



2018 | **HEALTH EQUITY SUMMIT**
Building Healthy and Resilient Communities

September 20, 2018

Providence



PROGRAM

2018 HEALTH EQUITY SUMMIT

Building Healthy and Resilient Communities

Thursday, September 20, 2018 | 7:30 a.m. - 6:30 p.m.
Rhode Island Convention Center
1 Sabin Street, Providence, RI

Sponsored By

Rhode Island Department of Health (RIDOH)
Rhode Island Commission for Health Advocacy and Equity
Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University
Community Sponsor: Advance Clinical and Translational Research (Advance-CTR)

For More Information

Contact the Rhode Island Department of Health
Health Information Line 401.222.5960 | RI Relay 711
www.health.ri.gov/equity



Welcome to the 2018 Health Equity Summit: Building Healthy and Resilient Communities!

At the Rhode Island Department of Health (RIDOH), we believe that everyone – no matter who they are or where they live – deserves the opportunity to live a healthy life in a healthy community. Your health shouldn't be determined by your zip code, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender identity, level of education or income, or insurance status. Yet the data show that differences in health outcomes can vary widely across these groups, and even in adjacent neighborhoods. We come together now so we can do something about those data disparities. Together, we're moving from talking about health equity to mobilizing action.

We spend a great deal on healthcare as a society, but health starts in our homes, schools, jobs, and communities. It begins with the services available in our neighborhoods, the quality of our housing, the safety of our communities, the food we have access to, and our employment opportunities. This means that achieving the conditions for better health will require us to shift our investments to the place where health happens the most – our communities.

Ensuring that everyone has what they need to be healthy is more than a good idea, or a smart financial move. It's also a matter of justice and fairness that impacts all of us! The good news is that we've witnessed tremendous progress in recent years to move our conversations about health equity into action. The best example of this work is Rhode Island's Health Equity Zone (HEZ) initiative, where communities across the state are harnessing their collective power to transform conditions in their neighborhoods for better living, long term.

With this third Health Equity Summit, we hope to build on the progress of our HEZs throughout RI, and generate new ideas for how we can work together to ensure all of our neighbors have the opportunity to live a healthy life. Our theme this year is "Building Healthy and Resilient Communities." We're especially excited for the opportunity to launch the 2018-2019 Association for State and Territorial Health Officials (ASTHO) President's Challenge during our Summit. As the incoming ASTHO President, I am leading the ASTHO President's Challenge in partnership with the National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO). The Challenge, which is aligned with the US Surgeon General's focus on Community Health and Economic Prosperity, will call on public health officials across the country to build healthier, more resilient communities by supporting investments in community-led, place-based approaches.

Thank you to all of our speakers, panelists, and community partners for helping us make such a meaningful, dynamic event so successful. We also want to extend a special thank you to RIDOH's Health Equity Summit Planning Committee, the Commission for Health Advocacy and Equity, ASTHO, Advance-CTR, and the Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University for your valuable contributions to the planning and implementation of this year's Summit.

And finally, thank you to everyone joining us today. Your imagination, strengthened voices, and collective energy are critical to helping us envision and effectively advance towards a healthier, more resilient, and more just society for all.

Please enjoy the 2018 Health Equity Summit, on behalf of the Rhode Island Department of Health!

Sincerely,
Nicole Alexander-Scott, MD, MPH



Nicole Alexander-Scott, MD, MPH
Director
Rhode Island Department of Health



Deborah Garneau
Director, Health Equity Institute
Co-Chair, Health Equity Summit
Rhode Island Department of Health



Michelle Wilson
Lead, Racial and Ethnic Population
Policy Team, Health Equity Institute
Co-Chair, Health Equity Summit
Rhode Island Department of Health



Seema Dixit
Director, Division of Environmental
Health
Co-Chair, Health Equity Summit
Rhode Island Department of Health

Program Description

The 2018 Health Equity Summit: **Building Healthy and Resilient Communities**, provides individuals from all walks of life with the opportunity to come together to learn about and discuss current and emerging issues affecting health equity in our state. Health equity means everyone has fair and just opportunity to be healthier. This requires removing obstacles to health such as poverty, discrimination, and their consequences, including powerlessness and lack of access to good jobs with fair pay, quality education and housing, safe environments, and healthcare. The Summit will highlight current efforts to advance community well-being across Rhode Island, showcase best practices to promote health equity throughout the region, and feature the regional launch of the 2018-2019 Association for State and Territorial Health Officials (ASTHO) President's Challenge.

Key focus areas of the Summit include:

1. Strengthening community-led, place-based approaches like RI Health Equity Zones
2. Promoting positive social connectivity
3. Improving community resilience

Learning Objectives

At the conclusion of this activity, participants should be able to:

- Promote a shared framework for advancing health equity;
- Explore recent progress and emerging opportunities and challenges related to addressing health disparities;
- Showcase regional, state, and local policy initiatives, systems change, and strategic practices that support the advancement of health equity; and
- Renew their call to action through cross-sector collaborations, partnerships, and networking opportunities.

This Summit was partially funded by the federal grant or cooperative agreement by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), Administration for Children and Families (ACF), and by the Kresge Foundation's Emerging Leaders in Public Health Initiative.

Planning Committee

Rhode Island Department of Health (RIDOH)

Co-Chairs:

Seema Dixit

Deborah Garneau

Michelle Wilson

Christopher Ausura

Steven Boudreau

Ashley Fogarty

Robert Ireland

Denise Marte

Pat Raymond

Kristen St. John

Carmen Boucher

Laura Bozzi

Deborah Golding

Kathy Marceau

Sophie O'Connell

Sidra Scharff

Samuel Zwetchkenbaum

Special thanks to Tim McGrath for designing this year's program.

Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University

Maria Sullivan

Andrea Goldstein

Credit Designation

Nurses: This continuing nursing education activity was approved by the Northeast Multistate Division, an accredited approver by the American Nurses Credentialing Center's Commission on Accreditation. | 8.25 Contact Hours until August 30, 2020.

Social Workers: This activity has been approved by the NASW, Rhode Island for 4.5 CE's (4.5 CE's in Cross-Cultural Practice), Authorization #: RI-7107, valid until 4/30/19.

Approved Sessions

(attendees can claim a maximum of 4.5 hours)

9:45 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. (1.25 hours)

- Enhancing Transgender Community Cohesion and Health

- Advocacy and Healthcare

11:15 a.m. - 12:15 p.m. (1.0 hours)

- Cultural Barriers to Refugees Seeking & Accessing Healthcare Services

1:30 p.m. - 2:45 p.m. (1.25 hours)

- Addressing Structural Racism in Healthcare: Brown Advocates for Social Change and Equity Program

- You've Got This: Community- and School-based Interventions to Prevent Unplanned Pregnancies and STDs among Rhode Island's Youth

- Trauma-Sensitive Schools: Going Beyond ACEs to Resiliency

3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. (1.0 hours)

- Improving Social Cohesion to Address Racial and Social Economic Disparities in Advance Care Planning: Inspire the Leader Workshop

3	RIDOH Health Equity Institute
4	RIDOH Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity Equity Workgroup
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6	The Equity Manifesto
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12	Poster Presentations and Resource Tables
13	Concurrent Workshop Session 1: Building a Framework
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21	Lunchtime Roundtable Discussions
25	Concurrent Workshop Session 3: Changing the Context of Health
30	Concurrent Workshop Session 4: Paving a New Path Towards Health Equity
36	General Plenary Session: A Health Equity Zones Panel Presentation with Dr. Nicole Alexander-Scott
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RIDOH Health Equity Institute

The Rhode Island Department of Health (RIDOH)'s Health Equity Institute is a team working from the Office of the Director to elevate the department-wide priority of equity by:

- Implementing programs focused on eliminating health disparities; and
- Incorporating an equity approach into the work conducted by RIDOH and its sister agencies.

