



Alcohol Policy 20 Presenter Biographies

Sally Ancheta, BA, East Hawai'i Drug-Free Coalition

Sally Ancheta, holds a BA from the University of Hawai'i at Hilo and has lived in East Hawai'i for over 35 years. She has been active in leading efforts to reduce addiction and substance misuse for 20 years on Hawai'i island. She brings a wealth of experience in tobacco prevention, and helped raise the sale of tobacco/vape products under the age of 21. In March 2022, she moved from being a member of the East Hawai'i Drug-Free Coalition to leading efforts as the coordinator.

Allison Antoine, MPH, CHES, Wisconsin Cancer Collaborative

Allison Antoine (she/her) is the Outreach Program Manager for the Wisconsin Cancer Collaborative. She leads the outreach strategy for the WCC as they work with their 200+ member organizations to implement the Wisconsin Cancer Plan. Allison is also a Past Chair of the National Association of Chronic Disease Directors' Cancer Council, a council of 450+ members across all CDC funded cancer program. Allison earned her master's in public health from the Medical College of Wisconsin and has been a certified health education specialist (CHES) since 2011. Allison is thrilled to participate and attend the 2024 Alcohol Policy Conference.

Cruz Avila, MA , Alcohol Justice

Cruz Avila was most recently CEO at Poverello House in Fresno, California for 6 years. There he managed a \$3 million-dollar budget, 37 employees, Naomi's House, The Men's Resident Rehabilitation program and a temporary overnight shelter for men and women. Cruz also collaborated with other agencies to provide clients with access to mental health counseling and housing. Cruz's professional experience has focused on organizational management in non-profits, community and economic development and social services. Previous to Poverello House, Cruz was a Manager of Residential Services for Housing with Heart, a non-profit organization that is the social service unit of Jamboree Housing that develops and constructs affordable housing across the state. He also worked in Riverside County Office of Education as a Resource Manager and Counselor. He has a Bachelor of Science Degree in Human Services and a Master of Arts degree in Organizational Leadership. He is working towards completing his Master of Arts in Counseling for completion of his Marriage and Family Therapy License (MFT).



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Steve Baker, Candle Media

As Vice President of Development for Candle Media, Steve currently has projects in production with Vice TV and The CW. In the summer of 2022, Steve was part of the producing team that helped re-imagine the way congressional hearings are told, working with the Select Committee to Investigate the January 6th Attack on the US Capitol. In his long tenure at ABC News, Steven produced for 20/20, various primetime specials and most notably ABC News' Nightline, becoming the show's executive producer in 2017. Over the years, Steve has received multiple journalism awards including the DuPont, the Emmy, the Murrow, the Overseas Press Club Award and a GLAAD award. Steve is passionate about changing the narrative around alcohol after losing a family member to alcoholism and becoming sober himself.

Haven Battles, PhD, New York State Department of Health

Haven Battles is the Assistant Director of the Bureau of Chronic Disease Evaluation and Research within the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) and oversees NY's Alcohol Surveillance and Epidemiology Program. She has been with the NYSDOH for 23 years, and has led surveillance, evaluation and research projects related to tobacco, alcohol, chronic disease and HIV/AIDS, with a focus on evaluating public health laws and policies. Dr. Battles earned her doctorate in applied social psychology from The George Washington University and completed post-doctoral work at the National Cancer Institute.

Carson Benowitz-Fredericks, MSPH, Alcohol Justice

Carson Benowitz-Fredericks serves as Research Director at Alcohol Justice. A native Californian, he studied creative writing at University of California Santa Barbara, then productive writing at Johns Hopkins School of Public Health. Besides Alcohol Justice, he has worked at University of California, San Francisco, the Haight-Ashbury Free Medical Clinic, and the Public Health Institute. In a previous life, he edited Scholastic Book Fair books, and met Clifford, whom he found somewhat haughty and distant.

Sarah Blanch, BA, Institute for Public Strategies

For 6 years, Sarah led IPS' LA County AOD programs. She has extensive experience with upstream, policy-oriented campaigns intended to shift systems that lead to health disparities. She was an original member of the California Alcohol Policy Alliance and served as Chair of the Los Angeles Drug and Alcohol Policy Alliance for two years. She has led or participated in multiple coalitions that advance evidence-based policies intended to reduce health disparities and AOD-related harms at the community level, through an equity lens. In 2018, she was Named 'Prevention Provider of the Year' by the California Alcohol Policy Alliance.



Felice Borisy-Rudin, JD, PhD, Medical College of Wisconsin

Dr. Borisy-Rudin is the Policy Analyst for the Wisconsin Alcohol Policy Project (WisAPP) in the Comprehensive Injury Center at MCW and an Assistant Professor in the Department of Pharmacology and Toxicology. She holds a JD from the UW-Madison Law School and PhD in Neuroscience from the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine. She has worked as a civil practice attorney, municipal prosecutor and municipal judge, and also served as a village trustee for 11 years. Her research focuses on the legal epidemiology of how municipal alcohol policies and practices contribute to Wisconsin's alcohol environment and its adverse health consequences, and the use of policy to prevent excessive alcohol consumption.

Linda Bosma, PhD, Bosma Consulting, LLC

Linda M. Bosma, PhD is president of Bosma Consulting, an evaluation practice she founded in 2004, specializing in evaluation for alcohol regulatory agencies, government agencies, universities, non-profits, and foundations, including examinations of Place of Last Drink, alcohol enforcement capacity, health equity, leadership development, social network analysis, and coalitions, and studies at the University of Minnesota (including the organizing components of Project Northland, Changing Alcohol Policy at Events, Communities Mobilizing for Change on Alcohol, malt liquor).

Victoria Buelow, MA , Oregon Health Authority Public Health Division

Victoria Buelow is the Senior Alcohol Research Analyst at the Oregon Health Authority (OHA). She connects alcohol-related data from a variety of surveillance systems to mass-reach media communications, state-wide policy work and local programmatic needs. She has an MA in Demography from Bowling Green State University and a BA in Sociology from Western Washington University.

Maureen Busalacchi, BA, BS, Wisconsin Alcohol Policy Project at Medical College of Wisconsin

Maureen Busalacchi has been a leader on public health policy issues and serves as Director of the Wisconsin Alcohol Policy Project and is co-chair of Wisconsin Public Health Association Policy and Advocacy Committee. Maureen's work includes changing systems and policies to improve health, advocating for prevention funding, lead efforts for the smoke-free air law and raising tobacco taxes. She served Chair of the ad hoc Workgroup on Alcohol Prevention for the State Council on Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse to develop evidence-based recommendations to reduce excessive alcohol use. She lives in Madison, WI.



Ginny Chadwick, MPH, MA , Brandeis University

Ginny Chadwick, MPH, MA is a Social Policy PhD student at Brandeis University on an NIAAA T32 training grant. She is a member of the Tobacco Research and Treatment Center at MGH/Harvard University. Chadwick is a coauthor of Tobacco Control Enforcement for Racial Equity, a white paper with 45 organizational endorsements. Her research includes age of sale, penalty structures, decriminalization of purchase, use and possession, and preemption of local tobacco control laws. She has worked across the nation at a local, state, and federal level to help build coalitions, identify legislative champions, and successfully pass policy.

Fisher Charlton, MPH, North Carolina Injury and Violence Prevention Branch

Fisher Charlton, MPH, is an alcohol epidemiologist with the Injury and Violence Prevention Branch at the NC Division of Public Health where she helps build state capacity in alcohol epidemiology. She graduated from UNC Gillings School of Global Public Health with her MPH in 2022.

