



RESEARCH & EVALUATION COMMITTEE

The Research and Evaluation Committee, comprised of a diverse, interdisciplinary group of professionals, provides guidance and expertise that reflects a broader understanding of the opportunity for driving transformational change using research to improve prevention and innovation, as well as mental health services and supports. The Research and Evaluation Committee supports the Commission in reaching its strategic goals and ensuring that information disseminated is timely, accurate, and useful to improving community wellness and client recovery.



ITAI DANOVITCH M.D., MBA, Commissioner And Committee Chair

itai.danovitch@cshs.org

Itai Danovitch is Chairman of the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Neurosciences at Cedars-Sinai Medical Center in Los Angeles since 2012, as well as Director of Addiction Psychiatry at Cedars-Sinai since 2008. His clinical practice and research focuses on substance use disorders, as well as the integration of medical and mental health services. Dr. Danovitch is a Distinguished Fellow of the American Society of Addiction Medicine, Fellow of the American Psychiatric Association and past president of the California Society of Addiction Medicine. Dr. Danovitch earned his medical doctorate from the University of California, Los Angeles School of Medicine and a Master of Business Administration degree from the University of California, Los Angeles Anderson School of Management. In his role as Commissioner, Dr. Danovitch fills the seat of a physician specializing in alcohol and drug treatment.



KEN BERRICK Commissioner and Committee Vice-Chair
ken_berrick@senecacenter.org

Ken Berrick is the founder and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Seneca Family of Agencies, a nonprofit agency dedicated to providing Unconditional Care to children and families through comprehensive mental health, education, juvenile justice, placement and permanency services. Since its founding in 1985, Seneca has developed innovative programs ranging from Wraparound and Intensive Treatment Foster Care, to integrated mental health services in schools, and a crisis continuum of care for youth and their families. Mr. Berrick is a Governor's Appointee on the California Child Welfare Council, where he co-chairs the Behavioral Health Committee, tasked with developing best practice recommendations to guide policy and inform statewide efforts to effectively address the behavioral health needs of children involved in or at risk of involvement in the child welfare system. Mr. Berrick is a two-time former President of the California Alliance of Child and Family Services and serves on numerous policy planning groups in California at both the county

and state-level. He is an elected member and Past-President of the Alameda County Board of Education, and Past-President of the California County Boards of Education. In 2014, he was recognized by California Mental Health Advocates for Children and Youth as Advocate of the Year. In 2017, he was a recipient of the James Irvine Foundation Leadership Award. He is co-author of the books, *Unconditional Care: Relationship-Based, Behavioral Intervention with Vulnerable Children and Families* (Oxford University Press, 2010), and *Unconditional Education* (Oxford University Press, 2018).



RIKKE ADDIS M.A.

rikke@bhestrategies.com

Rikke Addis is the founder of Behavioral Health Evaluation Strategies (BHES), a company focused on helping organizations assess and improve client outcomes, to strengthen communities.

Rikke started her work in behavioral health as a graduate student of cultural anthropology. Focusing on at-risk youth, Rikke applied a social suffering framework to her analysis and combined participant observation and oral history methods to gather stories and observations of suffering among youth in the community. Prior to founding BHES, Rikke oversaw evaluation efforts at community-based children's behavioral health organizations. While there, Rikke oversaw evaluation of programs and conducted qualitative interviews with youth, caregivers, and service providers to understand effectiveness of services. Rikke also led implementation of agency-wide CQI programs with the goals of decreasing the frequency of physical restraints among youth in a group home setting, and improving functional outcomes across multiple

outpatient and community-based programs. In 2014, Rikke joined the California Institute for Behavioral Health Solutions (CIBHS) as a state-wide evaluation consultant. Here, she developed an approach to data-driven practice to assist providers in using real-time outcomes data to monitor and adjust treatment.

Rikke is a certified Feedback-Informed Treatment (FIT) trainer, working with agencies and providers to implement Routine Outcome Monitoring (ROM).

Rikke holds a M.A. in Cultural Anthropology from the University of Copenhagen, a B.A. in Cultural Anthropology and a B.A. in American Studies from the University of California, Santa Cruz (UCSC).

Rikke was born in Denmark and emigrated to the United States in 1994.



