Jim Kooler is the Administrator for the California Friday Night Live Partnership. He provides leadership and support to 54 county Friday Night Live programs. From his office at the Tulare County Office of Education, with support from the State Department of Alcohol and Drug Programs and the Office of Traffic Safety, he leads the implementation of Friday Night Live, Club Live, Friday Night Live Kids, Friday Night Live Mentoring and the California Youth Council. He is a strong ally to young people and has worked in the prevention field for almost 20 years. He previously was the Director of the Governor's Mentoring Partnership and Deputy Director for the Prevention Services Division at the Department of Alcohol and Drug Programs.

Daniel Lamons

Daniel A. Lamons, Project Coordinator, became a RAFT member in 1999 and has been an active participant in all of its recovery movement's since that time. He has been sober since October 1983. Daniel became a volunteer at the Fighting Back Partnership in 1992, working with people with addiction problems. In October 2000, he retired from government civil service and became a full-time employee with Fighting Back, and has become a highly productive staff member working to address addiction problems at all levels. Mr. Lamons has successfully worked with addicted individuals and has facilitated group recovery activities and neighborhood revitalization activities as a neighborhood organizer and Services Coordinator with Fighting Back. He currently serves as Site Coordinator of the North Vallejo Family Resource Center where he supervises daily operations.

Deborah Levan

Deborah Levan, MPH, is currently Director of Senior Services of Behavioral Health Services, Inc., a community-based social service agency in Los Angeles County. At BHS, she oversees several programs for older adults, including a medication misuse prevention program, a culturally-appropriate health promotion program reaching Latino seniors, and care management and supportive services for frail elderly. She has presented at several state and national conferences on frail elderly and on the prevention of medicine misuse and health promotion strategies for older adults. Ms. Levan is the current Vice Chair of the Aging Constituent Committee for ADP.

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Rod Libbey

Rod Libbey, currently the Walden House President & Chief Executive Officer, began his career in the alcohol and drug treatment field in 1972 as a Program Director for a community-based outpatient counseling program in Northern California. In the early 1980's, he was the Contra Costa County Drug Program Administrator, overseeing the county's continuum of prevention and treatment programs which included a state-of-the-art prevention program, eight community-based counseling centers, two therapeutic communities and three methadone clinics. Also during this time, Mr. Libbey chaired the CAADPAC Prevention Committee. In 1985, Mr. Libbey was recruited by Bank of America to develop and implement that company's nationally recognized employee assistance program (EAP). This highly successful and unique model provided a full range of alcohol, drug, and family services to thousands of employees and their families. During this time, he was active in the Employee Assistance Professionals Association and helped to develop the first certification standards (C.E.A.P.) for field practitioners. Mr. Libbey left Bank of America in 2003, as Senior Vice President in charge of Employee Relations nationally. He came to Walden House in 2004, and was the Chief Administrative Officer at the time of his appointment as CEO in January 2006. Mr. Libbey's management and program development expertise, as well as his 30-year career dedicated to programs that support recovery from alcohol and drug dependency, provide a solid background to lead Walden House. Mr. Libbey received both a Bachelors and Masters degree from the University of Oregon.

Amelia Lopez

Amelia S. Lopez is a Supervising Health Education Specialist with the San Bernardino County Department of Public Health. She is responsible for developing and coordinating substance abuse prevention programs countywide for the Department's Alcohol and Drug Abuse Prevention Program.

Joan Mazzetti

Joan Mazzetti, Health Education Manager for Calaveras County Public Health Department and Lead Staff for the Prevention team, was trained in participatory community assessment at Alameda County Public Health Department as the Director of Health Education. The principles of a participatory process were applied to the youth model in West Point. The Dream Catchers are youth who utilized the model to mobilize their local community to address prevention. Their vision emphasizes creation of jobs by establishing a small market and community gym. Youth believe that residents will have a positive self-image, increase their sense of community and avoid substances.

Helyne Meshar

Helyne Meshar is Owner, Manager, and Principal Consultant of Helyne Meshar & Associates, providing governmental relations and association management services in Sacramento. Before establishing her firm, Ms. Meshar was the Legislative and then Executive Director of the California Commission on the Status of Women.

Nathan Miley

Nate Miley, JD, is a member of the Alameda County Board of Supervisors, and serves as Chair of the Board's Transportation and Planning Committee, the Public Protection Committee, and the Unincorporated Services Committee. After finishing Law School at the University of Maryland in 1976, he moved to Oakland to work as a Jesuit Volunteer. In 1986, Mr. Miley created the United Seniors of Oakland and Alameda County to advocate for better senior services, such as housing and transportation. As Executive Director, he was responsible for managing the affairs of the organization, training, and developing leadership among the elderly. He was elected to the Oakland City Council in 1990, and served as Chair of the Public Safety Committee. Some of his special projects included violence suppression, harm reduction, problems regarding alcohol outlets and other public health issues.