Carrie Christofes, BA, National Liquor Law Enforcement Association

Carrie A. Christofes started her professional career in law enforcement having transitioned into prevention, coalition and grants management work. She has over 15 years of experience in the development, direction, and management of substance use disorder prevention programming at the local level as well as managing grants at the state and federal levels. Carrie has been the Executive Director of the National Liquor Law Enforcement Association (NLLEA) since 2019. The NLLEA is a non-profit association of law enforcement personnel dedicated to the enforcement of liquor laws and regulations.

Eric Collins, BA, Institute for Public Strategies

Eric Collins has worked in the communications, nonprofit and government sectors for three decades. He is a Vice President with the Institute for Public Strategies, a non-profit focused on drug and alcohol prevention on a dozen projects in three large Southern California counties. He is responsible for developing and managing senior-level relationships with a wide range of stakeholders including elected officials, municipal and county government agencies, law enforcement, community-based organizations, advocacy groups, school administrators, business and community leaders in an effort to implement comprehensive systems reform with an emphasis on media advocacy, strategic planning, policy development and community organizing.



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Rick Collins, Hawai'i Alcohol Policy Alliance

Rick has over 10 years in substance use policy, provides training and coaching to communities working to solve alcohol and drug problems. His experience includes building new community coalitions and implementing community-level policy strategies to reduce the harms of substance use. Rick holds an MS in Counseling Psychology and is a Certified Prevention Specialist. Rick enjoys cycling, playing disc golf, and surfing. He has two boys and does home exchanges throughout the country.

Raia Contractor, MPH, Maryland Department of Health - Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Control

Raia Contractor is the Evaluation Lead at the Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Control at the Maryland Department of Health. Prior to working at the Center, Raia led evaluation efforts for the CDC Foundation's opioid overdose emergency response program and worked as a Grants and Data Manager at the Baltimore City Health Department. Raia holds a Master of Public Health from Johns Hopkins University, where she concentrated in food systems and spatial analysis. Outside of work, Raia enjoys hiking and gardening.

Hannah Cordeiro, BSPH

Hannah Cordeiro (she/her) is the prevention specialist for San Diego County's Binge and Underage Drinking Initiative at the Institute for Public Strategies and coordinator for the Young Advocates program within the county. She graduated from UC San Diego in 2023 with a Bachelor of Science in public health. In her undergrad, she was a member of the International Health Collective, a student organization and nonprofit, where she helped create a harm reduction project that educated students on harm reduction, and initiated a syringe service program in San Diego County.

Amanda Cue, MPH, Oregon Health Authority

Amanda Cue is a Policy Specialist and Policy Team Lead with the Oregon Health Authority Public Health Division. In this capacity, she provides leadership and strategic coordination to address chronic disease risk factors including excessive alcohol use, tobacco use and physical activity and nutrition. She has over 20 years of experience advancing a variety of public health tobacco and excessive-alcohol policy initiatives in non-profits, youth and community coalitions, training institutes and state government to improve community health. Amanda has a BA in Biology from Macalester College and MPH in Community Health from San Francisco State University.



Kedar Dange, MPH, National Alcohol Beverage Control Association (NABCA)

Kedar Dange is a public policy analyst with the National Alcohol Beverage Control Association (NABCA). He maintains NABCA's policy webpages, its collection of alcohol research, and oversees the NABCA Education Awards program, which disburses over \$500,000 in funds to state regulatory agencies to support alcohol education and awareness programs, data collection and law enforcement training, capacity building and community collaboration, and more programs to address pressing alcohol-related challenges in NABCA member states. Kedar has a Master's degree in Public Health from the University of Virginia and currently lives in Arlington, VA.

Kris DeAngelo, LLM, Michigan State University

Kris DeAngelo is Associate Director of the Institute for Food Laws and Regulations and a private practice attorney with 20 years of experience. DeAngelo leads a "Community of Practice" for MSU educators who test and introduce new interactive technology to online and hybrid courses. DeAngelo also represents IFLR by speaking at various international food law forums. Ms. DeAngelo holds an LLM in Global Food Law from Michigan State University. She also earned a Bachelors of Science in Chemistry from Michigan State University, a Masters of Arts in Educational Technology from the University of Michigan, and a law degree, magna cum laude, from Michigan State University. She has also earned the IFLR certificate in International Food Law.

Eileen Delehanty, MPH, University of Minnesota

Eileen Delehanty, MPH is an Epidemiology PhD student at the University of Minnesota. Her research focuses on the evaluation of policies to reduce substance use and abuse. She holds an MPH in Community Health Promotion from the University of Minnesota School of Public Health.

Jassie Dhillon, MPH, Vital Strategies

Jassie Dhillon is a Program Manager for the RESET Alcohol initiative at Vital Strategies. Prior to joining Vital Strategies, Jassie worked at Child Health and Mortality Prevention Surveillance (CHAMPS), where she supported the network in sharing cause-of-death data on child mortality in Africa and South Asia. Jassie has previous experience working with multistakeholder coalitions on tobacco taxation and HPV vaccination in Africa, South Asia, and Latin America at the American Cancer Society. She continued to build on her health tax knowledge while completing her Master of Public Health at Georgia State University, where she focused on sugar-sweetened beverage tax policies.



Charmaine Dimaculangan, MPH, Vital Strategies

Charmaine Dimaculangan is a Program Officer for the RESET Alcohol initiative of Vital Strategies. She finished her Master of Public Health degree at New York University with a focus on Global Health. As a global public health professional, she hopes to explore global health interventions and strategies tackling risk factors, non-communicable diseases, and commercial determinants of health from a policy-making lens and a multi-sectoral approach to problem solving. Having been born and raised in the Philippines, she has witnessed the health challenges faced in LMICs and aims to work towards improving health outcomes in these low-resource communities.

Mike Dolan Fliss, PhD, MPS, MSW, UNC Injury Prevention Research Center

Mike Dolan Fliss is a public health epidemiologist and data scientist, dually affiliated with the UNC Injury Prevention Research Center and the NC Division of Public Health to help bring research to practice. His current projects include opioid overdose (build the state's dashboard), the tobacco / alcohol retail environment, child maltreatment, industrial animal farms, racial disparities in policing, and public health informatics. He has a PhD in Epidemiology (2019) and master's degrees in social work (2009) and public health informatics (2018). He teaches a course on R for Public Health Epidemiology at UNC with content publicly available online.

Michelle Dougherty, MPH, University of Pittsburgh, Department of Behavioral and Community Health Sciences

Michelle Dougherty, MPH, is a PhD candidate in the Department of Behavioral and Community Health Sciences at the University of Pittsburgh School of Public Health who aims to use community-engaged, mixed methods research to address social and structural determinants of alcohol-related inequities. For her dissertation, she is using a combination of spatial analysis and participatory qualitative methods to examine housing eviction as a potential driver of alcohol-related harms.

Jacqui Drope, MPH, Vital Strategies

Jacqui Drope is Director of the RESET Alcohol initiative at Vital Strategies that aims to reduce alcohol harms through alcohol policy for health, social, and economic gains. Jacqui has over 20 years of experience working with global partners to develop and implement strategic, actionable, and impactful public health policies and programs. Her focus has been on country-led, evidence-based interventions to prevent non-communicable diseases with a particular emphasis on tobacco control, HPV vaccination, nutrition, physical activity, and cancer screening.