SERGIO AGUILAR-GAXIOLA M.D., PH.D.

aguilargaxiola@ucdavis.edu

Sergio Aguilar-Gaxiola is Professor of Clinical Internal Medicine, School of Medicine, University of California, Davis. He is the Founding Director of the Center for Reducing Health Disparities at UC Davis Health and the Director of the Community Engagement Program of the UCD Clinical Translational Science Center (CTSC). He was recently appointed for a four-year term as a member of the National Advisory Council of the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Administration (SAMHSA)-Center for Mental Health Services (CMHS). He is a national and international expert on health and mental health comorbidities on diverse populations. He has held several World Health Organization (WHO) and Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) advisory board and consulting appointments and is currently a member of the Executive Committee of the World Health Organization (WHO) World Mental Health Survey Consortium (WMH) and its Coordinator for Latin America, overseeing population-based national/regional surveys in Argentina, Brazil, Colombia

(national and city of Medellín surveys), México and Peru. Dr. Aguilar-Gaxiola's research includes cross-national comparative epidemiologic research on patterns and correlates of chronic health conditions, mental and substance abuse disorders in general population samples. Dr. Aguilar-Gaxiola is the author of over 180 scientific publications and the lead editor of the book *Depression in Latinos: Assessment, Treatment, and Prevention* and co-editor of the book (in Spanish) "Mental Health Epidemiology in Latin America and the Caribbean" ("Epidemiología de la Salud Mental en Latinoamérica y el Caribe") published by the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO).



ROBERT H. BROOK M.D., SC.D.

brook@rand.org

Robert H. Brook is professor emeritus of Medicine at UCLA, where he directed the Robert Wood Johnson Clinical Scholars Program for over 4 decades and now serves as Emeritus Director for the UCLA National Clinician Scholars Program. He also holds the Distinguished Chair in Health Care Services at the RAND Corporation, where he previously served for 19 years as vice president and director of RAND Health. He was also a senior principal physician policy researcher at the RAND Corporation and a professor at the Pardee RAND Graduate School. He led the Health and Quality Group on the \$80M Health Insurance Experiment and was co-principal investigator on the Health Services Utilization Study. He was the co-principal investigator on the only national study that has investigated, at a clinical level, how Medicare's prospective payment system affected the quality and outcome of acute hospital care. He was also the co-principal investigator on a joint activity of 12 academic medical centers, the American Medical Association, and RAND, the purpose of which

was to develop appropriateness criteria and parameters for the use of procedures.

Brook is a member of the Institute of Medicine, the American Society for Clinical Investigation, and the American Association of Physicians. Among numerous others, Brook was awarded the 2005 Institute of Medicine's Gustav O. Lienhard Award, cited "as the individual who, more than any other, developed the science of measuring the quality of medical care and focused U.S. policymakers' attention on quality-of-care issues and their implications for the nation's health." Brook received his M.D. and Sc.D. from Johns Hopkins University.



VICTOR G. CARRIÓN M.D.

vcarrion@stanford.edu

Victor G. Carrión is the John A. Turner, M.D. Professor of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry at Stanford University School of Medicine and Vice-Chair of the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences. He directs the Stanford Early Life Stress and Resilience Program. Since joining the faculty at Stanford 25 years ago, Dr. Carrión's research has concentrated in understanding how early life stress, such as traumatic experiences, alter behavior and emotion and the role of brain structure and function in these findings. He has also developed new treatment modalities that are focused and targeted. Dr. Carrión chaired the Mental Health Oversight and Accountability Commission for the State of California and published the main text on the neuroscience of posttraumatic stress in youth, as well as texts on treatment. He has received multiple awards from the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry, the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention and the National Institute of Health, among others.



ELEANOR CASTILLO SUMI Ph.D., BCBA-D

eleanor.castillo@upliftfs.org

Eleanor Castillo Sumi is a licensed psychologist and Board-Certified Behavior Analyst with a wide depth and breadth of experiences in the delivery of mental health services to youth and families. In the area of school mental health, her experience includes an emphasis in training and consulting services with school district personnel on School-Wide Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (SW-PBIS) and Multi-Tiered Systems of Supports (MTSS). Her practice in mental health, behavioral issues and strategies has led her to work with children with autism spectrum disorder, youth in the juvenile justice system, and to manage a personal business venture.

