
Taking it to the Curbside: Engaging Communities to Create Sustainable Change for Health

April 6, 2010 Boston, MA

Biographies for Workshop Presenters and Facilitators

Suzanne Cashman, ScD



Professor
University of Massachusetts
North Worcester, MA

Formally trained in health services research, evaluation and administration, Suzanne Cashman has spent the thirty years of her professional career teaching graduate courses in public health, conducting community-based evaluation research, and developing partnerships aimed at helping communities improve their health status. Currently, Suzanne is Professor and Director of Community Health in the Department of Family Medicine and Community Health at the University of Massachusetts Medical School (UMMS). Also faculty for the UMMS Preventive Medicine Residency, Suzanne has residency-related administrative/teaching responsibilities as well as leadership responsibilities for developing the Department's community health agenda. In addition, she carries out community-based evaluation research, provides evaluation technical assistance to the Area Health Education Center, and teaches

public health skills to medical students and residents, as well as nursing and public health students. Suzanne incorporates service-learning in several of her courses and mentors other faculty in service-learning. She co-chairs UMMS's Community Engagement Committee and is an investigator for its newly funded Prevention Research Center; she has been instrumental in developing Worcester's Healthy Communities Initiative.

Suzanne joined the UMMS faculty in 1999, after having spent the preceding decade developing and nurturing a community-oriented primary care (COPC) focused, interprofessional preventive medicine fellowship in Boston, MA. Funded by the W.K.Kellogg Foundation through its urban COPC national demonstration initiative, the project used a preventive medicine template to launch a multi-professional training program aimed at teaching participants skills that would help them work collaboratively with communities to improve health.

Currently, Suzanne serves as a Board and Executive Committee member of the Association for Prevention Teaching and Research; she is also a Senior Consultant for Community Campus Partnerships for Health.

Joann Casado, JD

Executive Director
The Bronx Health Link
Bronx, NY

Dr. Casado is the current Executive Director of the Bronx Health Link and is a graduate of the City College Center on Legal and Urban Education and received her Juris Doctor from New York Law School. She has worked in the non-profit and government sector for over 25 years and spent 12 years working with men and women with HIV and AIDS, first with the Latino Commission on AIDS and then at the Hunter College Center on AIDS, Drugs and Community Health conducting a CDC-funded study on the development of a jail-based health intervention for men who have sex with men. As a consultant at Pfizer, she managed their health literacy grants and assisted in the creation of community outreach tools on cardiovascular health, diabetes and smoking cessation. She is the Co-Principal Investigator of an NIH-funded grant to develop and implement the a community-based research board in the Bronx and is also working with Lincoln Hospital on the Center for Collaborative Community Research.

She is the Chairperson of the SOL Study Community Advisory Board, is a member of the Morrisania D&T CAB, the Montefiore Community Advisory Board and is the community representative on the Lehman College IRB.

APTR Regional Workshops 2010 Researchers and Their Communities: The Challenge of Meaningful Community Engagement.

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Ann DiGirolamo, PhD, MPH



Senior Scientist
Institute for Community Health
Cambridge, MA

Ann DiGirolamo, PhD, MPH is a pediatric psychologist and Senior Scientist with the Institute for Community Health (ICH). She is a Lecturer in the Harvard Medical School, and is Adjunct Assistant Professor with Rollins School of Public Health, Emory University. Her main interests are in maternal and child health and development, with particular emphasis on the psychosocial factors influencing child growth, development, and mental health, and in the interface between nutrition and psychology. She has been involved as Principal Investigator and Co-Investigator in multiple studies in Mexico and Guatemala, examining child nutrition, development, and mental health. She has also employed Community-Based Participatory Research to address maternal depression and

well-being among women living in impoverished communities. At ICH, Dr. DiGirolamo contributes her expertise in parenting, child development and mental health, maternal and child nutrition, and community-based participatory research. One of her main projects is participating in the Community-Based Participatory Research (CBPR) Program within the Community Engagement Core of the Harvard Catalyst, a program that aims to provide education and mentoring to Harvard investigators and community partners in community-based participatory research. Prior to coming to ICH, Dr. DiGirolamo was an Assistant Professor in the Hubert Department of Global Health, Rollins School of Public Health, Emory University where she taught a graduate level course in CBPR. She also worked as a Senior Health Scientist with the Child Development Studies Team at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), participating in studies addressing factors associated with typical and atypical child development and children's mental health. She received her undergraduate education from Emory University and her doctoral degree in Clinical Psychology from Indiana University. She completed her internship and postdoctoral training at the University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center in Pediatric Psychology. She later received her MPH degree from Emory University and completed further postdoctoral training in public health at the CDC.

Elmer R. Freeman, MSW



Executive Director
Center for Community Health Education Research & Services
Boston, MA

Elmer R. Freeman, MSW is the Executive Director of the Center for Community Health Education Research and Service, Inc. (CCHERS) an academic/community partnership established in 1991. His leadership of CCHERS, since 1997, has led to its recognition as a national model partnership promoting academic-community engagement and community-based participatory research (CBPR). Mr. Freeman is a recognized expert in the application of CBPR principles in partnerships with academic researchers to address disparities and inequalities in health and health care of underserved communities. He served on the "expert panel" for AHRQ Evidence Report No. 99, *Community Based Participatory Research: Assessing the Evidence* and coauthored a journal article on this topic, which was published in the *Journal of Urban Health* in November 2006. His research areas of interest are in the social, economic and political determinants of health status of minority populations; the impact of the internalization of racism on the manifestation of health risk behaviors among oppressed groups; and incorporating evidence based practice in the management of chronic diseases such as asthma, diabetes and hypertension in health center patient populations.