Danielle Ellston, NH Liquor Commission- Division of Enforcement

Deputy Chief Ellston is responsible for developing and implementing law enforcement and licensure plans and programs, recommending revisions in policies and procedures to the Director of Enforcement, efficiently managing the operational costs and growth of the Division, and more. After completing her undergraduate degree in Criminal Justice at Endicott College, Ellston was hired by NHLC's Division of Enforcement and Licensing as a Liquor Investigator in 2008. In 2009, she attended the 148th session of the New Hampshire Police Standards and Training Council and received the New Hampshire Law Officer of the Year award in 2010. Ellston was promoted from Liquor Investigator to Sergeant in 2018, before she was named Lieutenant in 2019.

Darin Erickson, PhD, University of Minnesota

Darin J. Erickson, PhD, is a Professor in the Division of Epidemiology and Community Health at the University of Minnesota. Dr. Erickson has 20+ years of experience conducting research on substance use policy and has served as the PI/Co-PI on over 50 funded projects. He teaches a PhD-level methodology course and has served as the methodologist on numerous projects.

Marissa Esser, PhD, MPH, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Dr. Marissa Esser is the Lead of the Alcohol Program at the CDC. She oversees projects on the surveillance of excessive alcohol use and its impact on states and communities and applied alcohol epidemiology studies. Her team also works to strengthen communications about excessive alcohol use and prevention and to develop resources that translate research on effective population-level alcohol strategies into practice. She participates on several interagency working groups to advance efforts to reduce alcohol-related harm. Dr. Esser holds a PhD from the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health and an MPH from Emory University.

Elizabeth Farkouh, BS, Canadian Institute for Substance Use Research

Elizabeth Farkouh is a researcher at the Canadian Institute for Substance Use Research and a medical student at the Mayo Clinic Alix School of Medicine. She is also a Master of Science candidate at Arizona State University's College of Health Solutions. She received her Bachelor of Science with High Distinction from Cornell University in 2021. Elizabeth has contributed to The Canadian Alcohol Policy Evaluation, a review on the prevention of alcohol-related suicide, as well as contributing to the World Health Organization's Global Information System on Alcohol and Health.



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James Fell, M.S., NORC at the University of Chicago

James Fell has been a Principal Research Scientist with NORC at the University of Chicago in the Bethesda, Maryland office since 2016. His areas of research include traffic safety behavioral programs, alcohol and drug impaired driving, underage drinking and cannabis use, alcohol and cannabis policies. Mr. Fell is currently President of the International Council on Alcohol, Drugs, and Traffic Safety (ICADTS).

Hannah Fillingim, J.D., Pacific Institute of Research and Evaluation

Hannah Fillingim is a research associate at PIRE with expertise in cannabis and alcohol policy. She holds a JD from Temple University, where she had the opportunity to serve as a legal intern in the areas of family law, public criminal defense, and LGBTQ+ civil rights. Much of her elective research in her JD program examined topics related to cannabis policy, and she held a corporate social responsibility role in the cannabis industry during her last year of law school. She also has four years of experience working in youth behavioral health. She holds a BA in studio art from Guilford College.

Simone Finch, MFA

Simone Finch is a Los Angeles-based TV writer. A native of Boston, Simone received her BA in Theatre from McGill University. After graduation, she moved to Los Angeles and performed as a drunk stand-up comic and worked for various industry types until she got her free MFA in drama working for Barbara Hall on Madam Secretary, and her free MFA in comedy working for Bruce Helford on Roseanne and The Conners. Recently, Simone served as the sober creator and executive producer on Freeform's Single Drunk Female. She lives in North Hollywood with her codependent dog, Leela.

Joseph Flies-Away, JD

Flies-Away calls himself a community nation building facilitator for Tribal, State and Federal governments. Flies-Away has served in both branches of Hualapai government as legislator judge, Chair of the Tribal Corp and has taught Jr. High to the University, including Lecturer in Law at Stanford School of Law, Adjunct Faculty at Arizona Summit Law School, and in undergrad courses at Stanford, Arizona State UCLA. Flies-Away sat on the NIAAA Council from 2012-2016. Flies-Away holds a J.D. from the Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law, a MPA from Harvard and is a graduate of Stanford in English Literature.



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Katrina Forrest, JD, CityHealth

Katrina Forrest serves as the Co-Executive Director of the CityHealth initiative, working to help cities thrive through a set of proven, equity-centered policies that improve people's day-to-day quality of life, well-being, and health. Before joining CityHealth, Katrina served as both Deputy Chief of Staff and Legislative Director for At-Large D.C. Councilmember David Grosso. In that role, she co-managed a team of 10 and drafted more than 50 pieces of original legislation. She was responsible for leveraging community and Council relationships to drive the Councilmember's legislative agenda and policy priorities, as well as representing the Councilmember before government agencies, community partners, advocates, and other key stakeholders. Katrina earned her bachelor's degree in administration of justice from George Mason University and her law degree from the University of Illinois-Chicago John Marshall Law School.

Kate Frey, BA, New Futures

Kate serves as Vice President of Advocacy of the organization and has the primary responsibility of directing and managing New Futures' alcohol and other drug policy initiatives. Also in her role as Vice President of Advocacy, Kate analyzes state budget policies related to the revenues raised from the sale of alcohol in the state in order to ensure adequate and appropriate funding for substance misuse programs and services and works with policymakers and stakeholders to influence spending priorities for prevention, treatment and recovery. Kate also tracks, analyzes, and synthesizes policy, legislative proposals, best practices, and research related to alcohol and other drug policy issues.

Rebecca Garza, MS, Oregon Health Authority Public Health Division

Rebecca Garza is a Health Promotion Strategist at the Oregon Health Authority where she supports strategic communications and mobilization initiatives and is the lead for the Rethink the Drink brand. She has previously worked in local public agencies, community coalitions, and statewide advocacy initiatives that aim to create environments where everyone has opportunity to live healthy and thrive. Rebecca earned a Master of Science in Medical Anthropology and Cross-Cultural Practice at Boston University School of Medicine.

Elizabeth Gerndt, MPH, Counter Tools

Elizabeth Gerndt is a Project Director for Counter Tools, a nonprofit dedicated to advancing place-based public health. In her role as Project Director, Elizabeth supports partners across the country in enacting and enforcing policy, systems, and environmental interventions that promote health equity. Elizabeth has a bachelor's degree from Clemson University and a Master's in Public Health from Emory University. She is based in Cary, North Carolina.



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Meredith Gibson, MPP, Institute for Public Strategies

Meredith Gibson is the Media/GIS director at the Institute for Public Strategies (IPS), a non-profit organization that works alongside communities to promote healthy and safe neighborhoods. She advances equitable public policy through media advocacy and geographic information systems (GIS). She leads the development of IPS' policy mapping lab to provide applied GIS technical assistance and training to other organizations. She leads a multi-agency initiative in delivering harm reduction resources through the San Diego County Opioid Prevention, Safe Disposal, and Treatment Resource Map. Meredith is also an adjunct professor at Hudson County Community College, Division of Nursing and Health Sciences.

Norman Giesbrecht, PhD, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health

Norman Giesbrecht, PhD, is an Emeritus Scientist, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health, Toronto; and an Adjunct Professor, Dalla Lana School of Public Health, University of Toronto. Recent research has focused on alcohol and suicide, health warning labels on alcohol containers, and effective policies to reduce alcohol-related harm.

Tyler Glaze, JD BA, Oregon Liquor and Cannabis Commission (OLCC)

Tyler Glaze serves as an Alcohol Policy Analyst with the Oregon Liquor and Cannabis Commission, where he acts as an Alcohol law and policy subject matter expert. He assists the Agency's Executive Director with drafting legislation, administrative rules, and providing policy guidance. He also works extensively alongside the Agency's Government Relations Director where he engages in legislative and stakeholder outreach, including testifying before the Oregon legislature. Prior to the OLCC, he served as a Policy Analyst with the Oregon Building Codes Division, acting as the Agency's liaison on Governor-appointed trade boards.