Vision

The Health Equity Institute envisions a Rhode Island where everyone has a fair opportunity to achieve their full potential, recognizing that every individual has inherent value as a member of a family, workplace, and community.

Mission

The mission of the Health Equity Institute is to address systemic inequities so that all Rhode Islanders reach their full potential, regardless of:

- The color of their skin
- Where they were born
- Disability
- Gender identity
- Sexual orientation
- Neighborhood
- Religion
- Occupation
- Language
- How much money they make
- Age
- Level of education

What We Do

The Health Equity Institute gives voice to the vulnerable populations in the state to ensure that everyone has an opportunity to achieve health.

We implement programs to support:

- Individuals with disabilities and special needs
- Racial and ethnic populations
- Mothers, babies, and families with young children
- Rhode Island's Health Equity Zones

We support equity initiatives at RIDOH and in the community, including the:

- Social Justice Roundtable
- Community Health Resilience Project
- Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity Equity Workgroup
- Vulnerable Populations Workgroup
- Determinants of Health Workgroup
- Equity Performance Measurement Workgroup
- Community Health Assessment Group
- Kresge Foundation Emerging Leaders in Public Health (ELPH) initiative
- Community Health Worker Association of Rhode Island
- Commission for Health Advocacy and Equity

Learn More and Get Involved

To learn more about the Health Equity Institute, visit www.health.ri.gov/equity.

RIDOH Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity (SOGI) Equity Workgroup

Background

Every Rhode Islander deserves the opportunity to live a healthy life and achieve their full potential. Yet Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Trans*, Two-Spirit, Queer, and Questioning (LGBTQQ+) individuals often face a variety of challenges to healthy living, including social stigma, discrimination, and difficulties accessing healthcare providers who are knowledgeable about their health risks and behaviors and who provide culturally affirming care.

RIDOH's SOGI Equity Workgroup, which is supported by RIDOH's Health Equity Institute, was formed to explore RIDOH's capacity to better serve members of Rhode Island's LGBTQQ+ communities. The SOGI Equity Workgroup works to:

- Ensure that health surveillance systems include questions about sexual orientation and gender identity;
- Create a more welcoming and inclusive environment for sexual and gender minority people at RIDOH;
- Offer training to RIDOH staff and develop organizational capacity to improve our ability to recognize and respond to sexual and gender minority health disparities; and
- Build relationships with other organizations to improve sexual and gender minority health equity statewide.

Current Initiatives

Data and Surveillance

In 2016, RIDOH began including the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) optional module on Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity in Rhode Island's adult Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) survey. RIDOH also began including a gender identity question in Rhode Island's high school Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS) in 2017.

RIDOH is analyzing findings from these surveys related to gender identity, with the goal of releasing additional data later this year.

H 7765 – An Act Relating to Health and Safety – Vital Records

RIDOH Director Nicole Alexander-Scott, MD, MPH submitted a letter of support for H 7765, legislation which aims to ensure that gender markers on death certificates are correctly aligned with the decedent's identified gender if it does not correlate with sex assigned at birth. RIDOH has also been working with GLBTQ Legal Advocates & Defenders (GLAD) on an amendment to include "any additional document as authorized by the Rhode Island Department of Health" to the list of qualifying documents that can be presented to memorialize a decedent's identified gender.

LGBTQQ+ Health Resources

RIDOH has developed a list of resources that Rhode Island LGBTQQ+ community members may find helpful in accessing culturally proficient healthcare. To view these resources, visit www.health.ri.gov/lgbt.

RI Pride Sponsorship

RIDOH has been a proud sponsor of Rhode Island's Pride Festival since 2016, distributing public health resources and standing with LGBTQQ+ Rhode Islanders to celebrate their many contributions to our wider community.

Listening Forum on Health and Public Safety

RIDOH held a listening forum with the City of Providence in 2016 to learn more about ways to improve health and public safety for LGBTQQ+ community members. RIDOH is planning to hold another listening forum later this year.

All-Access Restroom at RIDOH's Cannon Building

As part of planned renovations to modernize its public restrooms, RIDOH is installing an all-access bathroom on the lower level of the Cannon Building. These facilities will ensure a more welcoming and private space for gender non-conforming visitors and staff, as well as families, caregivers, individuals with disabilities, individuals with atypical bodies and physical presentations, and others.

Learn More and Get Involved

For more information on partnering with the SOGI Workgroup, please contact C. Kelly Smith at CKelly.Smith@health.ri.gov.

RIDOH Social Justice Roundtable

“Social justice is a process, not an outcome, which seeks fair redistribution of resources, opportunities, and responsibilities. Social justice challenges the roots of oppression and injustice, including marginalization based on race, class, gender, and other social classifications, and empowers all people to exercise self-determination and realize their full potential through collaborative action.”

*Definition of “Social Justice” from Place Matters (Alameda County Health Department)

Who We Are

The Social Justice Roundtable (SJR) is supported by the Rhode Island Department of Health (RIDOH)’s Health Equity Institute. The RIDOH SJR is comprised of public health professionals motivated by a commitment to use the core principles of social justice as a lens to help review and inform public health policies and practices.

What We Do

The RIDOH SJR works to create safe spaces to engage in open dialogue and spur action to address the root causes of structural inequities and institutional systems that adversely impact the health and well-being of communities. The SJR hosts the “Health Equity Dialogue Series,” which is an open forum on topics including racism, mass incarceration, ableism, housing and gentrification, economic inequality, community resilience, and socioeconomic and environmental determinants of health.

Why We Do It

Social injustice is one of several root causes of inequities in the health and well-being of individuals. RIDOH’s SJR has a crucial role in ensuring that the process of social justice is embedded into the foundations of state public health policy and practice. While the SJR recognizes that public health cannot solve all the problems related to bias or the “isms” (racism, sexism, etc.), it can develop means to mobilize institutional change and support grassroots social movements to address unequal and poor health outcomes within specific populations and communities in Rhode Island.

How We Do It

With support from the Kresge Foundation Emerging Leaders in Public Health (ELPH) initiative, the RIDOH SJR aims to provide ongoing training opportunities to engage RIDOH leadership/staff and community partners to include social justice core values, policies, and processes in public health practice by:

- Identifying specific opportunities to embed social justice frameworks into program policies and practices;
- Creating space for personal/professional dialogue around the intersection of public health and social justice;
- Developing trainings, tools, publications, and resources to help staff utilize and apply the “social justice lens” in all the work at RIDOH; and
- Empowering RIDOH staff, partners, and organizations to include social justice processes in their efforts to achieve health equity.

Learn More and Get Involved

To learn more or get involved, contact Dana McCants Derisier at dana.mccantsderisier@health.ri.gov.

The Equity Manifesto

It begins by joining together, believing in the potency of inclusion, and building from a common bond.

It embraces complexity as cause for collaboration, accepting that our fates are inextricable.

It recognizes local leaders as national leaders, nurturing the wisdom and creativity within every community as essential to solving the nation’s problems.