Tina Miller

Tina Miller is a freshman and serves as Assistant Chair of the Dream Catchers. She worked with the Dream Catchers for one year, conducting surveys, promoting the work of the group in the community and assisting with the Tobacco Prevention Program conduct attempted youth purchases.

Kenneth Minkoff

Kenneth Minkoff, MD, is an Addiction Psychiatrist, Clinical Assistant Professor of Psychiatry at Harvard University, and a national expert on integrated systems and services.

Sam Minsky

Sam Minsky is a Senior Clinician, Trainer and Supervisor at the Matrix Institute On Addictions/UCLA West Los Angeles office. He has served in various capacities such as Associate Director and Director of the full service outpatient substance abuse clinic. Sam has worked in the chemical dependency field since 1988. He is a licensed Marriage and Family Counselor and a specialist in treating the chemically dependent and their families. He has also worked for the Brooklyn New York Criminal Court System as an expert witness in chemical dependency and substance abuse. He has co-authored a number of articles on research aspects and treatment of the chemically dependent and is currently involved in re-writing and updating various revisions and updates of components of the Matrix Manuals. The Matrix Model and it's manuals is currently being recommended by the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA), and the Center for Substance and Treatment (CSAT) as one of a very few useful empirically driven treatment models for substance abusers and the chemically dependant.

Elisabet Minton

Elisabet Minton is a freshman at Calaveras High School. She worked with the Dream Catchers for one year, conducting surveys, acting as liaison with the local library, and originator of the Litter Pick-up Days to promote physical activity and community pride.

Amanda Montgomery

Amanda Montgomery has worked in the prevention field since her graduation from California State University, Chico in 1998. As Supervisor of the Butte County Department of Behavioral Health Prevention Unit, she oversees cutting edge prevention services that include two Substance Abuse Exemplary Award Programs: Butte County Friday Night Live and Butte County Friday Night Live Mentoring.

Presenter Biographies

Shannon Murray

Shannon Murray is the Deputy Director of Lamp Community. She has worked with persons who are homeless and have a mental illness and/or substance abuse issues for the past 10 years, and currently provides clinical, training, and administrative oversight and support to Lamp Community's unique programs, including the Lamp Art Habitat and the Collaborative Initiative to Help End Chronic Homelessness' Skid Row Project. Prior to joining Lamp Community, she was Program Manager for an AB 34 program, part of a California state-wide innovative project which provides intensive case management services, housing, and employment options to persons who are homeless, dually diagnosed and often on parole or probation. She also started a voluntary work program and a seasonal small business for homeless persons living in Skid Row. Ms. Murray is Co-Chairperson for the Community Services Roundtable and is passionately involved in community activism, advocacy, and social and economic justice issues. She received a Masters degree in Social Welfare from UCLA.

Steve Myers

Steve Myers is the Methadone Coordinator for Walden House, where he facilitates methadone supportive services for persons in treatment at Walden House. Mr. Myers provides advocacy, case management, and counseling to ensure optimal services for persons receiving both methadone and abstinence-based residential treatment. Mr. Myers has a wealth of years of experience working in both methadone and abstinence-based modalities.

Orlando Nakai

Orlando Nakai has been employed with the Friendship House Association of American Indians for 12 years. He has gained years of clinical knowledge and experience in daily interactions with the American Indian population. His clinical experience includes determining the eligibility and the appropriate length and intensity of treatment of individuals in residential treatment. He reviews all clinical files and monitors contracts to ensure that all levels of treatment are culturally appropriate. Mr. Nakai has facilitated Cultural Competency training for the State of California for the Department of Mental Health and Social Services in Sacramento and has facilitated workshops at national conferences on methamphetamine treatment, the Continuum of Care model, and on the Red Road to Recovery, which is the cultural aspect of residential treatment at the Friendship House.

Danielle Nava

Danielle Nava currently serves as Deputy Director for the Alcohol and Drug Policy Institute. Prior to joining ADPI and CFF, Ms. Nava worked for the OC Human Relations Council, the nonprofit arm of the Orange County Human Relations Commission, from 1995 to 2005. Ms. Nava served as Director of the BRIDGES, School Inter-Ethnic Relations Program; which was recognized by the White House as a "Promising Practice" in reducing hate and bias related incidents in schools. In this capacity, she worked with whole school communities in developing human relations infrastructures that promote safe and inclusive school climates that foster optimal learning and a sense of community for all members. Ms. Nava is also a trainer and facilitator in human relations issues such as gender equity, bias, social privilege, conflict resolution, poverty, prejudice, and discrimination and multicultural issues. She has been a conference presenter on various issues in numerous forums, including the pre-session of the World Conference on Xenophobia and Racism. She is also a trained and certified conflict mediator in California.