Kari Gloppen, PhD, MPH, Minnesota Department of Health

Kari Gloppen is an epidemiologist supervisor in the Injury and Violence Prevention Section at the Minnesota Department of Health. Her primary areas of focus are understanding the epidemiology of substance use, particularly excessive alcohol use in Minnesota and the range of health and social consequences it can have, including injury, violence, and chronic disease. Kari is also the co-PI of a grant to build the state's capacity for surveillance and prevention of ACEs and related factors. She has an MPH in Health Behavior and Health Education from the University of North Carolina in Chapel Hill, and a PhD in social welfare from the University of Washington.



Naomi Greene, PhD, MPH, CPH, National Cancer Institute, National Institutes of Health

Dr. Naomi K. Greene is a Cancer Prevention Fellow at the National Cancer Institute where she leads and collaborates on projects examining alcohol as a target for cancer prevention across multiple domains including epidemiology, health communication, and public policy. Dr. Greene worked as an epidemiologist for the New Mexico Department of Health before returning to school for her doctorate in public health focused on social and behavioral sciences at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health. Her doctoral research examined how alcohol policies and nondiscrimination laws contribute to binge drinking disparities among sexual minority adults in the United States.

Thomas Gremillion, JD, Consumer Federation of America

Thomas Gremillion is the Director of Food Policy at the Consumer Federation of America, where he advocates for policies to protect consumers from foodborne illness, transparency in food labeling, and other federal food policy issues. Prior to joining CFA in 2015, Gremillion practiced environmental law with Georgetown University Law Center's Institute for Public Representation and at the Southern Environmental Law Center in Chapel Hill, NC.

Sean Haley, PhD, MPH, City University of New York's Graduate School of Public Health and Health Policy

Dr. Haley explores implementation and policy factors associated with substance use disorder prevention and treatment access. Dr. Haley completed his post doctorate training as a Policy Research Scientist at the Treatment Research Institute in Philadelphia and served as the Senior Research Analyst for the National Association of State Alcohol and Drug Abuse Directors before joining the faculty of the CUNY Graduate School of Public Health in 2010. He has served in various chair capacities for the Alcohol, Tobacco, and Other Drug Section of the American Public Health Association, and in June of 2020 he co-founded the national Alcohol Action Network.

Marissa Hall, PhD, Department of Health Behavior at the Gillings School of Global Public Health

Dr. Hall is an assistant professor in the Department of Health Behavior at the Gillings School of Global Public Health at the University of North Carolina. Her research uses experimental, qualitative, and meta-analytic methods to inform tobacco, food, and alcohol policies. Through her K01 award from the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute, Dr. Hall is studying food labeling among Latinx populations, with a focus on populations with limited English proficiency. She along with Dr. Anna Grummon recently received an R01 from NIAAA to design and evaluate evidence-based alcohol warning labels.



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Gabriel Hill, BA, Institute for Public Strategies

Gabriel Hill is a Prevention Specialist for the Institute for Public Strategies, where he focuses on alcohol and other drug prevention in the West Los Angeles area and leads three of our organization's community coalitions. He attended school at the American InterContinental University in Atlanta, Georgia and the University of California Los Angeles (UCLA), where he earned a Bachelor's degree in Mass Media Communications. Gabriel has dedicated his career to non-profit work and serving on the city council in his residential neighborhood. Gabriel's experiences have been extremely rewarding and granted him a profound respect for unity, positivity, and community.

Nicole Holt, B.A. , Texans for Safe and Drug-Free Youth

Nicole Holt is CEO of Texans for Safe and Drug-Free Youth. During Nicole's tenure, TxSDY greatly expanded its capacity to help coalitions advocate for policy change. Nicole began her career with the National Wildlife Federation, where at 24 she built a national program for faith-based college students to address environmental issues, including an annual lobby day in D.C. - the first of its kind. The first in her family to graduate from college and a 6th generation Texan, Nicole is a founding member and former Chair of the U.S. Alcohol Policy Alliance.

Josh Horwitz, J.D., Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health

Joshua Horwitz, J.D. is the Dana Feitler Professor of the Practice in Gun Violence Prevention and Advocacy at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health and the Co-Director of the Johns Hopkins Center for Gun Violence Solutions. Professor Horwitz is a key leader in firearm policy development and education, working to reduce gun violence by utilizing public health research and health equity analysis to build advocacy campaigns that meet critical opportunities in the policy development process. He received his B.A. from the University of Michigan in 1985 and his J.D. from The George Washington University in 1988.

Neal Insley, J.D., National Alcohol Beverage Control Association

J. Neal Insley, President and CEO of the National Alcohol Beverage Control Association. Mr. Insley has worked in the area of beverage alcohol law, legislation and/or policy at the state, national and international level. In the private practice of law, Mr. Insley focused on hospitality and beverage alcohol law and policy, government affairs, administrative law and regulatory/policy issues. He also served as the Chairman of the Virginia Alcoholic Beverage Control Board (Va. ABC) and as Chairman of the National Alcohol Beverage Control Association (NABCA). Mr. Insley began his career in law enforcement and held the position of Special Agent with the Va. ABC while attending law school part-time at nights and



weekends. Within the beverage alcohol industry, Mr. Insley has served as a regulator, attorney, administrative law judge, and business leader.

David Jernigan, PhD, Boston University School of Public Health

David Jernigan, PhD, is a professor in the Department of Health Law, Policy and Management and Assistant Dean for Practice at the Boston University School of Public Health. He has written and worked on alcohol policy for more than 30 years, at local, state, national and global levels. He has written more than 150 peer-reviewed journal articles and contributed chapters to seven books on alcohol issues, as well as two chapters on cannabis policy. He has also authored or co-authored pioneering works on alcohol, young people and health worldwide and in less-resourced countries, and on cannabis policy and public health.

Debbie Jessup, PhD

As President and Founder of Sage Femme Strategies since 2022, Debbie has 40 years experience in nursing, midwifery, women's health, and health policy. As Health Policy Advisor to Congresswoman Roybal-Allard (CA-40) for 18 years, Debbie supported the Congresswoman's appropriations work, helped her found and chair the Public Health Caucus, and develop a robust health legislative agenda, including the STOP Underage Drinking Act (passed 2006, reauthorized 2016 and 2022) and the 113th Congress Health Equity and Accountability Act. Debbie is a Fellow of the American College of Nurse Midwives, and completed a PhD in Nursing at George Mason University in 2012.

Maria Julian, MPA, CounterTools

Maria Julian is the executive director of Counter Tools, a nonprofit organization that works to advance place-based public health. From startups to local governments in the U.S. and abroad, Maria has led teams through the implementation of behavior change strategies to improve health outcomes. Prior to joining Counter Tools, Maria led a 20-member team in the implementation and evaluation of public health policy, systems and environmental programs at a rural district health department. Maria earned her Master of Public Administration from Middlebury Institute of International Studies at Monterey. She served as a Peace Corps volunteer in Moldova from 2011-2012.

Rana Kang, JD, Synergy Enterprises

Rana Kang is a public health attorney with expertise in the regulation of alcohol, cannabis, and other substances. She collaborates with social scientists, website developers, and government agencies to develop cross-jurisdictional data sets that measure the effect of legal policy over time. Ms. Kang currently serves as deputy project director and lead research attorney on the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism's Alcohol Policy Information System contract. Ms. Kang has also performed legal research and

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analyses for the Secretary of Health and Human Services, Report to Congress on Preventing Underage Drinking, Sober Truth on Preventing Underage Drinking Act (STOP Act) contract.