It demands honesty and forthrightness, calling out racism and oppression, both overt and systemic.

It strives for the power to realize our goals while summoning the grace to sustain them.

It requires that we understand the past, without being trapped in it; embrace the present, without being constrained by it; and look to the future, guided by the hopes and courage of those who have fought before and beside us.

This is equity: just and fair inclusion into a society in which all can participate, prosper, and reach their full potential. Unlocking the promise of the nation by unleashing the promise in us all



The Equity Manifesto has been inspired by the work, commitments, insights, and resolve of the many partners with whom PolicyLink has shared this journey. Please use it, share it, and reflect on it in your lives, your work, your struggle. Just please don’t change it.

PolicyLink is a national research and action institute advancing economic and social equity by Lifting Up What Works®.
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AGENDA

Thursday, September 20, 2018

Time	Event																								
7:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.	Registration Networking with Breakfast (7:30 a.m. - 8:15 a.m.) <i>Featuring music by the Inner City Rhythm Drummers</i>																								
8:15 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.	Welcoming Remarks Ana Novais, MA Executive Director, Rhode Island Department of Health Opening Remarks Nicole Alexander-Scott, MD, MPH Director, Rhode Island Department of Health																								
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Featured Guests

KEYNOTE SPEAKER:

Edward P. Ehlinger, MD, MSPH



Dr. Edward Ehlinger is a public health metaphysician who has spent his professional career working in various settings to advance health equity and optimal health for all. He has integrated the values, practices, and approaches of medical care, public health, and social justice in

his work as a Senior Assistant Surgeon with the National Health Service Corps, Director of Maternal and Child Health at the Minneapolis Health Department, Director and Chief Health Officer at Boynton Health Service at the University of Minnesota, and Commissioner of Health at the Minnesota Department of Health.

Dr. Ehlinger received his BA degree in English and his MD degree from the University of Wisconsin – Madison and his Master of Science in Public Health degree from the University of North Carolina – Chapel Hill. He is a Fellow of the American College Health Association, a Robert Wood Johnson Clinical Scholar, and a Bush Fellow. He is board certified in internal medicine and pediatrics and is an Adjunct Professor in the School of Public Health at the University of Minnesota. He is a past president of the Minnesota Public Health Association, the North Central College Health Association, the Twin Cities Medical Society, the Association of State and Territorial Health Officials, and the first board chair of CityMatCH.

AS220 Youth ZuKrewe



The AS220 Youth ZuKrewe is a hip hop performance troupe dedicated to using music, dance, and theatre to engage communities in dialogue about social justice issues that impact our daily lives, especially issues affecting communities of color.

Inner City Rhythm Drummers



The Inner City Rhythm (ICR) Drummers program is an established "Save the Music" program targeting the most low-income districts in our state. The ICR drummers unite kids and teenagers from all cultures to experience music at its highest level through drums and percussion. The

goal is to award even beginner drummers the opportunity to perform in front of live audiences.

Kim Trusty



Kim Trusty hails from Media, Pennsylvania. Her foray into songwriting started at a young age and eventually brought her to New England to study songwriting at the Berklee College of Music in Boston, Massachusetts. She has spent the last three decades residing in Providence,

Rhode Island, refining her musical skills, crafting and branding her own style of Jazz, R&B, Blues, and original music. Trusty's reputation has moved well beyond the Ocean State as a consummate technician, vocalist, lyricist, and songstress. She is also known for her work in the community. Trusty has worked with kids from diverse backgrounds, teaching elementary school music, primarily working with African Americans and Latinos. She helped start Providence's first school for the arts, Trinity Academy for the Performing Arts, which opened its doors in September of 2010. Trusty is currently working with a screenwriter to tell her amazing story as a black lesbian artist, educator, stroke and cancer survivor.

Kim Trusty photo credit: Erin X. Smithers

Poster Presentations and Resource Tables

The Summit agenda includes time for attendees to visit poster presentations and resource tables stationed in the ballroom pre-function space. Please take a moment to engage with these presenters and exhibitors for more information about initiatives promoting health equity in Rhode Island!

Location: Ballroom Pre-function Space

Posters:

Addressing Health and Social Needs Through Community Health Teams (CHTs) Linda Cabral, MM; Elizabeth Fortin, MSW, LICSW; Karen Baldyga; Jenna Stanley, MPH

A Snapshot of Adherence to American Diabetes Association Guidelines in a Free Clinic for the Uninsured: Striving for Equitable Healthcare for All Naaman Mehta; Roshini Kalagara; Martha Franco; Valerie Joseph; Annie S. De Groot, MD

SBIRT Implementation in Non-traditional Healthcare Settings: Addressing Disparities in Access to Substance Use Care Shayna S. Bassett, PhD; Laurel Murphy, BA; L.A.R. Stein, PhD

Inclusive Data Policies Alvaro Tinajero, MD, MPH, ScM

The Impact of Smoke-Free Housing on Sick Visits and Hospitalization for Respiratory Illnesses in Children Ages 0-12 Gail M. Davis, BSN, RN, CCM; Joanne F. Costello, MPH, PhD, RN

Breastfeeding Initiation Among Women in Rhode Island, 2012-2015 Alison Z. Weber, MPH candidate

Girls Empowerment, Mentoring and Support (GEMS) Antonio Da Veiga Rocha; Sterling Clinton Spellman; Meghan Grady

Princes to Kings (P2K) Antonio Da Veiga Rocha; Kobi Dennis; Scott Lapham; Akilah Alleyne

Cigarette Use During Pregnancy Among Rhode Island Mothers, 2012-2015, RI PRAMS Annie Gjelsvik, PhD; Hanna Kim, PhD; Karine Monteiro, MPH; Ailis Clyne, MD, MPH; Dana McCants Derisier, MS; Elsa Larson, PhD, MS

Histories of First and Second Order Violence among Undocumented, Uninsured Free Health Clinic Patients Vivian Chan; Annie S. DeGroot, MD

Improving Efficiency at Clínica Esperanza: Lessons Learned Naaman Mehta; Emily Derecktor; Diana Ponitz; Stefan Rodriguez; Lanbo Yang; Melanie Brown

Patient Advocacy by Peer Community Health Workers and the Advanced Navegante Training Program at Clínica Esperanza/ Hope Clinic Meghan McCarthy; Katherine Barry; Damaris Rosales; Cindy Estrada; Brenda Veliz; Rosa Roman; Annie S. De Groot, MD

Resource Tables:

Bristol Health Equity Zone (HEZ), *Town of Bristol*

Newport Health Equity Zone (HEZ), *Women's Resource Center*

Pawtucket and Central Falls Health Equity Zone (HEZ), *Local Initiatives Support Corporation*

Providence Health Equity Zone (HEZ): Olneyville Neighborhood, *ONE Neighborhood Builders*

Providence Health Equity Zone (HEZ): Southside, West End, and Elmwood Neighborhoods, *Providence Children and Youth Cabinet*

Washington County (South County) Health Equity Zone (HEZ), *South County Health*

West Warwick Health Equity Zone (HEZ), *Thundermist Health Center*

Woonsocket Health Equity Zone (HEZ), *Thundermist Health Center*

Family Visiting Program, *Rhode Island Department of Health*

Immunization Program, *Rhode Island Department of Health*

Community Health Network / Diabetes, Heart Disease, and Stroke Program, *Rhode Island Department of Health*

Infectious Diseases & Climate Change Programs, *Rhode Island Department of Health*

Tobacco Control Program, *Rhode Island Department of Health*

We Ask Everyone Campaign, *A Partnership between Rhode Island College, the State Innovation Model, and the Rhode Island Department of Behavioral Healthcare, Developmental Disabilities and Hospitals*

Advance Clinical and Translational Research (Advance-CTR), *Brown University*

Concurrent Workshop Session 1:*Building a Framework*

Topics in this series begin to build a shared language around community health and resiliency through applying a health equity lens to: coalition-building; grassroots lobbying; understanding the built and physical environment; and addressing unique needs in substance-exposed, youth, transgender, aging, and special needs populations.