Gary Neumann

Gary B. Neumann is an enrolled member of the Confederated Salish & Kootenai Tribes of the Flathead Indian Nation and has over 19 years progressive experience in the field of Prevention and Human Resource Development. He has worked successfully with a variety of tribal, state and federal agencies in the area of program design, implementation and evaluation focusing on at-risk youth, their families and communities. His work experience includes program development, management, training and providing technical assistance to community based organizations and coalitions as well as providing administrative oversight. He is skilled in assessment, evaluation, marketing and determination of appropriate technical assistance and training services from a variety of statewide organizations, coalitions, individuals and programs working in the prevention field. Mr. Neumann is currently the Project Manager for the Community Prevention Institute Technical Assistance Project funded and directed by the State of California Alcohol and Drug Prevention Program administered by the Center for Applied Research Solutions. In this capacity, he oversees the provision of technical assistance and specialized training to organizations throughout the State of California. He is responsible for supervision of 2,000 days of technical assistance and the delivery of 80 annual training events. In this capacity he oversees a pool of expert consultants ensuring that services and products are delivered in a relevant, timely and culturally appropriate manner with a special focus on rural and underserved populations.

Lori Newman

Lori Newman has 12 years experience in the alcohol/ and other drug field. Ms Newman currently is the Executive Director of a private non-profit company that operates a men 21 bed residential Social Model facility and a women and women/children 50 bed residential Social Model facility. Her experience in social model programs range from being a resident herself, an alumni, and professionally has been a volunteer, counselor, and program manager in Social Model program. Ms. Newman currently is a board member of the Merced County Alcohol/ drug Advisory Board, the California Association of Recovery Resources and the Board for Certification of Addiction Specialist. Ms. Newman's dedication and willingness to serve makes her a dynamic advocate for Social Model Recovery.

Carol Nottley

Carol Nottley, MA, has a long and distinguished career in the field of alcohol and other drugs. She has served as the CEO and/or Administrative Director of several prominent programs including AIDS Foundation San Diego, CLARE Foundation, PROTOTYPES Women's Center, and Phoenix Houses of California, and as Assistant County Administrator of San Diego County Alcohol and Drug Services. She is currently the Director of Special Projects for Care Connexus Adult Day Services and owner of Nottley and Associates Consulting Services. Ms. Nottley is the current Chair of the Aging Constituent Committee for ADP and has served on numerous State and County Commissions and planning groups.

Mary Anne O'Shea

Mary Anne O'Shea is the Director of Juvenile Services, Department of Probation for the County of San Mateo. She has over 25 years of experience in juvenile justice and was instrumental in the development of the G.I.R.L.S. Program. She continues to have major oversight in the probation-related management and supervision of the G.I.R.L.S. Program.

Presenter Biographies

Joseph Ossmann

Joseph D. Ossmann is the Acting Deputy Director for the Office of Substance Abuse Programs in the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR). In 2003, he was appointed as the Proposition 36 Coordinator for CDCR. As such, he had overall responsibility for the implementation of the Substance Abuse and Crime Prevention Act of 2000 (SACPA) as it affects state parolees. Prior to that appointment, Mr. Ossmann was Manager of the Proposition 36 Unit for the Board of Prison Terms.

Dale Parker

Dale S. Parker, Student Intern, is completing his degree in Health Sciences at California State University, San Bernardino.

Lynn Pimental

Lynn Pimentel, MA, CRC, currently serves as the Director of Women and Children's Residential Programs for WestCare California in Fresno. She is involved in a number of collaborations to provide for the needs of women and children, and provides the clinical and administrative programmatic leadership and oversight for family services. She has more than twenty years of experience in vocational services.

Linda Pratt

Linda Pratt serves as the Coordinator of Solano County Reducing Rates Coalition and the Program Director of CommPre, an environmental prevention program of Horizon Services, Inc. Ms. Pratt has worked in the AOD prevention field for 16 years. She has overseen several alcohol policy change efforts, established coalitions, produced counter advertising campaigns and conducted community assessments. She has also served on the Board of The Marin Institute for 9 years.

Arlene Purcell

Arlene Purcell, MSW, is Director of Project Pride, the residential division of East Bay Community Recovery Project. She has been a psychiatric social worker, program coordinator and counselor specializing in co-occurring disorders. She graduated from the UCB School of Social Welfare in 1998.

Charles Ries

Charles Ries has created sustainable client/youth-centered programs in schools, youth drop-in centers, drug-treatment programs, housing programs, and shelters. For eight years, he has directed the Student Assistance Program at Oakland High School, rated exemplary by the Oakland Unified School District, from which he created UpFront Programs, a reality-based drug education, support, and training program.