Lydia Kener, BSPH, Georgetown University

Lydia Kener is currently pursuing a MS in Addiction Policy and Practice at Georgetown University. She received her BS in Public Health with an emphasis in Health Promotion at Brigham Young University in April 2023. Lydia worked as a case manager at a non-profit intensive outpatient treatment center for almost 3 years. While there, she used cognitive behavior therapy and motivational interviewing when meeting with clients to discuss their life and recovery goals.

William Kerr, PhD, Alcohol Research Group, Public Health Institute

William C. Kerr, PhD, is Scientific Director of the Alcohol Research Group (ARG) at the Public Health Institute, Director of ARG's NIAAA National Alcohol Research Center on the epidemiology of alcohol problems and Training Director of the UC Berkeley-ARG NIAAA T32 pre- and postdoctoral training program. His research has focused on alcohol use and problem measurement, risks of alcohol-related health and social problems and alcohol policy. He has over 150 peer-reviewed publications.

Bradley Knight, MPH, Maryland Department of Health

Bradley Knight is an epidemiologist with three years of experience working alongside the data and evaluation team within the Maryland Department of Health. Brad's experience at the Maryland Department of Health is heavily focused on managing and analyzing the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System data for the state of Maryland. Bradley graduated from the University of Maryland School of Public Health in 2019 with his Masters in Public Health. While in school he was elected as a member of the honorary public health society, the Delta Omega Society, for his performance during the program.

Keegan Lawrence, BBA, MA, Canadian Institute for Substance Use Research

Keegan is a Research Associate at the Canadian Institute for Substance Use Research (CISUR). He holds an undergraduate degree in economics from Thompson Rivers University and is finalizing a graduate degree in economics at the University of Victoria. For his graduate thesis, Keegan is exploring the application of machine learning prediction analysis to improve the diagnosis of ADHD in children. Specializing in quantitative analyses, Keegan contributes to CISUR's interdisciplinary research regarding alcohol policy, advancing evidence-based research towards informing strong public health policymaking.



Kathleen Lenk, MPH, University of Minnesota

Kathleen Lenk is a Senior Research Fellow in the Division of Epidemiology and Community Health in the School of Public Health at the University of Minnesota. Her expertise is in substance use and nutrition policy research, with a focus on statistical analyses and scientific manuscript writing. Kathleen has published approximately 75 journal articles on these topics. She received her Masters in Public Health from the University of Minnesota in 1999.

Gregory Leung, Ph.D, CDC

Dr. Gregory Leung is a Health Economist with the Alcohol Program in the CDC's National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion. His research at the CDC includes studies that estimate the prevalence and costs of excessive drinking in the United States by applying various econometric techniques. He co-led the analyses for the minimum unit pricing study being presented, which will be published in the Journal of Studies on Alcohol and Drugs in early 2024. Dr. Leung holds a PhD in Economics from the University of Kansas.

Jason Linde, MA, Food Allergy Research and Education

Jason Linde is the Senior Vice President of Advocacy for FARE (Food Allergy Research and Education) where he leads a team dedicated to improving the quality of life for the more than 33 million Americans with potentially life-threatening food allergies. At FARE, Jason led the legislative effort to pass the FASTER Act into law, which made sesame the ninth allergen required to be labeled under FALCPA. In addition, he has helped pass 14 state and local bills into law. Previously, Jason served as a Chief of Staff or Senior Advisor to three members of Congress.

Christina Mair, PhD, MPH, Department of Behavioral and Community Health Sciences, University of Pittsburgh School of Public Health

Dr. Christina Mair is an Associate Professor and Vice Chair for Research in the Department of Behavioral and Community Health Sciences at the University of Pittsburgh School of Public Health, with secondary appointments in the Clinical and Translational Sciences Institute (CTSI) and Department of Epidemiology. She serves as Director of the Center for Social Dynamics and Community Health and Associate Director of the Public Health Dynamics Lab. Her research seeks to understand structural and contextual influences on alcohol-related problems with the goal to reduce these problems in community settings.



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Cecily Mak, JD, Wisdom Ventures / ClearLife Reset / Deane LLC (Author)

Cecily Mak is a mother to two sons, writer, podcast host, co-founder of Wisdom Ventures, and the visionary behind ClearLife. ClearLife is a journey toward an undimmed life, where intention and presence flourish, unencumbered by the stigmas of addiction. Cecily's ClearLife journey, influenced by her triumph over breast cancer in 2022 and her late mother's battle with alcoholism, fuels her mission of transformation and healing. Through her work, she extends a compassionate hand to those navigating similar paths, guiding them toward a life defined by connection, clarity, and well-being.

Norman Maldonado, PhD, ICESI University Cali Colombia

As a Health Economist my research focuses on the connection between health, poverty and sustainable development. I work mainly on (i) the role of socioeconomic conditions on exposition to health risk factors, (ii) health systems, provision of healthcare and health insurance, and (iii) evaluation of health interventions for policy design and implementation. The health outcomes on which my current research focuses on non-communicable diseases, due to the close relationship they have with poverty and sustainable development. Currently, I work on implementation of effective policies on risk factors of NCDs, mainly tobacco, unhealthy diets and alcohol.

Lupita Martinez, BS, Institute for Public Strategies

Lupita Martinez is the Regional Director for the Substance Use Prevention Programs in San Bernardino County. She received her Bachelor's in Sociology at the California State University of San Bernardino. She has over a decade of experience in Environmental Substance Use Prevention. First, as a youth coalition member, she had immense involvement in developing an Alcohol-Free Quinceañera Institutional Policy in the Diocese of San Bernardino, where she first gained exposure to alcohol policy development in her community. Following her work as a Community Organizer, Prevention Specialist, Program Manager and now Regional Director, her enthusiasm for the work has only grown.

Priscilla Martinez, PhD, MPhil, Alcohol Research Group

Dr. Priscilla Martinez is a scientist and Deputy Scientific Director at the Alcohol Research Group, a program of the Public Health Institute. Her research explores relationships between alcohol and drug use, physiological functioning, and common health outcomes to understand and reduce alcohol-related racial and ethnic health disparities in the US. As

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Study Director of the National Alcohol Survey, her work also examines survey research methods. She also investigates levels of awareness of alcohol's harms in the general population, particularly awareness of the breast cancer risk from alcohol use among women, and health messaging to increase awareness of alcohol's health harms.

Cory McCray, ABA, Maryland's 45th legislative District

Cory V. McCray is the senator of Maryland's 45th Legislative District. Born and raised in Baltimore, he attended Fairmount-Harford High School in East Baltimore. By the tender age of 20, he had not only acquired his first home but has also invested in multiple rental properties, revitalizing the very neighborhoods where he had grown up. After completing a rigorous five-year apprenticeship with the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, Cory's thirst for knowledge led him to Baltimore City Community College, where he proudly earned his Associate's degree in Business Administration. During his tenure in the legislature, he has spearheaded the successful passage of over sixty bill proposals with broad subjects such as raising the minimum wage, transportation funding, protecting the environment, increasing snap benefits for families, and greater access to public libraries. He cherishes every moment with his loving wife and four children in Northeast Baltimore.