Time: 9:45 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

Improving Neighborhood Health Through the Built Environment

The built environment can be designed to encourage healthy activity from its inhabitants. Understanding and designing for the human instinct to play and explore can make neighborhoods healthier. This presentation will showcase a variety of initiatives across the state, instilling in its audience an understanding of how urban spaces can be transformed to encourage joyful walking, the power of curiosity and play, and more.

Location: Ballroom A

Speakers:

- C.J. Opperthausen, *Co-Producer, Tour de Tentacle*
- Angela Marandola, *Health Equity Zone Project Co-Coordinator, Women's Resource Center*
- Gail Ahlers, *Executive Director, The Empowerment Factory*
- Eric Weis, *President, Cogent*
- Susan Mara, *Director of Planning, Pawtucket, RI*
- Valerie Benoit, *Blackstone Valley Community Action Program*

Topic Areas: Health Equity Zones and other place-based initiatives, Built Environment, Social Connectivity

Supporting Families with Substance-Exposed Newborns: A Discussion of Overcoming Barriers and Various Supports Including Family Treatment Drug Court

Navigating pregnancy and life with a newborn is complicated regardless of the circumstances. For those in recovery there is added complexity. Objectives of this session are: to summarize the basics of opioid exposure and treatment during pregnancy and delivery; explain the complexity of navigating a substance-exposed pregnancy; strategize to combat negative public attitudes facing families with substance-exposed newborns; and identify the resources available to support new and expectant parents with a substance-exposed newborn, including family treatment drug court.

Location: Ballroom B

Speakers:

- Lia Stuhlsatz, Esq., *Associate Judge, Rhode Island Family Court*
- Laura Aussant, RN, *Nurse Care Manager, Coastal Medical*
- Lisa Conlan Lewis, *Executive Director, Parent Support Network of Rhode Island*
- Nicole Silvia, *Peer Recovery Specialist*
- Sarah Bowman, MPH, *Program Evaluator, Office of Family Visiting, Rhode Island Department of Health*

Topic Areas: Maternal and Child Health, Behavioral Health

Time: 9:45 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

Enhancing Transgender Community Cohesion and Health

The transgender community faces myriad health disparities including higher rates of unemployment, homelessness, violence, substance abuse, depression, and suicidality. This presentation will outline the development, implementation, and impact of a Trans* Wellness program as an important aspect of an integrated model of providing medical and behavioral health care to the trans community at a Federally Qualified Health Center. Challenges, successes and future plans will be described.

Location: Ballroom C

Speakers:

- Jaye Watts, LICSW, *Director of Transgender Health, Thundermist Health Center*

Topic Areas: Community Resiliency, Social Connectivity

Coalition-Building for RI Nutrition Incentive Programs Across Sectors

The purpose of Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) incentives is to make healthier food more affordable to low-income residents. We will discuss the experiences we have had in implementing nutrition incentives in the Health Equity Zones (HEZs). This workshop will explore SNAP nutrition incentive programs through: describing their purpose and results; and describing key steps in scaling the program, including challenges and opportunities to scale the program statewide.

Location: Room 554A

Speakers:

- Eliza Dexter Cohen, *RI Public Health Institute and RI Food Policy Council*
- Thea Upham, *Farm Fresh RI*
- Steve Arthurs, *RI Food Dealers Association*
- Sue AnderBois, *Director of Food Strategy, State of Rhode Island*
- Winton Pitcoff, *Director, Massachusetts Food System Collaborative*

Topic Areas: Health Equity Zones and other place-based initiatives, Built Environment, Policy, Social Connectivity, Community Resiliency

Healthy Aging and Why It Matters

This session will explore the importance of changing traditional perceptions of aging. We will look at factors that are relevant to healthy aging, such as social and other determinants of health, as well as the roles communities can play in achieving healthy aging for older adults.

Location: Room 554B

Speakers:

- Rhonda Schwartz, *Aging Services Program Specialist, US Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Community Living*

Topic Areas: Healthy Aging

How Housing Works to Support Health

This session will feature brief presentations from experts in policy and practice with an in-depth moderated discussion. Objectives are: to highlight the importance of housing stability in bolstering health; identify pressing issues facing Rhode Island residents at the intersection of health and housing; discuss examples of local pilot programs formalizing relationship between healthcare and housing; and discuss policies that can help different populations stabilize their housing and health.

Location: Room 555A

Speakers:

- Dr. Michael Fine, *Health Policy Advisor to Mayor James Diossa of Central Falls; Senior Population Health and Clinical Services Officer, Blackstone Valley Community Health Care (BVCHC)*
- Karen Santilli, *President, Crossroads RI*
- Tanja Kubas-Meyers, MSW, MA, *Executive Director, RI Coalition for Children and Families*
- Jody Shue, MPH, *Executive Director, Age Friendly RI*

Topic Areas: Maternal and Child Health, Health Equity Zones and other place-based initiatives, Housing and Community Development, Policy, Community Resiliency

Concurrent Workshop Session 2:*Closing Gaps in Health Disparities*

Topics in this series ask participants to identify and address gaps in policy and practice that, if closed, have the potential to bring us closer towards achieving health equity for all Rhode Islanders. Sessions will focus on topics ranging from mental health and wellness to complex care coordination, policy, funding, and investment, and supporting people who are school-aged, immigrants, or involved in the criminal justice system. Sessions will also showcase the organizations already doing this important work.

Time: 11:15 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.

Stand Up to Stigma: Let's Talk About Mental Health

The Chariho Youth Task Force will showcase the important difference between mental health and mental illness. This presentation identifies daily stressors, utilizes youth-friendly strategies to address stress, and provides concrete calls to action through simple behavioral change strategies regarding the language we use. Coming from a youth voice to best inform supportive adults about this topic, we will provide tools that youth and adults need to start a conversation.

Location: Ballroom A

Speakers:

- Daniel Fitzgerald, MPH, ICPS, *Director, Chariho Youth Task Force*
- Additional members of the Chariho Youth Task Force

Topic Areas: Behavioral Health, Social Connectivity, Community Resiliency

Innovating SDOH Responsiveness in Primary Care Settings: The MLPB-Connect for Health Partnership that Builds Capacity in Care Teams

MLPB, with expertise in public interest law, and Connect for Health (C4H), of the Lifespan Community Health Institute, are mission-driven programs that leverage distinct strategies to advance health equity. This workshop will spotlight how primary care clinics must adapt—structurally and culturally—to better meet the needs of individuals and families. The learning objectives are: to identify consumers' rights in a range of social determinants of health (SDOH) domains impacted by state and federal law; identify approaches to screening for SDOH in the clinic; evaluate adaptations clinics must make to successfully integrate SDOH care team collaborators and interventions; and examine emerging measurement strategies.