As a past Best Practices Specialist for the State of Hawaii Child and Adolescent Mental Health Department, Castillo Sumi is well-versed in the most current Evidence-Based Practices. Dr. Castillo Sumi had an earlier incarnation at EMQFF as Corporate Compliance Officer and Outcomes and Quality Assurance Director . Dr. Castillo Sumi

has had her work published in several publications (e.g., American Journal of Orthopsychiatry, the National Association of Dual Diagnosis (NADD) Bulletin, etc.). She obtained her Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology from Pacific Graduate School of Psychology at Palo Alto University where she was awarded Dissertation of the Year among her graduating class.



JONATHAN FREEDMAN M.S.P.H.

jfreedman@healthmanagement.com

Jonathan Freedman works with plans, providers, associations, and governmental and nongovernmental entities in the areas of public health, safety net health care, and public policy. His work focuses on strategic planning, public health improvement and transformation, and the health care safety net. Before coming to Health Management Associates, Jonathan was Chief of Strategy at L.A. Care Health Plan, the largest publicly operated health plan in the nation. In this capacity, he was responsible for strategic planning, government relations, communications, compliance, and community benefits. Prior to joining L.A. Care Health Plan, Jonathan held a variety of management and leadership roles for more than 25 years with the County of Los Angeles, most recently as Chief Deputy Director of the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health (DPH). Jonathan has led many high-profile initiatives, including the public health response to the 1994 Northridge earthquake; Los Angeles County's Master Tobacco Settlement negotiation; solutions to funding crises in the

Los Angeles County safety net; and the 2010 H1N1 influenza response. Jonathan has received outstanding leadership awards from the California State Association of Counties and Los Angeles County.



SHARON ISHIKAWA Ph.D.

sishikawa@ochca.com

Sharon Ishikawa is the MHS A Coordinator for Orange County. She has 25 years of training and experience in clinical research design and data analysis, including as a Research Analyst for MHS A programs in Orange County. Sharon obtained her Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology from UCLA, completed research post-doctoral fellowships at the University of Southern California and the University of California Irvine, and served as an Assistant/Associate Project Scientist at the University of California Irvine. In these roles, she conducted several large-scale, community-based research projects with vulnerable populations; trained students and staff in psychological assessment with children and adults; taught several courses in psychological assessment, research methods, and statistics; and has published a number of book chapters and peer-reviewed journal articles.



BRIDGETTE LERY M.S.W. Ph.D.

blery@urban.org

Bridgette Lery is a principal research associate in the Center on Labor, Human Services, and Population at the Urban Institute. Her research focuses on child welfare and other human services, including administrative data systems, performance measurement, capacity building and evidence use in the workforce, program implementation, and evaluation. Her current and upcoming work includes analysis of recent legislation allowing states to extend independent living services to former foster youth to age 23, formative evaluations of housing programs for youth aging out of foster care, and continuous quality improvement technical assistance to state and local child welfare agencies.

Bridgette lives in San Francisco, where she formerly worked in local government directing research and evaluation for the San Francisco Human Services Agency. Key projects included coleading the design, implementation, and evaluation of a federal demonstration project testing a supportive housing program

for homeless, child-welfare-involved families; local planning and evaluation of interventions implemented under California's Title IV-E Waiver Demonstration; and coleading a federally funded university partnership to train graduate students in using evidence for better decisionmaking. Lery previously conducted child welfare research at Chapin Hall at the University of Chicago.

Bridgette holds a BA in psychology from the University of California, Santa Cruz, an MSW from Columbia University, and a PhD from the University of California, Berkeley's School of Social Welfare.



GUSTAVO LOERA Ed.D.

gustavoloera@gmail.com

Gustavo Loera is an educational psychologist and researcher in community mental health and wellness. For the past two decades, his work in education and research has been devoted to historically underserved communities in addressing health and educational disparities. Dr. Loera has worked with school districts, colleges and universities, government agencies, counties, and community-based organizations in capacity-building and advancing California's workforce development in health and behavioral health. Working with Mental Health America of Los Angeles and the California Department of Education, he has helped develop college and career readiness frameworks and evaluated the effectiveness of career academies. Dr. Loera also developed standards in mental/behavioral health now in use at the state-level for career pathways, including workforce development for the mental health industry.