Lynne Garner, PhD



Trustee and President
Donaghue Foundation, New Haven
West Hartford, CT

Lynne Garner, Ph.D., was appointed as the Individual Trustee for the Donaghue Foundation as of January 1, 2008 while maintaining the functions of President, a position she accepted in 2003. As Trustee and President, Dr. Garner works closely with the Institutional Trustee, Bank of America, to establish the mission and policies of the Foundation and to ensure that its programs and practices are congruent with Ethel Donaghue's purpose for the Foundation. She also works closely with the Foundation's policy advisers and the research and philanthropic communities to develop new Foundation initiatives. Dr. Garner also serves as Trustee for the Ethel F. Donaghue Trust for Elizabeth Park.

Dr. Garner received her doctorate in sociology from the University of Massachusetts in 1986, with concentrations in medical sociology and applied research methods. Prior to her position at the Foundation, she worked at the Connecticut Office of Health Care Access and the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services and the Massachusetts Department of Mental Health.

Alan Geller , RN, MPH



Senior Research Scientist and Deputy Director
Division of Public Health Practice
Boston, MA

As of February 2009, **Alan Geller** joined the Division as the Deputy Director of Public Health Practice and Senior Research Scientist. For the past 23 years, he was on staff and faculty at the Boston University Schools of Medicine (BUSM) and Public Health (BUSPH) as Research Associate Professor of Dermatology (BUSM) and Epidemiology (BUSPH). His research interests and passions include cancer screening, cancer and health disparities, tobacco in low-SES populations, medical education and public health workforce issues, melanoma, community-based participatory research, and childhood obesity. He has been a Principal Investigator on grants funded by the Centers for Disease

Control and Prevention, Environmental Protection Agency, the National Cancer Institute, the Flight Attendants Medical Research Institute (FAMRI), the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, American Academy of Dermatology, and the MetroWest Community Health Care Foundation (among others). He has provided consultation for the American Medical Association on tobacco teaching in medical schools as well as the development of sun awareness programs for the EPA and CDC. He has also played a strong role in the mentoring of post-doctoral students, as well as junior faculty and students from Schools of Public Health and Medicine at Boston University and Harvard for manuscript preparation..

Currently, he is involved in a wide range of national and international projects. He is a Co-Investigator on the Division's initiative MassCONNECT 4 Kids, a randomized trial designed to increase the number of smoke-free homes in Boston, Lawrence, and Worcester. This study unites community partners from the parent MassCONNECT grant as well as directors and staff from the Massachusetts Department of Public Health's Early Intervention Program. As well, he has joined the Community Engagement and Research Core of the Harvard Catalyst program. Following his long-standing interest in melanoma screening, he is working with colleagues at the HMO Cancer Research Network to design both a pilot and large-scale randomized trial to test the effectiveness of the clinician skin exam coupled with skin self-examination. He is also leading the effort to evaluate melanoma screening data from Germany, where a major national screening campaign is underway. In his work under the auspices of the FAMRI grant, he has completed a national survey of the smoking cessation practices of in-patient pediatric nurses while working with nurses at Boston Children's Hospital to develop a pilot nurse and hospital-wide cessation program for the parents of hospitalized children.

He greatly enjoys all aspects of major screening and public health campaigns, particularly study design, evaluation, and project management as well as initiating the collaborations inherent to the formation of these projects and campaigns. He looks forward to expanding current Division work as well as exploring new research in global health disparities and screening, public health leadership, and the training of a public health workforce.

Milagro Grullón, MM



Executive Director
Lawrence Community Connections, Inc.
Lawrence, MA

Milagro Grullón is the Executive Director and Founder of Lawrence Community Connections, Inc.. Previously Ms. Grullón managed Collaborative Relations and Health Improvement for the City of Lawrence Mayor's Health Task Force. She holds a master in management from Cambridge College. Ms Grullón is responsible for developing, implementing, and designing programs to address identified community needs. She has been in the field of public health for the last 12 years. She also serves on the community advisory board of the Harvard Clinical Translational Science Institute, CERAB.

Sheila J. Gutter, PhD



Director, Community Engagement Research Office
Weill Cornell Medical College
New York, NY

Sheila J. Gutter is the Core director of the Community Engagement Research Office (CERO) for the Clinical and Translational Science Center at Weill Cornell Medical College. She received her doctorate from New York University with a specialization in Community Health. Dr. Gutter has spent the better part of her career working in Community Health Education and Outreach with the inner-city populations, the public school system and private industry to help improve the quality of health among the underserved communities in New York City.

Dr. Karen Hacker, MD, MPH



Co-Principal Investigator, APTR Award
Executive Director, Institute for Community Health
Director, CBPR Program, Harvard CTSA
Assistant Professor, Harvard Medical School
Cambridge, MA

Dr. Karen Hacker, MD, MPH is the first executive director of the Institute for Community Health and an Assistant Professor of Medicine at the Harvard Medical School. She is also the Senior Medical Director of Public and Community Health for the Cambridge Health Alliance. She is an Internist with a subspecialty in Adolescent Medicine with a wealth of experience in public health and community health efforts. She is currently the Director of the Community Based Participatory Research program for the Harvard Catalyst. Dr. Hacker received her undergraduate education at Yale University with a major in Anthropology, and her medical education at Northwestern University. She completed her residency in primary care internal medicine at Boston City Hospital and went on to complete her fellowship in Adolescent Medicine at Children's Hospital of Los Angeles. Dr. Hacker received her MPH from Boston University.