Location: Ballroom B

Speakers:

- Jeannine Casselman, JD, *Program Manager, MLPB*
- Carrie Bridges Feliz, MPH, *Director, Community Health Services, Lifespan*
- Carinel LeGrand, MPA, *Project Coordinator, Connect for Health*
- Michelle Wheelock, BS, CLC, *Project Coordinator, Connect for Health*

Topic Areas: Maternal and Child Health, Health Equity Zones and other place-based initiatives, Housing and Community Development, Policy, Social Connectivity, Immigration, Community Health Work, Interprofessional Education

Time: 11:15 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.

The "Health" in Health Equity: How a Clinic for Immigrants Significantly Improves Health Outcomes Through Access to Care and Health Education

This presentation will describe the services that are offered to the uninsured, low-income Hispanic immigrant patient population at Clínica Esperanza/Hope Clinic (CEHC). We will demonstrate the benefits that we create for our patients and for the wider Rhode Island community by highlighting a few of our most successful programs. The presentation will be broken up into 4 parts: 1) Our history and the demographic we serve; 2) The Clínica Esperanza/Hope Clinic Emergency Room Diversion Program (CHEER); 3) Vida Sana, a Navegante-led group lifestyle coaching program; 4) The Bridging the Gap (BTG) program.

Location: Ballroom C

Speakers:

- Katherine Barry, *Project Director, CEHC*
- Meghan McCarthy, *Project Manager, CEHC*
- Valerie Almeida-Monroe, *Nurse Director, CEHC*
- Patricia M. Risica, *Associate Professor of Behavioral and Social Sciences and Epidemiology, Brown University School of Public Health*
- Adelaide Lafferty Ritt, *WISEWOMAN Program Manager, Rhode Island Department of Health*
- Nisha Janardhanan Nair, *Data Analysis Volunteer, CEHC*
- Pooja Hindocha, *Data Analysis Volunteer, CEHC*
- Anne S. De Groot, MD, *Volunteer Medical Director/Executive Director, CEHC*

Topic Areas: Social Connectivity, Immigration, Access to Health Care, Minority Health

Criminalization and Inequity in Rhode Island's Overdose and Addiction Crisis

While addiction is increasingly understood as a disease, drug use is also classified as a criminal activity. There are inequities along race and class lines in who is considered a "patient" and who is considered a "criminal" for their drug use. Objectives of this session are: to understand the negative impacts that incarceration-based drug policies have had, specifically in low-income communities and communities of color; to examine racial disparity data on criminalization of drug use in RI; and to build frameworks that work holistically to support all Rhode Islanders who use substances.

Location: Room 554A

Speakers:

- Annajane Yolken, *Executive Director, Protect Families First*

Topic Areas: Behavioral Health, Policy, Social Connectivity, Community Resiliency, Economic Opportunity, Racial Justice, Substance Use, Mass Incarceration

Mindfulness: A Key Ingredient for Resilience in the Face of Toxic Stress

Toxic stress is a health concern that derails healthy development, particularly affecting children in poverty and those facing systemic discrimination. This presentation will address the use of mindfulness skills in a school setting for students of all ages to build resilience. At the close of this session, attendees will be able to: define toxic stress and how it affects those who face adversity; define resilience skills and explain their impact; and practice basic resilience skills.

Location: Room 554B

Speakers:

- Vanessa Weiner, *Executive Director, Center for Resilience*

Topic Areas: Behavioral Health, Social Connectivity, Community Resiliency

Lunchtime Roundtable Discussions

Roundtable discussions offer an opportunity to engage in lively informal discussion about important topics in health equity. There are 17 roundtable topics at this year's Summit. Each roundtable will begin with a brief (10-15 minute) introduction of the topic followed by lively questioning and dialogue by all participants in the roundtable. Join any discussion and move between and among tables and groups, as you wish.

Time: 12:30 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Ballroom A

Meet Leaders of RIDOH's Health Equity Initiatives

The mission of RIDOH's Health Equity Institute is to address systemic inequities so that all Rhode Islanders reach their full potential. The Institute oversees the Offices of Special Needs and Minority Health, the Maternal and Child Health Program, Culturally and Linguistically Appropriate Services, and the Health Equity Zones (HEZ) initiative and provides support to a wide range of additional equity initiatives.

Location: Table A

Facilitator(s):

- Deborah Garneau, MA, *Director, Health Equity Institute, Rhode Island Department of Health*

Eliminating Secondhand Smoke Exposure in Multi-Unit Housing

The Rhode Island Department of Health's Live Smoke Free Program will discuss how you can protect residents, employees, and visitors from secondhand smoke exposure and exposure to e-cigarette aerosol in multi-unit buildings. Learning objectives are: to understand benefits of a smoke-free building policy; understand basic no-smoking policy implementation and enforcement approaches; and understand available cessation services and resources. This session is ideal for public health advocates, Public Housing Authorities, affordable multi-unit property management groups, residents, and housing administrators considering a no-smoking policy and those wanting to strengthen enforcement efforts for an existing policy.

Location: Table B

Facilitator(s):

- Benvinda Santos, MPA, *Tobacco Control Community Coordinator, Tobacco Control Program, Rhode Island Department of Health*

Social Cohesion in Public Health

Using data from the 2012-14 Rhode Island Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS), this presentation will introduce the concept of social cohesion and its elements and provide evidence to promote the use of social connectedness information as a component of public health surveillance. This serves as an update of 2005-09 findings and provides information on changes in the social cohesion of Rhode Islanders during the last decade.

Location: Table C

Facilitator(s):

- Alvaro Tinajero, MD, MPH, ScM, *Senior Epidemiologist, Rhode Island Department of Health*

Health Equity Zones and Opportunity Zones

This roundtable will discuss the potential impacts of the Opportunity Zone funding that is included in the most recent tax bill.

Location: Table D

Facilitator(s):

- Christopher J. Ausura, *Health Equity Zone Project Manager, Health Equity Institute, Rhode Island Department of Health*

Time: 12:30 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Ballroom A

Promoting Internship Opportunities for Vulnerable Populations of Transitioning Youth

This roundtable discussion will include the explanation and benefits of providing opportunities to underemployed, transition-age young adults. Learning objectives are: to identify the underemployed young adults; provide supports and opportunities; train the workforce/coworkers; partner with local schools/agencies; and develop internship opportunities.

Location: Table E

Facilitator(s):

- Jane DeMelo, *Teacher, Northern RI Collaborative Transition Employment Center*
- Carmen Boucher, BS, *Community Program Liaison, Health Equity Institute, Rhode Island Department of Health*

Effective Communication During an Emergency

A core component of community resilience includes effective risk communication for all populations. This roundtable will discuss how organizations can play a key role in educating diverse populations to ensure consistent, accurate information is disseminated to the public about preparedness, risks, and resources before, during, and after a disaster.

Location: Table F

Facilitator(s):

- Annemarie Beardsworth, CCHP, *Provider and Internal Communications, Center for Public Health Communication, Rhode Island Department of Health*

Disparities in Maternal and Child Health in RI

The mission of the Maternal and Child Health Program at the Rhode Island Department of Health is to support and promote the health of all mothers, children, and families to reduce inequities and improve outcomes. Join us as we discuss key programs targeting disparities in maternal and child health in Rhode Island.