Dr. Loera is currently working with school districts across the state to implement an innovative prevention and early intervention model to address students' and their families' mental wellness and ensure their full participation in school and community life. This work builds on the increasing importance of a diverse health and mental health workforce as a critical factor in closing the treatment gap and improving access, availability, appropriateness, and advocacy to quality health care. Dr. Loera's focus has also been in advancing health and mental health equity in underserved communities, by strengthening community capacity to meet cultural needs, and aligning research, evaluation, and training to achieve culturally and linguistically appropriate interventions.



APRIL LUDWIG LMFT

aludwig@youthsolutions.org

April Ludwig is the Chief Quality Improvement Officer at Stanford Sierra Youth & Families, where she has worked for the past 7 years. Ms. Ludwig is a member of the Senior Leadership team within the agency. She is a licensed Marriage and Family Therapist, and provides Clinical Supervision to those who are newly integrating into the field. Ms. Ludwig is a graduate of the University of California, at Davis, where she received her Bachelor of Arts degree, and the University of Phoenix, where she received her Masters of Science degree.

Ms. Ludwig provides oversight of quality management, practice improvement, and performance outcomes within the organization, with a specialized focus on organizational compliance. She is charged with ensuring that the agency operates within an ethical scope for service provision, as well as evaluating best practice models of service delivery. Additionally, Ms. Ludwig serves as the facilitator for the agency's national accreditation process.

Ms. Ludwig is an Adjunct Professor within the Sacramento county community, and has taught both undergraduate and graduate courses at the University of Phoenix and the University of San Francisco for a total of 12 years. She continues to be a vigorous learner as well, with a passion for organizational leadership and development. She is a graduate of the Sierra Health Leadership Program, Class XIV, where she worked with class fellows to identify core values and leadership strengths in developing systems of change. Ms. Ludwig is also a graduate of the Adopt US Kids, Minority Professional Leadership Development program, Class I, where she worked with fellows nationally to create transformational leadership opportunities, with an emphasis on disproportionality in child welfare.

Ms. Ludwig serves as the Vice President on the Board of Directors of A Different Path, a non-profit organization, providing a variety of community based services in the Sacramento region.



BELINDA LYONS-NEWMAN MBA

belinda@lyonsnewman.com

Belinda Lyons-Newman is the principal and founder of Lyons-Newman Consulting, a social impact consulting firm specializing in comprehensive strategic planning and organizational development services for nonprofits, foundations, and public agencies.

Prior to Lyons-Newman Consulting, Belinda served for ten years as Executive Director of the Mental Health Association of San Francisco (MHA), where she led the San Francisco campaign and served on the statewide campaign for California Proposition 63, the Mental Health Services Act (MHSA). Belinda also served for multiple terms as Commissioner and Chair of the City of Berkeley Homeless Commission, and as a member of the Chinatown Community Development Center Board of Directors. Belinda is currently an Advisory Board Member at the U.C. Berkeley Greater Good Science Center.

Belinda earned her MBA in Nonprofit Management at the U.C. Berkeley Haas School of Business, and her BA in Psychology and Women's Studies at McGill University.

Belinda cares deeply about the successful implementation of the MHSA and improving the lives of vulnerable children, adults, and families across the state. She is delighted to serve on the MHSOAC Research and Evaluation Committee.



LAYSHA OSTROW Ph.D.

laysha@livelearninc.net

Laysha Ostrow is a Founder and CEO of Live and Learn

My research focuses on the design, implementation, and outcomes of community-driven interventions that present safe and effective pathways to independence and empowerment. Central to my work is a commitment to exploring policy changes and historical developments in public health systems that cultivate active engagement by stakeholders.

In addition to my duties at Live & Learn, Inc., I am an Adjunct Professor in the School of Community and Global Health at Claremont Graduate University. I completed a Postdoctoral Research Fellowship in the Department of Psychiatry at UCSF and hold a PhD from the Johns Hopkins School of Public Health and a Master of Public Policy from the Heller School for Social Policy and Management at Brandeis University.

I have been an invited speaker at events such as the Carter Center Symposium, the Kennedy Forum on Mental Health, the U.S. Senate HELP Committee's roundtable to reauthorize the Higher Education Act, and the California Health Facilities Financing Authority. In 2016, I was the recipient of the 2016 Carol T. Mowbray Early Career Research Award from the Psychiatric Rehabilitation Association.

As someone who personally experienced mental health systems that are ineffective at promoting recovery and community inclusion, I am passionate about improving others' experiences and outcomes through research that advances the use of evidence in real-world settings.