Dr. Hacker came to the Institute in 2002 after spending over 15 years working in community and public health including serving as the Interim Director of the Cambridge Health Department and the Division Director of Child and Adolescent Health at the Boston Public Health Commission. Since that time ICH has grown substantially and become a trusted research and evaluation partner for multiple community partners. She has been involved in developing and administering service projects for disadvantaged populations that range from school based health centers to violence prevention activities. Her research experience spans topic areas including adolescent risk behaviors, suicide prevention and physical activity promotion. Dr. Hacker's experience in community health from both service and research perspectives gives her a unique ability to span academic/community partnerships. Today, Dr. Hacker continues her commitment to improving community health and using CBPR to catalyze sustainable community health improvement.

Fern Hertzberg, MWS



Executive Director
ARC XVI Fort Washington, Inc
New York, NY

Fern Hertzberg served from 1987 to 1990 as Executive Director of ARC XVI Fort Washington, Inc., and she is again serving as its Executive Director, a post she resumed in 1999. A MSW graduate from Yeshiva University's Wurzeiler School of Social Work with a double major BA from Lehman College in English Literature and Elementary Education, she has combined her educational interests into a community-based philosophy which engenders education and strength based advocacy. Ms. Hertzberg is currently Co-chairperson of the Washington Heights and Inwood Council on Aging; Public member of Manhattan Community Board 12 Committee for the Concerns of the Aging. Ms. Hertzberg is a member of the Board of Directors of the Ranachqua Foundation, a Boy Scouts of America college scholarship and campership sponsor. In addition, she is the Vice President of Services for Youth, a youth-to-youth organization which employs young adults to tutor and serve as cultural mentors to other young persons. She is the Co-chairman of the New York City Chapter of the New York State Adult Day Services Association, Inc. She also served as President of the New York State Adult Day Services Association, Inc. from 2000 to 2003. Ms. Hertzberg is a member of the Action Committee of the Council of Senior Centers and Services of New York City, Inc. as well as a community advocate for the aging in Washington Heights Inwood. Ms. Hertzberg is an active member of the Elderly Welfare Task Force of the Federation of Protestant Welfare Agencies. She is a member of the National Association of Social Workers (NASW) and is a member of the National Council on Aging (NCOA).

Ms. Hertzberg worked in home care services for the elderly from 1991 to 1999 and has been a professional in the field of aging since 1986. From these experiences, Fern Hertzberg has had the opportunity observe all aspects of services for the elderly. Her reputation and commitment to aging services and policies has made her a welcomed key-note speaker. She has served as conference key-note speaker for "Aging Concerns Unite Us," sponsored by the New York State Office for the Aging; "Through a New Lens: Viewing the Dynamics of Aging," sponsored by National Health, MedAssets and the FJC; "Creating Cooperative Ties: Building Community-based Coalitions," sponsored by the Northern Manhattan Arts Alliance. She has been invited on many occasions to give testimony on aging concerns at the State Assembly and has pushed forward and advocated many important pieces of legislation. Ms. Hertzberg is well known for her advocacy for improved services to the aging and is dedicated to creating governmental transparency.

Jeannette Ickovics, PhD

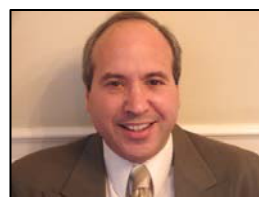


Professor of Epidemiology and Public Health and of Psychology
Director, Social and Behavioral Sciences Program
Deputy Director, Center for Interdisciplinary Research on AIDS
Deputy Director, Yale Center for Research and Engagement
Yale University
New Haven, CT

The behaviors that put adolescent women at risk for pregnancy also put them at risk for HIV and other sexually transmitted infections (STIs). In recent years, Dr. Ickovics' research has examined STI risk within the context of adolescent pregnancy, wherein young women not only fail to protect themselves, but may actively seek pregnancy -- leaving them vulnerable to other risks associated with unprotected sex. Professor Ickovics and her research team, the Connecticut Women's Health Project, are dedicated to community-based, longitudinal studies promoting women's reproductive health. She is the Principle Investigator on research projects supported by National Institutes of Health (NIH), including randomized controlled trials to evaluate the effects of an innovative model of prenatal care to reduce HIV/STD risk and promote better perinatal outcomes among pregnant teens. Her unique contributions are derived, in part, by a commitment to an interdisciplinary perspective of public health, integrating psychological, social, and biomedical factors, and providing insight regarding their influence on health.

Dr. Ickovics is Director of a new community health initiative, CARE: *Community Alliance for Research and Engagement*, part of the Yale Center for Clinical Investigation.

Richard Kalish, MD, MPH, MS



Assistant Professor of Medicine/Family Medicine
Director for Community Engagement
Boston University CTSI
Boston, MA

Dr. Richard Kalish is the Medical Director of Boston HealthNet, a network of fifteen community health centers, Boston Medical Center and the Boston University School of Medicine, and is a Medical Director of the Boston Medical Center HealthNet Plan, a provider-based Managed Care Plan with 170,000 Medicaid and 70,000 Commonwealth Care (Massachusetts Health Care Reform government subsidized insurance) members throughout Massachusetts. In both of these roles Dr. Kalish works with community health centers and other safety net providers. The work involves population and disease management models aimed at improving the health of people and communities. The models focus on both chronic diseases and prevention. He has led efforts to improve access in ambulatory practices.