Location: Table G

Facilitator(s):

- Jamie Comella, MPH, *Maternal and Child Health Program Manager, Health Equity Institute, Rhode Island Department of Health*

Leveraging Community Health Workers for Health Equity

Community Health Workers (CHWs) are increasingly recognized as having the skill set, resource knowledge, and relationship with community members that can help improve health outcomes for marginalized populations. This roundtable will discuss how to strategize the deployment of CHWs across multiple sectors in the social services and health services fields in ways that empower CHWs and maximize the effectiveness of their work.

Location: Table H

Facilitator(s):

- Sarah R. Lawrence, CCHW, MSW, PhD, *Director, Community Health Worker Association of Rhode Island (CHWARI)*

The RIPIN Call Center - Helping Rhode Islanders Navigate Healthcare and Special Education

This roundtable discussion will feature an overview of the Rhode Island Parent Information Network (RIPIN) integrated call center model, which offers a variety of supports to Rhode Islanders through a person-centric approach utilizing cross-trained staff. We will review and discuss program design and data.

Location: Table I

Facilitator(s):

- Sam Salganik, *Attorney & Health Policy Analyst, Rhode Island Parent Information Network*

Concurrent Workshop Session 3:*Changing the Context of Health*

This series features key topics in healthcare, community leadership, community development, education, and social cohesion and asks participants to re-imagine a Rhode Island where health and health equity are the rule, not the exception.

Time: 1:30 p.m. - 2:45 p.m.

Outcomes-based Funding for Health Equity Interventions

This panel of experts will discuss emerging funding mechanisms connecting “outcomes-oriented” community-based interventions with the state or local beneficiaries of those organizations and philanthropists or foundations that support these initiatives, also known as Pay for Success (PFS). The most successful PFS initiatives involve evidence-based interventions that demonstrate cost savings or improve ‘performance’ efficiency. This panel will address current funding mechanisms for Pay for Success, describe successful models, and report on local initiatives in Health Equity.

Location: Ballroom A

Speakers:

- Matthew Eldridge, *Policy Program Manager, Research to Action Lab, Urban Institute*
- Malini Nayar, *Vice President and Chief Credit Officer, LISC Rhode Island*
- Seth Magaziner, *Rhode Island Treasurer*
- Anne S. De Groot, MD, *Volunteer Medical Director/Executive Director, Clínica Esperanza/Hope Clinic (CEHC)*
- Katherine Barry, *Project Director, CEHC*

Topic Areas: Economic Opportunity, Policy

Development without Displacement: Gentrification and Public Health

Research shows that gentrification results in devastating health impacts and inequities, yet many place-based community health improvement efforts like community gardens and walkable neighborhoods can contribute to gentrification and displacement. The lead authors of a ground-breaking report, “Development Without Displacement: Resisting Gentrification in the Bay Area,” will share stories about their innovative collaboration between housing justice community organizers and the health department.

Location: Ballroom B

Speakers:

- Tram Nguyen, *Management Analyst, Alameda County Public Health Department*
- Malcolm Torrejón Chu, *Communications Strategist, Right to the City Alliance*

Topic Areas: Housing and Community Development

Time: 1:30 p.m. - 2:45 p.m.

You’ve Got This: Community and School-Based Interventions to Prevent Unplanned Pregnancies and STDs among Rhode Island’s Youth

Rhode Island has seen a 10-year spike in sexually transmitted disease (STD) cases, especially in the urban core. A number of innovative programs to reach youth representing communities of color and Spanish-speaking youth have been developed and implemented in both school and community settings. The objectives of this session are: to understand trends in STDs and unplanned pregnancy in RI; learn about programs tailored to urban youth in community and school settings that aim to reduce STD and pregnancy rates; and understand how consumer-driven programs using a health equity lens have been successfully implemented to reduce unplanned pregnancy and STD rates in Rhode Island.

Location: Ballroom C

Speakers:

- Thomas Bertrand (Facilitator), *Rhode Island Department of Health*
- Eliesel Morales, *Founder, listamundial.com*
- Brittany Huffman, CHES, *Youth Development Specialist and Community Educator, Planned Parenthood of Southern New England, Inc.*
- Beata Nelken, MD, *Pediatrician and Medical Director of Adolescent Health, Blackstone Valley Community Health Care*
- Youth educators from the Students Teaching About Responsible Sexuality (STARS) Program

Topic Areas: Health Equity Zones and other place-based initiatives, Sexual Health, Social Connectivity, Community Resiliency

Trauma-Sensitive Schools: Going Beyond ACEs to Resiliency

This presentation will provide an overview of the Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACE) Study and will also discuss how providers can promote resiliency in individuals and communities in the face of ACEs. We will also cover the process in which elevated anxiety, depression, and trauma were selected as priorities through the use of data and community prioritization. We will use real prevalence and reduction data as well as demonstrate an arts-integrated clinical session.

Location: Room 554A

Speakers:

- Matthew Billings, BA, *Deputy Director, Providence Children & Youth Cabinet; Project Coordinator, Providence Health Equity Zone (HEZ): Southside, West End, and Elmwood Neighborhoods*
- Sarah Kelly-Palmer, LICSW, *Vice President, Trauma and Loss, Family Service of Rhode Island*

Topic Areas: Maternal and Child Health, Health Equity Zones and other place-based initiatives, Behavioral Health, Social Connectivity, Community Resiliency

The Art of Storytelling

A person's story is his or her most valuable possession. A story teller weaves a thread of intimacy and intrigue to connect what has happened before us to what will happen after we are memories. For health equity to become part of our vernacular, it requires people to learn how to share their stories in a way that engages and connects people to the evidence of living in a community. The workshop will help folks learn to value the art of storytelling in their work.

Location: Room 554B

Speakers:

- Richard Asinof, *editor and publisher, ConvergenceRI*

Topic Areas: Health Equity Zones and other place-based initiatives, Social Connectivity, Community Resiliency

Time: 1:30 p.m. - 2:45 p.m.

Representation in Maternal Health: Unspoken Disconnect

Family Visiting and the RI Department of Corrections: Supporting Women and Families at Vulnerable Times

This two-part presentation will convene community leaders in maternal health to discuss ideas and action plans around the provision of additional resources for underrepresented communities in maternal health through: identification of grassroots organizations; promotion of existing support systems; and awareness of resources from community-led programs and services. This presentation will also showcase how cross-sector collaboration can work to address health disparities and improve outcomes for vulnerable populations. Following the presentation, participants will be able to explain the motivation for the Rhode Island Department of Corrections (RIDOC) / Rhode Island Department of Health (RIDOH) collaboration and the expansion of this collaboration.

Location: Room 555A

Speakers:

- Quatia Osorio, *Executive Director, Our Journ3i*
- Shaylene Costa, *Founder, Carrier Connections RI*
- Jennifer Fantasia, *Doula & Childbirth Educator*
- Ada Johnson, *Infant Loss Support Group*
- Sara Remington, *Family Visiting Implementation Manager, Family Visiting Program, Rhode Island Department of Health*
- Amy Morin, *Meeting Street Healthy Families America*
- TeLisa Richardson, *Parenting Coordinator, Rhode Island Department of Corrections*

Topic Areas: Maternal and Child Health

OneCranston's Approach to Social Cohesion and Health Equity

During this presentation, participants will actively participate and learn about what Social Cohesion is and what community engagement is necessary to promote it. They will also participate in a Power Analysis in order to create place-making strategies. The objective is for participants to be able to connect their own work with OneCranston's approach to social cohesion and health equity and determine new strategies for actively engaging communities in addressing health disparities.