Shailushi Baxi Ritchie

Shailushi Ritchie is an Advocacy Manager at the Marin Institute, an alcohol industry watchdog that monitors and exposes the alcohol industry's harmful actions related to products, promotions and social influence, and supports communities in their efforts to reject these damaging activities. As Advocacy Manager, Ms. Ritchie helps communities fight the alcohol industry's tactics related to event sponsorship and product promotions, creates web and written materials for community advocates, and is a member of the Institute's media and community team. Before joining the Marin Institute, she earned her Masters degree from University of Michigan's School of Public Health with a concentration in Health Behavior and Health Education, and a Bachelors degree from Illinois Wesleyan University in Biology and Philosophy. She left her roots in the Midwest joined the Prevention Institute to work on issues such as violence prevention, effective government systems, physical activity, and nutrition. Ms. Ritchie is also the Chair of the Board of Directors for Women's Health Rights Coalition/ACCESS and teaches at San Francisco State University in her "spare" time.

Sanford Robinson

Sanford Robinson is the Director of the Specialized Treatment and Recovery Services (STARS) in Sacramento, CA. In addition, he serves as the STARS Dependency Drug Court Coordinator. For almost two decades, Mr. Robinson has been involved with alcohol and drug programs specializing in many varied populations including adolescents, HIV/AIDS and adult drug offenders. He has designed and implemented numerous programs for public schools to reduce substance abuse and has been at the forefront of promoting motivational intervention techniques. He has worked in most facets of the alcohol and drug treatment field including private practice, medical model, adolescent treatment, HIV/Aids and Prevention. Mr. Robinson received his Bachelors degree from California State University, Sacramento and is actively pursuing his Masters degree at California State University, Sacramento.

Brie Roumeliotis

Brie Roumeliotis, MPH, has spent her recent career working with college populations on developing alcohol-related policies and trainings to promote responsible alcohol service and consumption as well as reduce the risk associated with alcohol consumption.

Shirley Rowland

Dr. Shirley Rowland is currently working as a Senior Mental Health/Substance Abuse Counselor on the CalWorks Clinical Team for Sacramento County. She is a private consultant and does consulting for Sacramento County to Birth and Beyond, a parenting program. Dr. Rowland is the gatekeeper for the Family Transitional Housing For Volunteers of America, and sits on the State Aging Constituency Committee. She is a former instructor at UC Davis in their Alcohol and Drug Studies Program, and is currently at Breining Institute as a mentor and instructor. Dr. Rowland is certified by the International Certification in Alcohol and Drugs, California Certification board, CAADAC, and the Indian Alcoholism Commission of California, Inc. She received her Bachelors degree in Psychology from Sacramento State University, and her Masters and Doctorate from Breining Institute. She also received a degree in Agency Leadership from the University of San Francisco. Dr. Rowland is trained in Anger Management, Co-dependency and Family Issues. She has provided services in a number of modalities and environments. Dr. Rowland is the author of two books: Looking for Normal and The Medicine Wheel and the Twelve Steps of AA, a workbook.

Presenter Biographies

Del Royer

Del Royer is the Substance Abuse Administrator for Solano County Health and Social Services, and has worked in this capacity since August 2002. Mr. Royer has over 18 years of experience in the substance abuse field. He has provided the leadership in the Substance Abuse Adult System Redesign that was implemented in March of 2004, and is currently redesigning the Youth Treatment and Prevention System of Care. Mr. Royer holds a Master of Social Work degree from California State University, Sacramento. While his concentration was in Mental Health, he has maintained a desire to work primarily in substance abuse services.

Joy Rucker

Joy Rucker is a well-known professional in the fields of harm reduction, supportive housing development, needs assessment, program development, community planning and advocacy. Her experience includes facilitating collaborations in housing and African American harm reduction policy, community planning for transitional and HIV housing programs, training design, and delivery in housing substance users and creating integrated services. Ms. Rucker established herself as a Bay Area, harm-reduction based-activist when she structured and launched Rafiki House, a supportive housing facility for African-Americans living with HIV/AIDS. Her model was utilized by several AIDS service organizations throughout California. She then became dedicated in the struggle for creating affordable housing to people with disabilities and illnesses and sat on various local committees and boards with the same vision.