Terrance Merriweather, BS, National Alcohol Beverage Control Association (NABCA)

Terrance Merriweather serves as the Director of Public Policy for the National Alcohol Beverage Control Association (NABCA). Before arriving at NABCA, he served as the Deputy Commissioner at the North Carolina ABC Commission before retiring with 30 years of creditable service with the State on September 1, 2022. Previously, He was the Deputy Director of Policy, overseeing the Permit, Audit/Investigation, and Legal Section of the NC ABC Commission including being the law enforcement liaison. He began his law enforcement career in 1997 as a deputy sheriff with the Harnett County Sheriff's Office. He continued as a deputy sheriff with the Cumberland County Sheriff's Office. In 2003, he was hired by the North Carolina Alcohol Law Enforcement Division, and in 2017 became the Branch Head of the Division. Merriweather is a United States Army Veteran and graduate of Liberty University

Alicia Miles, MA, Oregon Health Authority Public Health Division

Alicia Miles is the Alcohol Epidemiologist at the Oregon Health Authority (OHA). She monitors and analyzes alcohol-related data from a variety of surveillance systems, working to increase knowledge and awareness of excessive alcohol use through data and partnership development. She has worked in public health for over 18 years, in a variety of roles, and has a BA and MA in Sociology from Oklahoma State University and the University of Kansas.

Michael Mumper, MBA, Georgia Alcohol Policy Alliance

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Michael Mumper is Board President of Georgia Alcohol Policy Alliance. Michael also serves as Executive Director of Georgians for Responsible Marijuana Policy, and Chair of the American Heart Association's Georgia Advocacy Steering Committee. He earned Let's Be Clear Georgia's 2020 Prevention Champion for work in marijuana prevention and policy, and was named one of two "Advocates of the Year" for CADCA in 2022. Michael earned an MBA from Emory University, and led business management teams at GE Capital, Random House and Turner Broadcasting before shifting to prevention, coalition building, and policy. He has provided training to the Cancer Patient Navigators of Georgia – part of the Georgia Center for Oncology Research and Education - on Alcohol's links to cancer, which included policy recommendations.

Tim Naimi, MD, MPH, Canadian Institute for Substance Use Research

Timothy Naimi MD, MPH is director of the Canadian Institute for Substance Use Research, and Professor in the School of Public Health and Social Policy at the University of Victoria (Canada). He received a bachelor's degree from Harvard College, an M.D. degree from the University of Massachusetts, and an M.P.H degree from Harvard School of Public Health. He completed a combined internal medicine-pediatrics residency at Massachusetts General Hospital, and the Epidemic Intelligence Service program and a preventive medicine residency at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Research interests include alcohol epidemiology and the impact of alcohol and cannabis policies.

Toben Nelson, ScD, University of Minnesota-Twin Cities

Toben Nelson is a Social Epidemiologist who works on community-based health promotion and evaluation of strategies to improve population health. He is a Professor in the Division of Epidemiology and Community Health at the University of Minnesota School of Public Health and works with the Alcohol Epidemiology Program and Minnesota Population Center. His research focus is on policy approaches to prevention of alcohol-attributable harm, injury, and violence; physical activity promotion and social determinants of health. Dr. Nelson received his ScD from the Harvard School of Public Health.

Sheila Nesbitt, BA, North Memorial - Robbinsdale Hospital

Sheila Nesbitt is the trauma outreach and prevention coordinator at North Memorial-Robbinsdale Hospital in Minnesota. In this role she plans and conducts programs to help people and communities reduce the number and severity of traumatic injuries across the lifespan. She was the founding coordinator for Minnesota's Place of Last Drink (POLD) initiative. Her career has focused on work with community coalitions and substance misuse prevention, especially related to alcohol policy. She formerly worked

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Jonathan Noel, PhD, MPH, Johnson & Wales University

Jonathan is an associate professor and director of the Master of Public Health Program at Johnson & Wales University. He is a public health researcher with experience in addiction, legal, and social epidemiology. He has been involved in numerous evaluations of alcohol policy, including marketing in traditional and new media, and alcohol availability. Jonathan received his master's (2009) and doctorate (2017) in public health from the University of Connecticut.

Jackelyn Payne, PhD, MPH, National Cancer Institute

Dr. Jackelyn Payne is a Cancer Prevention Fellow in the Behavioral Research Program within the Division of Cancer Control and Population Sciences at NCI. Her research focuses on understanding psychological and interpersonal processes that influence medical decision-making. Dr. Payne received her PhD in Social and Health Psychology from Stony Brook University in 2023 and her MPH in Behavioral Sciences and Health Education from Emory University in 2016.

Neela Persad, MPH, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Neela Persad is a Health Scientist on the CDC's Excessive Alcohol Use Prevention Team. She supports communication and surveillance efforts and is also the project officer for several funded activities. As a former Health Department Liaison, Neela coordinated technical assistance to support jurisdictions' COVID-19/mpox emergency responses and Ebola preparedness. Prior to CDC, she provided technical assistance on opioid overdose prevention and supported policy development for justice-impacted populations at the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene. She received her master's in public health from the Columbia University Mailman School of Public Health and is a South Florida native.

Lyndi Petty, MPH BS, Washington County Health and Human Services

Lyndi Petty has been working in the field of substance use prevention for the past 4 years at the local level. She currently works for Washington County Health and Human Services as an Alcohol and Drug Prevention Coordinator. Some recent examples of her work include coordinating a community grant program to increase social and emotional wellness supports for vulnerable populations and helping school districts implement Screening, Brief

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Intervention, and Referral to Treatment processes. She is passionate about reducing excessive alcohol use through public health and community-led approaches.

Camlyn Pola, East Hawai'i Drug-Free Coalition

Camlyn was born & raised in Papaikou, Hawaii and serves as Vice-Chair of the East Hawaii Drug-Free Coalition and member of the Hawaii Alcohol Policy Alliance. As a victim advocate and survivor of a horrific DUI crash, Camlyn has made it her personal mission to prevent DUIs in the community and protect youth from the harmful consequences associated with alcohol.

Julie Ralston Aoki, JD, Public Health Law Center, Mitchell-Hamline School of Law

Julie Ralston Aoki directs the Healthy Eating/Active Living team at the Public Health Law Center, which supports communities in using the power of law to advance health equity and develop policies grounded in community, data, and good law. She is a past president of the Minnesota Community Health Worker Alliance Board, a Robbinsdale Human Rights Commissioner, and parents three kids. She previously served as an Assistant Attorney General with the Minnesota Attorney General's Office.

Lynsie Ranker, PhD, MPH, Boston University School of Public Health

Lynsie Ranker (she/her) is an Assistant Professor (appointment pending) in the Department of Community Health Sciences. She is a social epidemiologist whose research focuses on contextual factors in lived and online environments and their relationships with substance use among adolescents and young adults. Lynsie was an A-TRAC career enhancement fellow with the American Heart Association during her postdoctoral training. She received both her PhD in epidemiology and her MPH from BUSPH. Prior to receiving her degree, she assisted program and policy evaluations as an epidemiologist with the Institute for Community Health (Cambridge Health Alliance).

Sarah Roberts, DrPH, University of California, San Francisco

Sarah Roberts, DrPH, is a Professor at University of California, San Francisco. She studies ways that policies and the health care system punish, rather than support, structurally vulnerable pregnant people. Dr. Roberts' current research focuses on evaluating impacts of state-level policies on infant and maternal outcomes related to pregnant people's alcohol consumption. She has more than 100-peer reviewed publications, including in JAMA, American Journal of Public Health, and Alcohol and Alcoholism.