As a Board Certified internist, Dr. Kalish has a primary care panel at one of the Boston HealthNet member community health centers, the South Boston Community Health Center. He was the Medical Director of this community health center from 1996-2001. Dr. Kalish has extensive experience working with public health officials. He worked with Massachusetts DPH officials and others as a member of a steering committee in developing a Strategic Plan for Tobacco Control in Massachusetts in 2006. In a Collaborative effort with DPH and the Massachusetts Association of Health Plans he was been on a Pandemic Flu planning team. Also, he is serving on an Altered Standards of Care

Committee (task is to recommend disaster care standards and policies to the Commissioner) with DPH to which he was appointed in 2008. At the local level he has worked with the Boston Public Health Commission on multiple prevention and chronic disease control efforts which have involved the Boston community health centers (CHC). At the federal level he has been the lead clinician on two Bureau of Primary Care-funded CHC network grants. Working with the Bureau of Primary Care Health Disparities Collaborative (HDC) he is on steering committees for Massachusetts statewide equivalency training. The steering committee includes stakeholders from DPH, health professional societies and the CHC's. In addition, he is the Co-Chair of a community cancer care coalition utilizing the HDC model with Bureau of Primary Care Funding.

In 2005 he was a civilian volunteer with the Public Health Service in disaster relief efforts in New Orleans after Hurricane Katrina. He has followed up on this commitment with coursework in disaster preparation and mitigation.

Carolyn Leung Rubin, EdD, MA



Program Manager,
Aligning Researchers and Communities for Health (ARCH)
Tufts Clinical Translational Science Institute
Tufts Medical Center
Boston, MA

Carolyn Leung Rubin, EdD, MA, is a researcher and community educator. Currently, she works as the Program Manager of Aligning Researchers and Communities for Health at the Tufts Clinical and Translational Science Institute. In this position, she is responsible for bridging community engagement with research, education and outreach programs at Tufts Medical Center. She has over ten years of social science research experience and has been trained in a variety of qualitative research methods including ethnography, case study, in-depth interviews, and portraiture. This past June, she completed her doctorate in education at the Harvard Graduate School of Education. Her dissertation was an in-depth, qualitative study of Asian American women professors who conduct social justice research in education. She brings over fifteen years of experience working with Asian American community-based organizations, including Asian Immigrant Women Advocates, Asian American Resource Workshop, Coalition for Asian Pacific American Youth, and Asian and Pacific Islander with Disabilities of California. Throughout her work, she has tried to bridge the research-practice divide and support community development in immigrant and refugee communities.

Sergio Matos



Executive Director
Community Health Worker Network, NY
New York, NY

Sergio Matos has been a community health worker for over 20 years and has worked to help communities organize around issues of environmental and social justice; worked with families in crisis intervention for suicide, hunger, chronic disease management and housing issues and has trained others to help families access health services and navigate complicated health care systems to improve their health.

For the past six years, Mr. Matos has championed the field of health outreach in New York City through education, advocacy and research. He is a cofounder and executive director of the Community Health Worker Network of NYC – an independent professional association of CHWs that works to organize a CHW voice on issues of policy and practice for the field.

Mr. Matos is the immediate past chair of the Community Health Worker Section of the American Public Health Association – the largest association of public health professionals in the world – where he developed a national platform that promotes standards for the practice and the integration of the CHWs more fully into the healthcare system with recognition, dignity and respect. He has worked for many years developing CHW models to improve the quality and access to healthcare for underprivileged individuals and communities throughout New York City and in the Caribbean, including the member nations of the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States.

Mr. Matos currently works as the Director for Community Health Worker Training and Development at Columbia University Mailman School of Public Health where he is organizing CHWs statewide to inform the development of training, credentialing and stable financing for the CHW practice.

Joyce Moon-Howard, DrPH



Assistant Professor
Columbia University
New York, NY

Dr. Moon-Howard has extensive experience and expertise in field based research in urban communities. Dr. Moon-Howard's nearly two decades of research in communities of color focuses on methodological challenges in survey and intervention research in urban communities; contextual and situational factors associated with health behaviors; and HIV and tobacco-related health outcomes and health disparities among African Americans. In the late 1980s, Dr. Moon-Howard's work on a NIDA-funded 30-year cohort study of urban African Americans led to an important 1993 publication in *AJPH* on HIV sero-prevalence and risk behaviors in that population. A research associate of the CDC-funded Harlem Health Promotion Center, Dr. Moon-Howard has conducted community-based research to better

understand sources of excess mortality in Harlem; developed interventions to address these disparities; and become known through publications in the *Journal of Urban Health* and *AJPH* for her collaborations with local churches and faith communities. Dr. Moon-Howard's HIV-related research has included community prevalence studies of HIV risk and infection rates, evaluation of HIV-related services, and the relationship between housing and neighborhood structural factors and HIV related behaviors and outcomes. She has served as Co-principal investigator for intervention studies examining community-based models of care for HIV-positive individuals with co-occurring mental illness and substance abuse. Dr. Moon-Howard presented findings from this research to the President's Advisory Committee on HIV/AIDS in 1998.