Beth Rutkowski

Beth Rutkowski received her Master of Public Health degree, with an emphasis on epidemiology and quantitative methods, from the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey, School of Public Health in 2000. She has been associated with UCLA's Integrated Substance Abuse Programs (ISAP) since December 2000. She currently serves as the Associate Director of Training. The majority of her time is devoted to the SAMHSA-supported Pacific Southwest Addiction Technology Training Center (PSATTC), where she assists in the development of rollout training packages for products based on NIDA-supported research targeted to the community at large. In addition, she organizes and conducts conferences and trainings throughout the three-state Pacific Southwest region (Arizona, California, and New Mexico) on scientifically-validated interventions and topics, such as methamphetamine abuse, HIV and drug abuse, buprenorphine, and best practices in addiction treatment. In addition, Ms. Rutkowski is the Los Angeles County representative to the National Institute on Drug Abuse-sponsored Community Epidemiology Work group in which she is responsible for preparing semi-annual written reports and oral presentations on substance abuse trends in Los Angeles County, California.

Jose Salazar

Jose C. Salazar is Director of Program Development for Tarzana Treatment Centers, Inc. (TTC) a non-profit organization in Southern California. Since 1988, Dr. Salazar has worked in the public health field as a counselor, educator, researcher, organizer and administrator. Currently, he manages programs focusing on tobacco prevention, substance abuse, HIV/AIDS, hepatitis prevention, and decreasing reliance on Emergency Departments as points for primary care access. Dr. Salazar currently serves on the Aging Constituent Committee of ADP and is a member of the American Public Health Association, American Society for Training and Development, and American Society on Aging.

Rita Schank

Rita Schank is the Executive Director of Ujima Family Recovery Services (UJIMA) in Contra Costa County. Ms. Schank has 16 years of innovative perinatal program development and managerial experience. She serves on the Contra Costa County Perinatal Substance Abuse Partnership to influence policy makers and systems change. She is a Registered Addiction Specialist who has a passion for working to help families live in recovery and lead healthy productive lives. During her career, she has been recognized for her contribution in human services. In recent years, she has been awarded the Governor's award for "Excellent Employer - Small Nonprofits", the Contra Costa Women's Commission's "Contra Costa Women's Hall of Fame Award for Women Creating Community", and the Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors and the Alcohol and Drug Advisory Board's "People Who Make A Difference Award". Ms. Schank holds a Masters degree in Public Administration from the University of San Francisco.

Laura Schmidt

Laura Schmidt, PhD, remains an Affiliate Senior Scientist while her primary position is now in the Institute for Health Policy Studies, UCSF. She is funded by NIAAA and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation to study welfare reform, also working on ARG Center national surveys.

Charlotte Scott-Day

Charlotte Scott-Day is a licensed Marriage and Family Therapist and has worked in the field as a job developer, counselor and supervisor with the Department of Rehabilitation for twenty years. Currently she is a Mental Health Specialist working in the Collaborative Services Section of the Department of Rehabilitation responsible for the administration and development of County Mental Health Programs. She received a Bachelors degree in Human Services and a Masters degree in Marriage, Family and Child Counseling from Cal-State Dominguez Hills.

Vincent Scribner

Vincent Scribner is the Operations Supervisor for Tarzana Treatment Center's 40-bed adult residential facility in the Antelope Valley. Tarzana Treatment Center offers a wide range of services ranging from outpatient to residential chemical dependency treatment, HIV outreach services, and mental health assessments through their Community Assessment Service Center. Mr. Scribner is a CADAAC Certified Drug and Alcohol Counselor and is continuing his education in the field of psychology. He is a member of AWARE and a recovering individual of 7+ years.

Ken Seldon

Ken C. Seldon graduated from the University of Hawaii in 1980 with a Bachelors degree in Communications. He is continuing his education in both Chemical Dependence and as a teacher in public school for grades K thru 12. He volunteers at Cri-help and has been involved with the AWARE program since 2002, and is the residing Co-chair of the Southern Chapter. In addition, he is in the Honor Society ALPHA GAMMA SIGMA. Mr. Seldon is a recovering individual with 3 years of sobriety.

Presenter Biographies

Steven Shoptaw

Steven Shoptaw is Professor in the Center for Disease Prevention and Health Promotion at the Department of Family Medicine, David Geffen School of Medicine, UCLA. He is Principal Investigator of NIDA-funded center investigating medication development for stimulant abuse and of a cooperative agreement with NIDA to evaluate the sexual acquisition and transmission of HIV and other infectious diseases. His research interests involve evaluations of behavioral and pharmacological treatments for substance abuse, particularly in groups with high rates of HIV prevalence.

Jivendra Singh

Jivendra Singh has been with the Department of Rehabilitation for twelve years where she has worked as a Rehabilitation Counselor and Training Officer. She currently works as a Cooperative Program Specialist in DOR's Collaborative Service Section, working to develop and provide support to DOR/County Mental Health Collaborative programs. She has a Bachelors degree in Home Economics and Special Education and a Masters degree in Psychology from India.