Location: Room 555B

Speakers:

- Ayana Crichton, *Initiative Director, OneCranston through Comprehensive Community Action Program (CCAP); Rhode Island Afterschool Alliance Ambassador; and Fuel Up to Play 60 Program Advisor*
- Annette Bourne, *Research & Policy Director, HousingWorks RI at Roger Williams University; OneCranston Chair for Faces and Places*
- Caitlyn Blankenship, *Community Engagement Specialist, OneCranston through CCAP*

Topic Areas: Housing and Community Development, Social Connectivity, Economic Opportunity, Racial Equity and Social Cohesion

Time: 1:30 p.m. - 2:45 p.m.

Addressing Disparities in Cancer Care Among Latinos in Rhode Island

The objectives of this presentation and panel are to: demonstrate prevalence and trends in colorectal and gynecologic cancer care disparities among Latinos in RI; demonstrate understanding of a patient navigator program as an effective care model to address disparities in colorectal cancer care; and showcase a student-led free women's clinic model as an effective initiative to address cervical cancer screening disparities among Latin-American women.

Location: Room 556A

Speakers:

- Abdul Saied Calvino, MD, MPH, *Associate Professor of Surgery, Boston University*
- Sheyla Medina, MD candidate, *The Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University; Co-manager, Women's Clinic at Clínica Esperanza/Hope Clinic (CEHC)*
- Denise Marte, MD candidate, *The Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University; Co-manager, Women's Clinic at CEHC*
- Luz Marin, *Women's Health Educator, Women's Clinic at CEHC*
- Luwam Ghidei, MD, *PGY-4 resident in Obstetrics and Gynecology, Brown University*

Topic Areas: Cancer Care Disparities

Engaging Teens to Reduce Access to Tobacco Using Local Environmental Policy Change Strategies

The Rhode Island Tobacco-Free Youth Initiatives (TFY) partners will present how they used the Policy Adoption Model (PAM) framework to build teen capacity and make the case for local-level policy change addressing youth access to tobacco products at the point of sale. Objectives: understand the PAM framework; learn how to engage teens in the policy-making process; and learn promising point-of-sale strategies to address youth access.

Location: Room 556B

Speakers:

- Benvinda Santos, MPA, *Tobacco Control Community Coordinator, Tobacco Control Program, Rhode Island Department of Health*
- Denise Alves, *Director, East Bay Regional Coalition*
- Vernia Carter, *Central Falls Prevention Coalition*
- Judith Chick and Kimberly Maine, *West Warwick Prevention Coalition*
- Teens from each Coalition group

Topic Areas: Policy, Environmental Health

Place, Race and Disasters: Why Good Messaging Matters

By the end of this presentation, participants will be able to: understand data about perceived risk as it relates to health-seeking behaviors; identify communications needs of diverse and at-risk populations; and develop effective messaging to engage vulnerable populations.

Location: Room 557

Speakers:

- Nicolette Louissaint, PhD, *Executive Director, Healthcare Ready*
- Annemarie Beardsworth, CCHP, *Provider and Internal Communications, Center for Public Health Communication, Rhode Island Department of Health*
- Bunmi Lewis, *Emergency Communications Coordinator, Center for Public Health Communication, Rhode Island Department of Health*

Topic Areas: Community Resiliency

Time: 3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Improving Social Cohesion to Address Racial and Social Economic Disparities in Advance Care Planning (ACP): Inspire the Leader Workshop

In this interactive workshop featuring a Q&A session, role plays, and group discussions, participants will learn practical skills related to advance care planning (ACP). Facilitated by advisors with The Conversation Project, participants will: gain knowledge about end-of-life care rights; appreciate the benefits of ACP for patients and families; and learn how to initiate the conversation about end-of-life care.

Location: Ballroom C

Speakers:

- Maureen G. Glynn, JD, *Improving Care Coalition, Rhode Island State Nurses Association*
- Harriet Warshaw, MSW
- Terry Rochon, RNP

Topic Areas: Community Resiliency

Striving to Become Anti-racist Organizations

Systems of oppression not only create barriers to services, safety, and justice – they are the root causes of violence and inequity. In this presentation, the Rhode Island Coalition Against Domestic Violence (RICADV) and The Women’s Resource Center will discuss: key elements of using an anti-racist/anti-oppression approach in statewide work; potential barriers, challenges, and opportunities to its implementation; and opportunities for anti-oppression approaches that can lead to social change in statewide work and community-level, place-based work, citing examples from the Newport Health Equity Zone (HEZ).

Location: Room 554A

Speakers:

- Ian Colomer, *Policy Associate, Rhode Island Coalition Against Domestic Violence (RICADV)*
- Neyda DeJesus, *Co-Coordinator, Newport HEZ, Women's Resource Center*
- Carmen Recalde-Russo, *Director of Community Engagement, RICADV*
- Lucy Rios, *Director of Prevention and Communications, RICADV*
- Cynthia Roberts, PhD, *Empowerment Evaluator, RICADV*
- Jessica Walsh, *Director of Prevention, Women's Resource Center*
- John Wesley, JD, *Director of Policy and Advocacy, RICADV*

Topic Areas: Health Equity Zones and other place-based initiatives, Behavioral Health, Anti-racist Organizations; State Coalitions

Time: 3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Promoting Father Engagement & Involvement for Successful Childhood & Adulthood Race, Ethnicity, Geographic Location, and Selected Child Welfare Indicators

Children raised without their fathers are at four times greater risk of poverty, and seven times more likely to become pregnant as a teen, have behavioral or substance use problems, commit a crime, or go to prison. Increasing our engagement with fathers is critical. In this presentation, the Parent Support Network of Rhode Island will share the outcomes of the multi-sector RI Fatherhood Initiative and how we are preparing to implement the Rhode Island Community Mobilization Approach.

The second part of this presentation will increase participants’ knowledge of racial, ethnic and geographic inequities among children in three domains: those entering into the RI Department of Children, Youth and Families (DCYF) foster care system; their first placement in RI DCYF foster care; and children indicated for maltreatment in RI.

Location: Room 554B

Speakers:

- Representatives of the *Rhode Island Fatherhood Initiative, the Parent Support Network of Rhode Island, and Prevent Child Abuse Rhode Island*
- Colleen Caron, PhD, *Epidemiologist and Administrator of Data Analytics and Evaluation, RI DCYF*
- Kyeonghee Kim, MPH, *Epidemiologist, Data Analytics and Evaluation, RI DCYF*

Topic Areas: Maternal and Child Health, Behavioral Health, Social Connectivity, Community Resiliency, Child Welfare

Community-based Community Health Workers (CHWs): Community- and State-Level Infrastructure Development for Health Equity

The workshop will be a panel presentation and discussion with CHW Fellows in the Health Equity Zones (HEZ) initiative. The learning objectives of this presentation are: to identify the unique role of community-driven CHWs supported through the HEZ initiative; identify the HEZs in Rhode Island that hired and trained CHWs; explain how food insecurity and housing instability were identified by the CHWs; discuss how housing affects overall health; and identify how CHWs can better support our communities to attain and keep safe and affordable housing.