MARI RADZIK Ph.D.

mradzik@chla.usc.edu

Mari Radzik is Assistant Professor of Clinical Pediatrics, USC Keck School of Medicine, and licensed Clinical Psychologist with the Division of Adolescent and Young Adult Medicine (DAYAM), and the General Pediatric Department/UCEDD at Children's Hospital Los Angeles. Dr. Radzik has a deep breath of adolescent and young adult experience having worked in the DAYAM since 1991. Her area of interests include adolescent and young adult health care especially obesity and weight management, the use of evidenced based practices such as Motivational Interviewing and Seeking Safety, autism spectrum issues, community mental health, mood and eating disorders, social and school issues, racial and ethnic disparities, gender and sexuality concerns, transition issues, health psychology and chronic illnesses. She coordinates the training of Motivational Interviewing and of the EBP model, Seeking Safety.

She provides mental health services to youth and young adults, her teaching/consultation activities include individual and group supervision of APA Psychology Interns and Fellows as well as the DAYAM Medical Fellows. She does educational trainings to the DAYAM, CHLA and to the larger community. She is Program Area Leader the Behavioral Health Program and helps coordinate mental health consultation/linkage to the many CHLA programs.



RUTH S. SHIM M.D., M.P.H.

rshim@ucdavis.edu

Ruth Shim is holder of the Luke & Grace Kim Professorship in Cultural Psychiatry in the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences at the University of California, Davis School of Medicine. She is Professor of Clinical Psychiatry, Director of Cultural Psychiatry, and Chair of the Vice Chancellor's Advisory Committee on Faculty Excellence in Diversity at UC Davis Health.

Dr. Shim received an MPH in health policy from Rollins School of Public Health at Emory University and an MD from Emory University School of Medicine. She is a member of the Board of Trustees of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and the American Association for Community Psychiatry.

She serves on the Editorial Boards of Psychiatric Services, Community Mental Health Journal, and American Psychiatric Publishing, and is co-editor of the book, *The Social Determinants of Mental Health*, and the upcoming book, *Social (In)Justice and Mental Health*, to be published in early 2021. She is a 2018-2019 Fellow of the Executive Leadership in Academic Medicine (ELAM) Program, and an at-large member of the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine Forum on Mental Health and Substance Use Disorders. Dr. Shim's research focuses on mental health disparities and inequities, and she provides clinical psychiatric care in the UC Davis Early Diagnosis and Preventative Treatment (EDAPT) Clinic.



LONNIE R. SNOWDEN, JR. Ph.D.

snowden@berkeley.edu

Lonnie R. Snowden is Professor of the Graduate School in the Health Policy and Management Program, School of Public Health, University of California at Berkeley. Snowden holds appointments in the UC Berkeley-UCSF Joint Medical Program and the UC Berkeley Othering and Belonging Institute, and in Berkeley's Psychology Department; he previously held appointments in the Brown School, Washington University, St. Louis, and at RAND. Snowden's research focuses on mental health and other health services disparities in access and quality of care, approaching these disparities from treatment systems and mental health policy perspectives. Snowden has published nearly 200 peer-reviewed papers and book chapters including 3 on Full Services Partnerships from California's Mental Health Services Act. Snowden has received 6 research grants from the National Institute of Mental Health as well as receiving research grants from other sources including the California Program

on Access to Care and the California Health Care Foundation. Snowden's awards for outstanding achievement include The American Psychological Association's Award for Distinguished Contributions to Research in Public Policy, Division 27 of the American Psychological Association's Award for Distinguished Contributions to Theory and Research in Community Psychology, The Surgeon General's Exemplary Service Award, the American Public Health Association's Steve Banks Mentoring Award, and the Berkeley Citation.



KATHERINE WATKINS M.D., M.S.H.S.

kwatkins@rand.org

Katherine Watkins is a senior physician policy researcher at RAND Corporation and a board-certified practicing psychiatrist. She uniquely combines a research background in substance abuse and mental health treatment services with a clinical background in treatment for substance use and co-occurring disorders, and she has focused on training substance abuse providers to deliver evidence-based mental health services to individuals with drug and alcohol problems. Watkins received her M.D. from the University of Pennsylvania and was a Robert Wood Johnson Clinical Scholar at the University of California, Los Angeles, where she obtained her master's degree in health services.