Rodney Skager

Rodney Skager is Professor Emeritus in the Graduate School of Education and Information Studies at UCLA. He is part-time Senior Research Associate at WestEd, a consultant to the Drug Policy Alliance, and Founder/Co-Director of the California Student Survey sponsored by the Office of the Attorney General. His focus is on youth drug policy, drug education, student assistance, and alternatives to deterrent punishment. He is the author of *Beyond Zero Tolerance: A Reality-Based Approach to Drug Education and Student Assistance*.

Yong Song

Yong S. Song, PhD, is a licensed Clinical Psychologist who has been working in the substance abuse treatment field for over 10 years. He is an Assistant Clinical Professor at the University of California, San Francisco Department of Psychiatry. He is also a Staff Psychologist at the San Francisco VA Medical Center, where he provides direct patient care, teaching, and administration for a hospital based drug treatment program. Dr. Song received his doctoral training at Virginia Commonwealth University and UCSF, where he was a National Institute on Drug Abuse-funded postdoctoral fellow specializing in drug abuse treatment research. His research work focuses on substance abuse treatment with opioid dependent populations.

George Sonsel

George Sonsel has spent the past 26 years in the field of HIV/AIDS care as a mental health/substance abuse services provider, an AIDS service organization administrator, and with the Federal government as a Senior Public Health Analyst responsible for HIV/AIDS community-based program evaluation. He most recently served as the Health Resources & Services Administration's HIV/AIDS Coordinator for the Department of Health & Human Services Region IX. Prior to his current position, he served as the Director of Mental Health & Substance Abuse Services at the Jeffrey Goodman Special Care Clinic, located at the LA Gay & Lesbian Center in Los Angeles, CA. His previous work with HRSA included serving as a consultant on HIV/AIDS planning grants, a policy analyst representing HRSA in the National AIDS Program Office for the Assistant Secretary of Health and the AIDS Program Office in HRSA's Office of the Administrator. Mr. Sonsel played a leadership role in developing the Special Projects of National Significance Program—a program model “demonstration and evaluation” grant program. His extensive experience in HIV/AIDS service delivery, from the perspective of a clinician, program administrator, and program analyst provides him the qualifications to assist in developing an implementation plan for the AOD Continuum of Services Model in California.

Jim Sorensen

James L. Sorensen, PhD, is a California drug abuse researcher, teacher, and clinical administrator. He serves as Professor of Psychiatry at the University of California, San Francisco and Medical Staff Member at San Francisco General Hospital. Dr. Sorensen's work in drug dependence research began 25 years ago, directing an investigation of heroin detoxification. With support from the National Institute on Drug Abuse, NIMH, and American Foundation for AIDS Research, Dr. Sorensen has developed and evaluated numerous innovative treatment approaches including a Community Network approach to drug treatment, family therapy, small-group HIV education with drug users, case management approaches, and interventions to improve medication compliance of drug abusers with HIV/AIDS. Dr. Sorensen has authored over 190 professional publications, including several recent studies of AIDS and drug abuse. He is first author of *A Family Like Yours: Breaking the Patterns of Drug Abuse* (Harper & Row, 1987) and *Preventing AIDS in Drug Users and Their Sexual Partners* (Guilford Press, 1991). In addition, he is senior editor of *Drug Abuse Treatment Through Collaboration: Practice and Research Partnerships that Work* (American Psychological Association, 2003), which advocates for creating practitioner-researcher partnerships to improve the effectiveness of drug abuse treatment.

Michael Sparks

Michael Sparks serves as the Policy Director at the Center for Community Action and Training (CCAT). Prior to this, he served as an Associate Director for the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation-funded Free to Grow initiative at the Mailman School of Public Health at Columbia University. From 1992 to 2003, he was the Interim Executive Director and Project Director for Community Programs at Vallejo Fighting Back Partnership. Mr. Sparks has experience in the alcohol policy field as well as in the areas of community building, using local control strategies to manage problematic alcohol and drug environments, the legislative process, neighborhood revitalization, and management of non-profit corporations. He has provided training in the areas of community organizing, alcohol policy, using the legislative process to reduce alcohol and other drug problems, and leadership development. He earned a Masters degree in Sociology from San Francisco State University in 1982.

Presenter Biographies

Suzanne Spear

Suzanne E. Spear, MS, has worked in the fields of community development and public health since 1995. Trained in cultural anthropology and urban studies, she has conducted research in the areas of community development, environment and behavior, substance abuse treatment, and substance abuse patterns among American Indians. Ms. Spear has directed several SAMHSA/CSAT-funded projects, including the Los Angeles Practice Improvement Collaborative that organized substance abuse researchers and service providers to implement evidence-based practices in community treatment centers. She is currently directing a SAMHSA-funded UCLA Access to Care project, which provides screening and brief intervention services to students at UCLA. In addition, she works as an evaluator for a substance abuse and mental health treatment program for homeless individuals in the South Los Angeles area.