Dr. Moon-Howard has been the co-principal investigator on several studies funded by CDC, NIMH and NICHD, which use community-based participatory partnership (CBPR) approaches to research. She has published from this work and chaired the panel on CBPR at the Association of Schools of Public Health Education Committee Workshop, charged with making recommendations to advance teaching in graduate programs within schools of public health. Dr. Moon-Howard has also continued her interest in community factors affecting health throughout the life course, serving as a co-investigator on a CDC and Department of Housing and Urban Development-funded five-year, multi-site randomized trial; this project is evaluating the effectiveness of providing housing to persons living with HIV as a structural intervention to reduce the transmission of HIV and improve treatment outcomes. Dr. Moon-Howard's work on contextual influences on HIV in African American communities has, with support from NICHD, explored the role and influence of religious institutions and leadership on HIV/AIDS risk and prevention strategies in African American communities. Her work on religion and HIV has an international component as well, through her research and evaluation efforts with Balm In Gilead, an organization dedicated to mobilizing the Black Church in the fight against HIV/AIDS domestically and in Africa.

Dr. Moon Howard is an investigator with the NIH funded CTSA's Community Engagement Research Core (CER) at Columbia University. In her role in the CER she served as collaborator on the design and implementation of the CER's introductory CBPR course for community providers. She also teaches one of the few courses in community based participatory research in the University. Among her current community academic studies, Dr. Moon Howard and community partners the Dominican Women's Development Center (DWDC) and the Washington Heights-Inwood Council on Aging (WHICOA) in Northern Manhattan are funded by NICHD to examine predisposing, enabling and reinforcing factors within the Columbia University Medical Center that affect the conduct of Community Based Participatory Research.

Alex Pirie



Coordinator
Somerville Immigrant Service Providers Group/Health
Somerville Community Corporation
Somerville, MA

Alex Pirie is the Coordinator of the Immigrant Service Providers Group/Health (ISPG/H) in Somerville, MA. The ISPG/H is a networking and advocacy group composed of immigrant direct service providers, health care professionals who serve immigrant communities, and immigrant health care professionals. The ISPG/H undertakes specific community projects such as flu clinics and health fairs, and conducts advocacy work on behalf of immigrants. He is currently the Co-Principal Investigator on "Assessing and Preventing Obesity in New Immigrants" (NIMHD); coordinates community partner activity on "Assessing and Controlling Occupational Health Risks for Immigrants in Somerville,

MA" (NIOSH); is an advisor on a Harvard Catalyst Pilot grant examining the consequences of ICE Raids and law enforcement behavior on immigrant health in Everett, MA and a preliminary Catalyst grant looking at dysmenorrhea in Brazilian immigrant adolescents. He is a member of the planning groups for an April 2010 APTR Harvard Catalyst conference in Boston, "Taking it to the Curbside," and the "Building Your Capacity" community partner education course conducted by ARCH Tufts CTSI under an Administrative Supplement grant. He serves on the steering committees of the Tufts Community Research Center and the Somerville Youth Workers Network, serves as a advisor to Save Our Somerville, a youth led advocacy group, is a member of the Ward 6 Democratic Committee as well as the Progressive Democrats of Somerville, and is a board member of the Welcome Project, a non-profit serving the tenants of the Mystic Public Housing Development and Somerville's immigrant community. He also serves on the community advisory boards of the Tufts and Harvard Clinical Translational Science Institutes, CERAB and ARCH. Mr. Pirie's primary interest centers on the empowerment and education of immigrant community members in relation to health research and the health sciences particularly through Community Based Participatory Research mechanisms.

Mariano Jose Rey, MD



Assistant Professor/Director
NYU/Institute of Community Health Research
New York, NY

Mariano Jose Rey MD is the Senior Associate Dean for Community Health Affairs and the Director of the Institute for Community Health and Research at the New York University School of Medicine. He is the Co-Director of the Community Engagement Core (CEC) of NYU's NIH Clinical and Translational Science Institute (CTSI). Dr. Rey is also the Principal Investigator (PI) of the NIH P60 Center for the Study of Asian American Health and of the CDC Center for the Elimination of Health Disparities (CEED). Both of these centers bear the designation of "National Centers of Excellence". He is also the PI of the recently funded NYU CDC Prevention Research Center (PRC).

After graduating from Columbia College, Dr. Mariano Rey received his M.D. from the NYU School of Medicine. He then completed a residency in internal medicine and a fellowship in cardiology at the NYU/Bellevue Medical Center. He has served as the Director of the Bellevue Hospital Cardiology Clinic as well as the Director of the Nuclear Cardiology Laboratories at both Bellevue and NYU medical centers. At present Dr. Rey is the Director of the Joan and Joel Smilow Center for Cardiac and Pulmonary Rehabilitation and Prevention at the NYU Langone Medical Center.

Dr. Mariano Rey was the Dean of Students at NYU Medical School from 2000 to 2006, when he created NYU's International Health Program where students and faculty now participate in service and research activities in over 20 countries. An expert in cardiac physiology, Rey was Director of the Physiology course for NYU first year medical students and teaches medical students in all four years of medical school. Through NYU's Post Graduate School he serves as the Course Director of both the Annual Latino Mental Health Conference and the Annual Asian American Health Conference.

Dr. Rey has published numerous articles and book chapters in his field of cardiology, as well as in the international health, and in medical education and its interaction with the humanities. He is the Senior Editor of the recently published textbook "Asian American Communities and Health" (Josey Bass) and the author of the Cardiac Rehabilitation Chapter of "Rehabilitation Medicine" (4th Ed. Springer). Most of his publications are in peer-reviewed cardiology and public health journals as well as the New England Journal of Medicine.