Erika Rosen, PhD, MPH, Alcohol Research Group

Erika Rosen is a Postdoctoral Fellow and Associate Scientist with the Alcohol Research Group in Emeryville, California. Her current research uses spatial analysis methods to

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examine contextual predictors (including policy and the built environment) of socioeconomic, racial, and ethnic disparities in alcohol-related consequences. Additionally, she is interested in better understanding the role of structural racism and related social determinants of health as a driving force of disparities in alcohol use and subsequent chronic disease outcomes.

Matthew Rossheim, PhD, MPH, CPH, UNT Health Science Center

Dr. Matthew Rossheim is an Associate Professor at the UNT Health Science Center's School of Public Health. He has 15 years of experience conducting substance use research to help guide policy making decisions. He has delivered more than 100 presentations and published more than 70 peer-reviewed manuscripts. His research focuses on the types of substances young people use, and he is one of the leading experts on supersized alcopops (like Four Loko) and "derived psychoactive cannabis products" including Delta-8 THC. His research has been cited in reports by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration and World Health Organization, in U.S. city and county ordinances, and by other national governments, as well as featured in The New York Times, BBC, CBS, CNN, NBC, Washington Post, Newsweek, NPR, and Last Week Tonight with John Oliver.

McKenna Roudebush, MPH, UNC-Chapel Hill Gillings School of Global Public Health

McKenna Roudebush is a Research Project Manager in the Department of Health Behavior at the UNC-Chapel Hill Gillings School of Global Public Health. She supports research which addresses excessive alcohol use among young adults and examines the public health impact of national, state, and local alcohol policies. She holds an MPH from UNC-Chapel Hill's Gillings School of Global Public Health and a BS in Public Health from the University of California, San Diego.

Natalie Scholz, MPH, Division of Epidemiology and Community Health

Natalie Scholz, MPH is a Research Fellow in the Division of Epidemiology and Community Health at the University of Minnesota School of Public Health. She provides data management, statistical analyses and manuscript writing for the Alcohol Epidemiology Program (AEP). Prior to her work with AEP, she worked at the University of Michigan for eight years on End Stage Renal Disease research.

Alex Schulte, BA/BSPH, Advancing New Standards in Reproductive Health (ANSIRH) at the University of California, San Francisco

Alex Schulte is a data analyst with Advancing New Standards in Reproductive Health (ANSIRH) at the University of California, San Francisco and a PhD student at the University of California, Berkeley. Her current research focuses on policies related to alcohol use during pregnancy, person-centered contraceptive access, abortion mis/disinformation on



social media, and reproductive healthcare in Catholic hospitals. Alex received her BA and BSPH from UNC Chapel Hill.

Brenda Simmons, MA, Institute for Public Strategies

Since being appointed CEO in 2019, it's been my privilege to lead a first-rate team dedicated to building safe, secure, vibrant communities where everyone can thrive. My path to leadership includes a Master's Degree in Communication from San Diego State University and undergraduate work in the same subject from the University of Montana. In my experience, treating everyone with respect is inherent to bringing people together. This is the foundation of our IPS mission to "work alongside communities to build power, challenge systems of inequality, protect health, and improve quality of life."

Sarah Sorscher, Center for Science in the Public Interest

Sarah Sorscher is an experienced advocate with a passion for public health who fights for a safer, healthier, more transparent food system by promoting consumer safeguards with Congress, federal agencies, and state and local governments. As Director of Regulatory Affairs, she manages CSPI's policy work related to food safety and labeling, allergens, food additives, dietary supplements, and other consumer products. Her work includes serving on federal advisory committees, testifying before Congress and federal agencies, offering technical advice to policymakers, and providing commentary to the media on consumer and food safety issues.

Alicia Sparks, PhD, MPH, Synergy Enterprises

Alicia Sparks has more than 10 years' experience at the nexus of policy and behavioral health research—including designing, implementing, and evaluating studies, programs, and policies—with a particular focus on systems-level change to prevent alcohol misuse and related harms. She is the current project director for NIAAA's Alcohol Policy Information System as well as SAMHSA's STOP Act to Prevent Underage Drinking Report to Congress. She received her Ph.D. in Public Health from the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health and her M.P.H. from the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill.

Julia Stullken, MPH, Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment

Julia is the alcohol epidemiologist at the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment. In that capacity she monitors excessive alcohol use in Colorado as well as the population level approaches to address excessive drinking, including alcohol outlet density and policies related to the price and availability of alcohol.

Meenakshi Subbaraman, PhD, MS, Public Health Institute

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Meenakshi Subbaraman, PhD, MS is a Program Director and Biostatistician with the Behavioral Health and Recovery Studies group of the Public Health Institute. Her current research focuses on policies related to substance use during pregnancy, trajectories of cannabis use during pregnancy, recovery from substance use disorders, recovery residences, and cannabis use among individuals with substance use disorders. Dr. Subbaraman received her MS from Stanford University and PhD from UC Berkeley.

Andrew Swanson, BS, JD (May '24), Lewis & Clark Law School

Andrew was born and raised in San Diego, California. He spent his teens and twenties travelling both nationally and internationally in competitive motorsports. By his late twenties, it became clear to Andrew that alcoholism was taking over his life and he could not stop drinking. By age 33, Andrew was an IV drug user committing property crime and cycling through trap houses in downtown Los Angeles. He was on the verge of death when he was granted one last opportunity to leave the state and attend treatment at Hazelden Betty Ford in Minnesota which changed his life. Andrew served as the Program Director and then Policy and Advocacy Director for Oregon Recovers. In 2021, Andrew began a law degree at Lewis & Clark Law School with a focus on commercial litigation. Andrew will graduate in the top third of his class in May 2024 and has accepted a position with the boutique Portland law firm Sokol Larkin, which strongly supports both his recovery journey and his continued advocacy work. He continues to advocate for the recovery community in his capacity as a Board Member for Oregon Recovers.

Julie Sweetland, PhD, FrameWorks Institute

Dr. Julie Sweetland (PhD) is a sociolinguist and a senior advisor at the FrameWorks Institute, a nonprofit that equips change-makers to lead productive public conversations on scientific and social issues. Since joining FrameWorks in 2012, Dr. Sweetland has led strategic reframing initiatives on issues like health equity, education equity, and childhood adversity. Her skill in translating framing research into communication strategy helps advocates, policymakers, and researchers drive social change. Dr. Sweetland is a graduate of Georgetown University and completed her MA and PhD in linguistics at Stanford University.

Sue Thau, BS, MCRP, CADCA

Sue Thau is a Public Policy Consultant representing Community Anti-Drug Coalitions of America (CADCA). She is nationally recognized for her advocacy and legislative accomplishments on behalf of the substance abuse prevention field. She has an extensive background in public policy and has held high positions at the federal, state, and local levels. She was a Budget Examiner and Legislative Analyst at the Office of Management and Budget, in the Executive Office of the President for over ten years. Sue was a driving force behind the passage, reauthorization and full funding of the Drug-Free Communities Act. In addition,

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Sue has worked to save and enhance funding for all federal substance abuse prevention and treatment programs over the last two decades. She is highly respected as an expert on demand reduction issues by members of Congress and staff on both sides of the aisle on Capitol Hill. Sue has an undergraduate degree from Cornell University in Human Development and Family Studies and a Master's Degree from Rutgers University in City and Regional Planning.

Kayla Tillett, MPH, University of North Texas Health Science Center

Kayla Tillett is a PhD students at the UNT Health Science Center. She has published 7 peer-reviewed research manuscripts and authored a book chapter. She has served as Assistant Project Coordinator for the Tobacco-Free Mason Project, Health and Outdoor Education Coordinator for the Boys and Girls Clubs of Metro Denver, and an adjunct faculty member for George Mason University's School of Public Health.