Barbara Spille

Barbara Spille is a certified Substance Abuse and Addiction Counselor and has worked for Tarzana Treatment Center in a variety of roles over the last 17 years, ranging from Counselor to Supervisor to her current position as Alumni Coordinator. She has been involved in the Southern California chapter of AWARE as the liaison for Tarzana Treatment Center since its inception in 1999. She has also been involved in organizing many events held during National Recovery Month, and is a recovering individual of 17 years.

Mark Stanford

Mark Stanford, PhD, is the Senior Manager of Medical and Clinical Services for the Santa Clara Valley Health & Hospital System Department of Alcohol & Drug Services, Addiction Medicine and Therapy Division. He has worked in addictions treatment within the modalities of residential, day treatment, outpatient and opioid treatment programs. In addition, Dr. Stanford is a Clinical Research Educator in the behavioral neurosciences with a specialty in psychopharmacology. He has taught for over 20 years throughout the Bay Area including Cal State Hayward, UC Berkeley Extension, and as a lecturer at Stanford University Department of Family and Community Medicine. He also teaches Treatment and Clinical Considerations of Substance Abuse Disorders for LCSW's, MFT's and Psychologists for their CEU licensing requirements.

Anna Talamo

Anna Talamo has 15 years of counseling experience in women's health, specializing in Expressive Arts Therapy, matrix model methamphetamine treatment, and drug court advocacy. She has additional training in relationship-based family supportive therapy for children ages 0-5 and their caregivers. At the West Coast Children's Center, she directs the grandchildren's portion of the Grandparents' Support Program, which provides groups for children who, due to parental substance abuse and mental illness, are in the primary care of their grandparents. Ms. Talamo received her Masters degree in Counseling Psychology with an Emphasis in Expressive Arts Therapy from the California Institute of Integral Studies in 1999.

Sara Tienda

Sara Tienda, MSW, is the Assistant Director of SHIELDS for Families, Inc. She has a Bachelors degree in Sociology from California State University, Fullerton and a Masters degree in Social Work from California State University, Long Beach. Ms. Tienda has over seventeen years experience in both administrative and direct services. She has worked in the areas of volunteer services, alternative sentencing, developmental disabilities, substance abuse and mental health. She has extensive expertise in resource development and the provision of services in South Central Los Angeles.

Richard Torres

Richard Torres has twenty three years experience in the alcohol drug field. Mr. Torres currently manages the 117 bed adult male alcohol drug program at The Fellowship Center in Escondido, California. His experience in social model programs ranges from counseling in a non-residential/drop-in center, director of a residential education program, and supervisor of a detoxification/inebriate reception center. Mr. Torres is the current president of the Board for Certification of Addiction Specialists and he is a current board member of the California Association of Addiction Recovery Resources (CAARR). Mr. Torres remains a strong advocate for social model recovery.

AJ Tschupp

AJ Tschupp is an Associate Clinical Social Worker who is working towards licensure as an LCSW. She has worked in various mental health and co-occurring treatment settings, and has been with EBCRP for two years.

Olga Tuller

Olga Tuller, PhD, is a California-licensed clinical psychologist. She is a member of the American Psychological Association and California Psychological Association, and is currently a Director of the Outpatient and Day Treatment Services where she provides supervision to the dual diagnosis programs addressing co-occurring disorders and trauma issues. She is also a Clinical Director for the re-entry program and a Lead Clinical trainer and supervisor for the "Access to CARE" UCLA program which implements brief assessments and interventions in clinical setting. Dr. Tuller has a private practice where she conducts forensic assessments, clinical interventions and consultations. Her bi-cultural and bi-lingual background allows her to provide services to English and Russian speaking populations. In addition, she volunteers her time with the Los Angeles Police Department where she works with transitional-age youth addressing mental health and substance abuse issues. She also volunteers her time for American families who have adopted Russian children.

Michele Vela-Payne

Michele Vela-Payne has been a Probation Officer in Sacramento County for 11 years. She has been on board with Prop 36 since its inception and was the Court Liaison Officer from 2001 to 2003. Ms. Vela-Payne was instrumental in helping other members of the collaborative create the processes and procedures by which cases are evaluated and presented to the Court. In April 2005, she returned to Prop 36 as a Supervisor and continues to take an active role in refining the process in which information is shared between Probation, AOD, the providers and the Court.

Presenter Biographies

Jennie Verardo

Jennie Verardo holds a Bachelors degree from UC Santa Cruz and a Masters degree from Golden Gate University. She has worked in and with local, regional, and state governments for over 25 years and is currently a Senior Consultant with the Public Employment Services Authority. An Adjunct Professor with the National Graduate School, she teaches Strategic Planning, Benchmarking, and Organizational Performance Assessment in the Masters Degree program. She is also a State Personnel Board instructor in Strategic Planning and Performance Measurement.