John Ruffin, PhD



Director
National Center on Minority Health and Health Disparities (NCMHD), NIH
Bethesda, MD

Dr. John Ruffin is the Director of the National Center on Minority Health and Health Disparities (NCMHD). He oversees the NCMHD budget of approximately \$210 million. In addition, he provides leadership for the minority health and health disparities research activities of the National Institutes of Health (NIH) which constitutes an annual budget of approximately \$2.8 billion.

He is a well-respected leader and visionary in the field of minority health and health disparities. As an academician and a scientist, he has devoted his professional career to improving the health status of racial and ethnic minorities and other medically underserved populations in the United States. He has an impressive track record of developing and supporting programs to increase the cadre of minority scientists, physicians, and other health professionals, as well as attract a diverse group of researchers to the health disparities field.

His success has been due in large part to his ability to motivate others and gain the support of key individuals and organizations, as well as to his expertise in strategic planning, administration, and the development of numerous collaborative partnerships. For almost 20 years, he has led the transformation of the NIH minority health and health disparities research agenda from a programmatic concept to an institutional reality. He has served as the Associate Director for Minority Programs, Office of Minority Programs; and the Associate Director for Research on Minority Health, Office of Research on Minority Health.

As the NIH federal official for minority health disparities research, through multi-faceted collaborations, he has planned and brought to fruition the largest biomedical research program in the nation to promote minority health and other health disparities research and training. In his quest

to eliminate health disparities, the hallmark of his approach is to foster and expand strategic partnerships in alliance with the NIH Institutes and Centers, various Federal and state agencies, community organizations, academic institutions, private sector leaders, and international governments and non-governmental organizations. Under his leadership, the NIH convened its first summit on health disparities, “The NIH Science of Eliminating Health Disparities Summit” in December 2008. The summit showcased the work, progress, and challenges of the NIH Institutes and Centers and many of their federal and non-federal government partners involved in minority health and health disparities research around the theme of Integrating Science, Practice, and Policy. The summit attracted more than 4000 individuals from around the world representing various disciplines and sectors.

Dr. Ruffin is committed to conceptualizing, developing and implementing innovative programs that create new learning opportunities and exposure for individuals, communities, and academic institutions interested in eliminating health disparities. His efforts have impacted local, regional, national and international communities. He has established and continues to expand a growing portfolio of research, training, and capacity building programs to train health professionals and scientists from health disparity populations; conduct cutting-edge health disparities research; build the capacity at academic institutions and within the community to support a promising health disparities research enterprise. His life-long commitment to academic excellence, improving minority health and promoting training and health disparities research, has earned him distinguished national awards. Dr. Ruffin has received an honorary doctor of science degree from Spelman College, Tuskegee University, the University of Massachusetts in Boston, North Carolina State University, Morehouse School of Medicine, and Meharry Medical College. He has been recognized by various professional, non-profit, and advocacy organizations including: the National Medical Association, the Society for the Advancement of Chicanos and Native Americans in Science; the Association of American Indian Physicians, the Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities; the Society of Black Academic Surgeons; and the National Science Foundation. The John Ruffin Scholarship Program is an honor symbolic of his legacy for academic excellence bestowed by the Duke University Talent Identification Program. He has also received the Martin Luther King Jr., Legacy Award for National Service, the Samuel L. Kountz Award for his significant contribution to increasing minority access to organ and tissue transplantation; the NIH Director’s Award; the National Hispanic Leadership Award; Beta Beta Beta Biological Honor Society Award; the Department of Health and Human Services’ Special Recognition Award; and the U.S. Presidential Merit Award.

Clara Savage, EdD



Coordinator/Director
Common Pathways
Worcester, MA

Clara Savage, EdD, is the Director of Common Pathways a Worcester Healthy Communities coalition of the 147 members from organizations and residents. She has been the Coordinator of Common Pathways since January 2005. She is also Coordinator of Worcester’s MassCONNECT. As coordinator of Common Pathways, Dr. Savage has been working for the last four years on building the coalition with leaders from eleven different sectors and more than 1,000 residents engaged at different stages of the coalition process. In coordinating MassCONNECT, Dr. Savage has provided a positive and pro-active environment for Worcester’s experts in health care, social services, affordable housing, education, transportation, mental health, as well as professionals and business leaders, researchers, and academic experts to work together in planning, implementing, and evaluating different projects that focus on

decreasing health disparities within Worcester’s low-income and multi-ethnic communities. Dr. Savage has extensive experience in community outreach and medical education programs, both nationally and internationally. She is a member of MassCONNECT’s Steering Committee, Community Advisory Committee, and Community Base-Participatory Research Sub-committee. She is a Chair of the Restoration and Economic Development Sub-Committee of Worcester’s Weed and Seed Project. She is also Board and Executive Committee member of the Worcester Housing Community Resources and founding member of “Women Together,” a grassroots community group in the Worcester downtown area. She speaks Spanish and is an immigrant from Colombia, S.A. Dr. Savage has a Master and Doctoral degree from Harvard University in Education, Medical Training and Public Health issues. She also serves on the community advisory board of the Harvard Clinical Translational Science Institute, CERAB.

Sarena Diane Seifer, MD, MS



Director
Community-Campus Partnerships for Health
Seattle, WA

Dr. Sarena Seifer is the Founding Executive Director of Community-Campus Partnerships for Health (CCPH) and Adjunct Professor at the University of Guelph in Ontario, Canada. Established in 1996, CCPH promotes health in its broadest sense through partnerships between communities and higher educational institutions. Its growing network of over 1,800 communities and campuses in the US, Canada and about a dozen other countries are collaborating to promote health through service-learning, community-based participatory research and other partnership approaches. CCPH seeks to transform practice and policy through knowledge exchange, training and technical assistance, research and evaluation, policy development and advocacy, and coalition-building.