Traci Toomey, PhD, University of Minnesota-Twin Cities

Dr. Toomey is an expert in public health policy, with a particular expertise in substance use control policies. She has served as the principal investigator or co-investigator of nearly 40 externally-funded research studies focusing on substance use (alcohol, cannabis, tobacco). Her research has been funded by the NIAAA, Department of Defense, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Cancer Institute, Insurance Institute for Highway Safety, and Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. Additionally, Dr. Toomey has 15 years of administrative leadership and is an award-winning instructor and advisor.

Liene Topko, MPH, Project Extra Mile

Liene Topko graduated with her Master of Public Health in 2017 from the University of Nebraska Medical Center and joined Project Extra Mile December 2017. As the organization's policy & research coordinator, she interacts with the community frequently in order to provide technical assistance about the liquor licensing process, monitors developments at the local and state levels, and works closely with law enforcement agencies to prevent alcohol-related harms.

Cassandra Tourre, MPA, Computronix, LLC

Cassandra Tourre is a Consultant with Computronix where she bridges in-depth public sector insights with software solutions to promote efficient alcohol regulatory systems. Prior to joining Computronix, Cassie was Faculty Associate at The Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health where she worked to implement and assess strategies to address excessive alcohol consumption and later she served as the Director of Public Policy at the National Alcohol Beverage Control Association. She has nearly 20 years of policy experience

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in preventing alcohol harms and volunteered to help found the Alcohol Action Network, a project of the ATOD Section of APHA.

Pamela Trangenstein, PhD, Alcohol Research Group

Pamela Trangenstein, PhD is a Scientist in the Alcohol Research Group at the Public Health Institute. Her research focuses on methods to more closely link scientific results with policy and programmatic decision-making and policies that can promote equity. She received her MPH and PhD from the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health and BA from Washington University in St. Louis.

Ryan Treffers, JD, PIRE

Ryan D. Treffers, J.D. is a Research Scientist at the Pacific Institute for Research and Evaluation. For over fifteen years, he has contributed work to a range of public health policies, strategies, and projects focused on issues including alcohol, cannabis, healthy retail, and the impacts of preemption on policy implementation. In addition to having extensive expertise in researching and tracking legislation, laws, and policies at all levels of government, he has worked with advocates, community organizations, and governmental officials throughout the country to identify and implement policies and strategies that promote public health.

Silvia Villarreal, MA, Center for Gun Violence Solutions

Silvia Villarreal is the Director of Research Translation at the Center for Gun Violence Solutions. Her goal is to bridge the gap between research and policy by translating research into evidence-based reports. Silvia is also the Managing Director for the Consortium for Risk-Based Firearm Policy where she coordinates a group of experts to craft gun violence policy solutions from a public health perspective. She has led reports on firearm policy such as the “Racial Equity Impact Assessment Framework for Gun Violence Prevention” and “Alcohol Misuse and Gun Violence: an Evidence Based Approach for State Policy”.

Robert Vincent, MS Ed, SAMHSA

Rob Vincent is Associate Administrator for Alcohol Policy at the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, where he advises the agency on alcohol policy issues and coordinates alcohol-related prevention and treatment activities. He also chairs the Agency Representatives Committee of the Interagency Coordinating Committee on the Prevention of Underage Drinking. Mr. Vincent has worked in the substance abuse field at the local, state, and federal levels since 1988, and has worked in the area of substance abuse prevention, intervention, and Treatment for more than 35 years, as a nationally certified clinician, and has served as the director for Counseling and Assistance Programs for the U.S. Navy and Public Education. Rob served as the principal investigator of the Olympia

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Effective Adolescent Grant, and as a consultant specializing in the implementation of schools-based prevention and treatment programs for several states. He received his Master of Science in Education Degree from Southern Illinois University

Laura Ward, Laura Ward Co.

Laura Ward is a public relations specialist with three decades of experience across a broad range of industries. Her clients have been on TODAY, Nightline, Good Morning America, and BBC Radio, and in The New York Times, The Wall Street Journal, TIME, Newsweek, Associated Press, and more. A lifelong Connecticut resident, Laura is a founding member of the SHE RECOVERS Foundation New England Chapter and a coach facilitator for its Hartford Sharing Circle. She is a past board of directors president of Ronald McDonald House Charities of Connecticut and Western Massachusetts and has been a guest lecturer at Quinnipiac University.

Kendall Watanabe, MPH, Institute for Public Strategies

Kendall Watanabe is a Regional Director for the Institute for Public Strategies in Los Angeles. She helps direct alcohol and substance-use related programming, advocacy, and policy efforts in the Greater Los Angeles area, including overseeing the development and progression of our organization's three successful alcohol and substance-use coalitions. Kendall received her Masters in Public Health, along with a certificate degree in U.S. Health & Justice from Yale University. She is passionate about social justice and youth-based advocacy work - stemming from her previous experiences working in school-based healthcare (SBHC) settings and engaging in federal youth-based policy work in Washington D.C.

Izabelle Wensley, Synergy Enterprises, U.S. Alcohol Policy Alliance

Izabelle Wensley is a Research Associate at Synergy Enterprises where she supports the Sobering Truth on Preventing Underage Drinking (STOP) Act Report to Congress and the Alcohol Policy Information System. In her position, Ms. Wensley helps extract and interpret data, create data visualizations to communicate current and historical trends in alcohol consumption and harms, and synthesize new and relevant information to draft sections of reports. Concurrently, she sits on the board of the U.S. Alcohol Policy Alliance and consults with Dover Youth to Youth, where she is focused on reducing alcohol harms through system-level changes.

Callie Whitesell, MPH, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill Gillings School of Global Public Health

Callie Whitesell is a Research Project Manager in the Department of Health Behavior at the UNC-Chapel Hill Gillings School of Global Public Health. She supports research that informs

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tobacco, food, and alcohol policies as well as health communication strategies. She is currently collaborating with Drs. Marissa Hall and Anna Grummon on their recent R01 from NIAAA to design and evaluate evidence-based alcohol warning labels. Callie holds an MPH from UNC-Chapel Hill's Gillings School of Global Public Health.

Cara Wilking, JD, Consultant

Cara Wilking, JD is an independent legal consultant conducting legal research and writing in the public health law areas of food, water, infant formula, alcohol, and tobacco. Her work centers on the interplay between existing and potential legal frameworks, and evidence-based approaches to improve public health. Ms. Wilking was a Northeastern University School of Law Public Interest Law Scholar.

Jih-Cheng (Jack) Yeh, MPH, Pdd Candidate, Boston University School of Public Health

Jih-Cheng (Jack) Yeh is an Integrated Care for Addiction, HIV and HCV Research and Education (ICAHRE) T32 Predoctoral Fellow. He is passionate about addressing health disparities among vulnerable populations such as underrepresented racial/ethnic and sexual/gender minorities at a population level. His research interests include social determinants of health and related inequalities surrounding health outcomes related to alcohol, tobacco, marijuana, and opioids. He's especially drawn to harm reduction approaches that incorporate strategies for long-lasting positive treatment outcomes. Jack obtained his B.S. from the University of Washington and MPH from National Taiwan University.

Lei Zhang, PhD, CDC

Dr. Lei Zhang is a Health Scientist with the Alcohol Program in CDC's National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion. Her research includes studies assessing the economic costs of excessive drinking in the United States and alcohol epidemiology to inform the prevention of alcohol-related harm in states and communities. Dr. Zhang holds a PhD in public policy with a concentration on health policy from Georgia State University.