Hazel Weiss

Hazel L. Weiss, MA, Community Development Manager at the Alameda County Housing and Community Development Department (HCD), has worked in the fields of homeless services and alcohol and drug problems for over 30 years. As a Senior Program Specialist for the Alameda County Health Care Services Agency, Ms. Weiss led planning and coordination for homeless housing and services targeting people with co-occurring disabilities. She planned and implemented the service delivery network for the Alameda County Shelter Plus Care (S+C) Program in the early 1990s and went on to become Director of the S+C Program, securing additional funding for housing and services that resulted in permanent housing placements for over 1,000 homeless people with disabilities during her tenure as Director. She currently administers homeless assistance programs and coordinates legislative affairs for Alameda County HCD, co-chairs the National Shelter Plus Care Coalition (NSC), and serves on the Disability Constituent Committee for the California Department of Alcohol and Drug Programs, the City of Berkeley Community Health Commission, the Board of Directors for Community Resources for Independent Living, Inc. in Hayward, CA, and the Assistance Dog United Campaign in Santa Rosa, CA.

Deborah Werner

Deborah Werner currently serves as the Project Director of the California Women, Children and Families Technical Assistance Project of Children and Family Futures. Since 1989, she has been an advocate, consultant, and designer for community-based initiatives that support women, children and families. She is the former Director of the Institute for Research, Training & TA at Beyond Shelter where she consulted and trained nationally on the housing first and service-enriched housing approaches. She is also the former Executive Director of the California Women's Commission on Alcohol & Drug Dependencies. Ms. Werner holds a Masters degree in Urban Planning from UCLA.

Roland Williams

Roland Williams, MA, is Clinical Director and co-founder of Bayside Marin. He also serves as President of Free Life Enterprises, and is the author of Relapse Prevention for African Americans and Relapse Prevention Workbook for African Americans. Mr. Williams teaches Addiction Studies at California State University, East Bay; at the University of California, Santa Cruz; and at the University of Utah, JFK.

Jeremy Wilson

Jeremy Wilson is a recent graduate of California State University, Chico. He has been working in the prevention field for over two years and in youth programming for six. He has been a leader in Butte County, involving young people in environmental prevention. He oversees the implementation of Environmental Prevention in Friday Night Live and Club Live Chapters, made up of over 300 young people. In addition, he has provided direct service delivery of the Friday Night Live Mentoring program for three years.

Melisa Wilson

Melisa Wilson is a sophomore at Calaveras High School and chair of the Dream Catchers. She worked with the Dream Catchers for one year, conducting surveys, designing the group logo with her sister Mechelle, and assisting the Tobacco Prevention Program conduct attempted youth purchases.

Friedner Wittman

Fried Wittman, PhD, M Arch, has been active in county and community-level AOD prevention planning since 1973. He is currently Director of the Community Prevention Planning Program at the Institute for the Study of Social Change at UC Berkeley, where he heads the Prevention by Design project. He consulted for the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism prevention grant program (1973-1978), has been a researcher at Alcohol Research Group (1978-1983), and a member of the Prevention Research Center (1983-1988). Mr. Wittman has authored approximately 80 papers and articles on community approaches to AOD prevention.

Loretta Worthington

Loretta Worthington is a Certified Addiction Specialist in California with over a decade of experience in treatment and prevention, specializing in tobacco control. Her current position is Contract Manager and Auditor for the Los Angeles County Tobacco Control and Prevention Programs. She has a Masters degree in Organizational Leadership with additional education in Spiritual Psychology, and is the Chair for the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Constituency Committee for the California Department of Alcohol & Drug Programs. She is particularly interested in addressing tobacco dependence in substance abuse treatment agencies, and working with agencies to develop cultural competencies for the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) population. She enjoys working with a diverse set of underserved populations, including the LGBT community, the recovering addict community, and the incarcerated and post-incarcerated population.

Alfonso Yslas

Alfonso Yslas is currently a Community Organizer/Prevention Specialist for Community Action Resource Exchange of Ventura County (CARE-VC). Before taking on this position, he was employed as a Project Leader by a youth community service organization called Oxnard City Corps. There, he assisted this youth group in organizing and leading teams of young volunteers to help their community in any way possible from neighborhood clean-ups to helping the elderly shop for food. Mr. Yslas first became involved with Oxnard City Corps at the age of 14. Now at age 20, he still keeps his efforts strong in the area of prevention by working with both CARE-VC and Oxnard City Corps.

Joan Zweben

Joan Zweben, PhD, is the founder and Executive Director of The East Bay Community Recovery Project and The 14th Street Clinic. She is also a Clinical Professor of Psychiatry at the University of California, San Francisco.