Dr. Seifer's work focuses on the principles and best practices of partnerships between communities and higher educational institutions around education, research, and community/economic development. She has led a series of CCPH-sponsored multi-site initiatives that have incorporated service-learning into health professions education, developed community-based participatory research partnerships, convened community partners for peer support and advocacy, prepared faculty for community-engaged careers in the academy, aligned faculty promotion and tenure policies with community engagement, and created mechanisms for peer-reviewed publication of diverse products of community-engaged scholarship.

Dr. Seifer graduated from Washington University in St. Louis with a bachelor's degree in biology, received graduate degrees in physiology and medicine from Georgetown University, completed a two-year postdoctoral fellowship program in health policy at the University of California-San Francisco and was a research associate professor of public health at the University of Washington. Prior to joining CCPH, she served as legislative affairs director for the American Medical Student Association, health policy analyst for the Washington State Senate, program director for a membership organization of community and migrant health centers in the Pacific Northwest.

Throughout her career, Dr. Seifer has sought to combine the knowledge, wisdom and experience in communities and in academic institutions to solve health, social and economic challenges. She deeply believes that we will only solve these challenges through partnerships that bring communities and institutions together and build upon the assets, strengths, and capacities of each.

Linda Silka, PhD



Professor
Interdisciplinary School of Economics
Director, Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center
University of Maine
Orono, ME

Linda Silka, Professor in the interdisciplinary School of Economics, directs the Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center at the University of Maine. A social and community psychologist by training, Dr. Silka develops programs that create and evaluate community and university partnerships. Recent partnerships include the *Southeast Asian Environmental Justice Partnership* and the *New Ventures Partnership* funded in part by the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences, a *Community Outreach Partnership Center* begun through funding from U.S. Housing and Urban Development's Office of University Partnerships, and the *Center for Immigrant and Refugee Community Leadership and Empowerment*. Dr. Silka involves community residents, students, and faculty in using new technologies

such as community mapping to address long-standing community challenges. She teaches graduate courses in research ethics with underserved groups, applied research, program evaluation, geographic information systems, and grant writing, and consults to partnerships around the country on capacity building strategies in program evaluation and community-based research. Dr. Silka co-chaired the Executive Office of Environmental Affairs/University of Massachusetts Working Group on Community Preservation and was a member of the Massachusetts Executive Office of Environmental Affairs' Environment Justice Advisory Committee. She has consulted to universities internationally on strategies for building community-university research partnerships. Dr. Silka was honored with the University of Massachusetts President's Award for Outstanding Professional Service and was nationally recognized by the Ernest L. Lynton Honorable Mention for her work with refugee and immigrant communities. The HUD Community-Outreach Partnership Center that she co-directed received a HUD "Best Practice" Award and was featured in the HUD National COPC Newsletter for outstanding work using technology with communities and engaging in economic development with refugee and immigrant communities.

Amy Whitcomb Slemmer, JD



Executive Director
Health Care for All
Boston, MA

Prior to joining Health Care For All, Dr. Slemmer was the executive officer of American Red Cross Biomedical Services in Washington, D.C., which is responsible for providing more than half of the nation's blood supply. Dr. Slemmer also served as executive director of DC Vote, an educational and advocacy organization in the District of Columbia. There, she gained national recognition and attention for her advocacy efforts on behalf of local residents' effort to obtain full voting rights in Congress.

Dr. Slemmer has served as legislative counsel for the National Association of People with AIDS, where she garnered bi-partisan support to increase funding for HIV/AIDS research. As founder and president of Slemmer & Associates Grassroots Advocacy, she advised and guided small- to medium-sized health care organizations through the federal legislative process. Dr. Slemmer also served as director of public education for the Health Care Reform Project and began her career as a member of Senator Edward M. Kennedy's health care policy staff.

Dr. Slemmer earned a Juris Doctor from Georgetown University Law Center. She graduated with honors from Wheaton College with a Bachelor of Arts degree.

Dr. Slemmer's work has been published by a number of organizations, including the American Red Cross, the Poverty & Race Research Action Council, the *Washington Post* and National Association of Public Hospitals. Dr. Slemmer is active in the community and serves on the Board of Directors for Community Catalyst, Massachusetts Health Quality Partners, Health Law Advocates, Massachusetts Health Policy Forum and The National Episcopal AIDS Coalition.

Alvin (Hal) Strelnick, MD



Chief, Division of Community Health
Director, Institute of Community and Collaborative Health
Director, Hispanic Center of Excellence
Clinical Professor, Department of Family and Social Medicine
Assistant Professor, Department of Epidemiology and Population Health
Albert Einstein College of Medicine
Montefiore Medical Center
Bronx, NY

Dr. Strelnick grew up in the Midwest, the son of a physical therapist who worked for the Veterans Administration and an obstetrical nurse who taught natural childbirth. Their desire for a physician in the family yielded a bumper crop. His sister is an osteopathic family physician; one brother is a psychiatrist and the other a psychiatric social worker turned New Age healer and carpenter.

Dr. Strelnick came East for education at Princeton and then Yale Medical School. On Match Day 1975, he found himself holding a computerized ticket to the Bronx. The Residency Program in Social Medicine and Montefiore almost instantly felt like home. Colleagues and faculty actually shared his values and concerns about social justice and urban family medicine! He has been there ever since, except for three years (1978-81) as a full-time National Health Service Corps (NHSC) doctor at the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Health Center in the South Bronx. While in the NHSC, he completed a three-year fellowship in family systems at the Ackerman Institute for Family Therapy.

Dr. Strelnick's responsibilities in the DFSM include teaching in the social medicine curriculum in evidence-based medicine, advising residents on their social medicine projects, and leading the core course on understanding the U.S. health system. As Director of the Division of Community Health and Einstein's Institute for Community and Collaborative Health, he helps the department, medical center, and medical school develop partnerships with community-based organizations (CBOs), including the Bronx Community Research Review Board (with the Bronx Health Link), Bronx Science and Health Opportunities Partnership (with local middle and high schools, colleges, and CBOs), and South Bronx Environmental Justice Partnership (with For a Better Bronx and Lehman College). He also serves as Program Director for the Hispanic Center of Excellence and Principal Investigator of the Bronx Center to Reduce and Eliminate Ethnic and Racial Health Disparities, a NIH Center of Excellence.

Donald Tobias, PhD



Executive Director
Cornell University Cooperative Extension
New York, NY

Dr. Tobias currently serves as a Principal Investigator for "Institutional Clinical and Translational Center: Community Engagement", funded for five years by National Institutes of Health. This is a subcontract with Cornell Weil Medical College and their Translational Research grant. The focus of Dr. Tobias' activities is community engagement and medical research. Dr. Tobias is also collaborating with Dr. Gilbert Botvin of Cornell Weil Medical College on a National Institutes of Health project entitled, "A Collaborative System Approach for the Diffusion of Evidence-Based Prevention", with funding for five years. Dr. Tobias serves as Co-Principal Investigator on the "Food Stamp Nutrition Education Program" a one year grant, the "Market Maker" grant from the New York Farm Viability Institute and the "City Harvest" grant from USDA.

Dr. Tobias provides leadership to the one hundred and thirty-five person office of Cornell Cooperative Extension in New York City. Program activities include: Health and Nutrition, Family and Youth Development, Urban Environment, and Alternative Energy Development.

Donald Tobias received his BA degree from Alma College with majors in the areas of History and Communication. He holds a Masters degree from Central Michigan University in Communication and an Education Specialist Certification in Education Administration. Dr. Tobias received his Ph.D. from Michigan State University in Higher Education Administration with additional course work in management and marketing from Syracuse University.

Stephen Tringale, MD



Medical Director for Performance Improvement ,Codman Square Health Center
Medical Director for Performance Improvement and Research, DotWellOrg
Staff Physician, Codman Square Health Center
Codman Square Health Center
Dorchester, MA

Dr. Tringale serves as the Medical Director for Performance Improvement at the Codman Square Health Center (CSHC) and also with their collaborative program-DotWell-at the Dorchester House Health Center, where he serves as the Medical Director for Performance Improvement and Research. He chairs the Performance Improvement Committee at CSHC. He has also directed the PI agenda for both health centers.

As a staff physician at CSHC he has a full scope family practice serving an ethnically diverse population. His practice includes Inpatients, Ambulatory Primary and Urgent Care, and Prenatal Care. He is a member of the JCAHO Steering Committee, on the Clinical Faculty with Boston Medical Center in their Family Medicine Residency Program, and is the Coordinator for Boston University's School of Medicine Family Medicine Third Year Clerkship at CSHC.

Prior to his work in the Boston area Dr. Tringale served as a Staff Physician at the Kearns Canyon Indian Health Service Hospital on the Hopi Indian Reservation, providing comprehensive Primary Care to the residents.

Nina Wallerstein, DrPH



Director
University of New Mexico/Center for Participatory Research,
Institute for Public Health, Office of Community Health
Albuquerque, NM

Dr. Wallerstein is a Professor in the Department of Family and Community Medicine, and was the founding Director of the Masters in Public Health Program at the University of New Mexico until 2007. She currently is Director of the Center for Participatory Research, Institute for Public Health, Office of Community Health; and the Director of the developing Community Engagement and Research component of the CTSC at University of New Mexico. For over 25 years, she has been involved in empowerment/popular education, and participatory research with youth, women, tribes, and community building efforts. Her research focuses on community capacity and health development, culturally appropriate translational intervention research, participatory evaluation, and community based participatory research processes and outcomes. She is one of the editors of the first national textbook of CBPR, *Community Based Participatory Research for Health: From Process to Outcomes, 2nd edition*, 2008, San Francisco, Jossey Bass; was PI of a national NCMHD-funded grant to identify research strategies to assess facilitators and barriers of community-academic research partnerships; and currently co-PI, with the National Congress of American Indians Policy Research Center and the University of Washington, on a new NARCH V study to conduct internet surveys and case studies of CBPR partnerships nationwide to further enhance the science of CBPR.

Maurice Williams



Community Outreach Coordinator
Community Alliance for Research and Engagement
New Haven, CT

Maurice Williams, a life-long resident of New Haven, is the Community Outreach Coordinator for CARE: Community Alliance for Research and Engagement. Maurice started community work as a volunteer for the New Haven NAACP in 1995, and shortly after was hired as the community outreach coordinator. After working with the NAACP for several years he took a position at Yale Griffin Prevention Research Center in fall of 2003. In May 2007, he began coordinating outreach for CARE. Maurice has worked in violence prevention with youth, social and economic issues and health promotion. Through community ties and strong contacts he has been able to mediate between organizations and community residents for more effective programs and interventions in the Greater New Haven community including the Valley and Bridgeport areas.