Location: Room 555A

Speakers:

- Dannie Ritchie, MD, MPH
- Jazmine Wray, *Community Health Worker (CHW), Newport HEZ*
- Amy Morales, *CHW, Genesis Center, City of Providence HEZ*
- Isabel Kayembe, *CHW, Refugee Dream Center, City of Providence HEZ*
- Olga Ayala, *CHW, Blackstone Valley Community Health Care, Pawtucket and Central Falls HEZ*

Topic Areas: Health Equity Zones and other place-based initiatives, Social Connectivity, Community Resiliency, Housing and Community Development

Time: 3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

A Tradition of Healing: A Native American, Culturally Based Approach to Drug and Alcohol Prevention in Middle School Children

This presentation will explore Indigenous methodologies and cultural practices delivering evidence-based materials that decrease substance misuse in Native American middle school youth (11-13 years old). This holistic approach uses story, dance, image, and an interactive engagement in participatory healing and prevention and focuses on: decreasing the substance misuse disparities of Native American youth and other underserved communities; increasing positive self-identity and skills to help youth make healthy choices; and supporting family members' roles in preventing substance misuse and its consequences. In concert with Native cultural values, this work often encompasses extended families, and the whole Native community.

Location: Room 555B

Speakers:

- Larry Spotted Crow Mann

Topic Areas: Health Equity Zones and other place-based initiatives, Social Connectivity, Community Resiliency

We're In This Together: Building Connections through a School Family

In this session, participants will learn about Conscious Discipline (CD), a comprehensive self-regulation program that integrates social-emotional learning, school culture, and discipline. CD consists of 3 components: Safety through self-regulation; Connection through a compassionate culture called The School Family that embeds resiliency into classrooms; and Problem Solving through changing our perception and response to conflict and enhancing the development of executive skills.

Location: Room 556A

Speakers:

- Cristen Sassi, *Lead Consultant and Trainer, The Autism Project*
- Chrissy Johanson, *Lead Consultant and Trainer, The Autism Project*

Topic Areas: Maternal and Child Health, Behavioral Health, Social Connectivity, Community Resiliency

Time: 3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Oral Health, Overall Health, and Community Resiliency: They're Connected

Increasing oral health literacy motivates community members to drive efforts to improve oral health, but it requires action. Whether it is support of important public health modalities or assuring access to dental services, changes occur most readily when they are supported by community members. This presentation will: describe the disparities in oral health outcomes over the life course; discuss oral health as an equity issue and how it contributes to personal success and building community resiliency; and describe innovative work in New England communities that are raising awareness of the value of good oral health and the risks of poor oral health.

Location: Room 557

Speakers:

- Brian Swann, DDS, MPH, *Chief of Oral Health Services, Cambridge Health Alliance; Clinical Instructor in Oral Health Policy and Epidemiology, Harvard School of Dental Medicine*
- Samuel Zwetchkenbaum, DDS, MPH, *Dental Director, Rhode Island Department of Health*

Topic Areas: Community Resiliency

Bridging the Nature Gap

This interactive and high-energy workshop will focus on the reclaiming of nature spaces by communities of color. Through exploring identity and social location, participants will connect these concepts to reclaiming spaces and improving access for communities of color. Attendees will: learn the importance of the reclaiming of nature spaces by youth of color; begin to analyze the efforts of groups working to make nature spaces more accessible to communities of color; and make connections and join in furthering this work.

Location: Room 558A

Speakers:

- Pegah Rahmanian, *Executive Director, Youth In Action*

Topic Areas: Community Resiliency

Transition Home Plus (THP) Improves Outcomes and Reduces Unnecessary Rehospitalizations of High-Risk Infants and Families

This presentation will introduce the innovative THP Program at Women and Infants Hospital (WIH). Based out of the WIH Newborn Intensive Care Unit (NICU), this multi-disciplinary program comprehensively supports the families of preterm infants in the context of addressing racial, ethnic, and socioeconomic disparities. Objectives include: understanding components and key team members of the THP program that provide enhanced transition-home support services to high-risk families and their preterm infants; recognizing rates of psycho-socioeconomic stressors and mental health challenges among families with infants in the NICU; presenting maternal and infant risk factors related to unnecessary Emergency Department visits and rehospitalizations and the impact of THP on health care utilization; and describing beneficial effects of partnering with CurrentCare, primary care providers, other medical specialists, mental health providers, Early Intervention, visiting nurses, and families.

Location: Room 558B

Speakers:

- Betty Vohr, MD, *Professor of Pediatrics, Women and Infants Hospital; Medical Director, Neonatal Follow-Up Clinic*
- Elisabeth McGowan, MD, *Assistant Professor of Pediatrics, Women and Infants Hospital; Associate Director, Neonatal Follow-Up Clinic*
- Katheleen Hawes, PhD, *Psychiatric Clinical Nurse Specialist, The Brown Center for the Study of Children At Risk*
- Heather Polochick, LICSW, *Social Work Coordinator, Transition Home Plus Program*

Topic Areas: Maternal and Child Health

Lined area for taking notes.

2018 HEALTH EQUITY SUMMIT

Building Healthy and Resilient Communities

General Plenary Session:

A Health Equity Zones Panel Presentation with Dr. Nicole Alexander-Scott

Facilitated by Director of Health Nicole Alexander-Scott, MD, MPH, this session is dedicated to hearing from participants in Rhode Island’s Health Equity Zones (HEZs). A short video highlighting this community-led, place-based model will be shown, followed by a facilitated question and answer panel discussing aspects of HEZ initiatives related to policy change and community engagement.

Rhode Island’s Health Equity Zone Initiative is a community-led, place-based model designed to build healthier, more resilient, and more just communities. The approach brings community members and organizations in a defined geographic area together and invests in helping them build the infrastructure needed to improve community living conditions and resident physical and mental health. The model focuses on improving the health of communities at highest risk of adverse health outcomes, such as obesity, illness, injury, chronic disease, or poor maternal and child health outcomes, due to poverty or other social, economic, and environmental determinants of health. The goal is for everyone in the community to have the opportunity to live a healthy life – no matter who they are or where they live. There are currently nine Health Equity Zones in Rhode Island, including HEZs in Bristol, Newport, the Olneyville neighborhood of Providence, Pawtucket/Central Falls, the City of Providence, the Southside, Elmwood, and West End neighborhoods of Providence, Washington County, West Warwick, and Woonsocket.

To learn more about the HEZ initiative, visit www.health.ri.gov/hez.

Time: 4:00 p.m. - 4:50 p.m.

Ballroom A

Panelists:

- Senator Adam J. Satchell, Rhode Island General Assembly, representing the West Warwick Health Equity Zone
- The Rev. Elizabeth Habecker, St. Michael’s Church, representing the Bristol Health Equity Zone
- Jeanne Cola, Executive Director of Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC), representing the Pawtucket and Central Falls Health Equity Zone
- Brent Kermen, Principal of William D’Abate Elementary School, representing the Olneyville Health Equity Zone
- Neyda DeJesus, Newport HEZ Co-Coordinator, Certified Community Health Worker, and Diabetes Prevention Program Lifestyle Coach, representing the Newport Health Equity Zone

Closing Session:

The 2018-2019 Association of State and Territorial Health Officials (ASTHO) President's Challenge Launch

Incoming President of the Association for State and Territorial Health Officials (ASTHO) and Director of the Rhode Island Department of Health Nicole Alexander-Scott, MD, MPH, will unveil her 2018-2019 ASTHO President's Challenge. Led in partnership with the National Association for County and City Health Officials (NACCHO) President Kevin Sumner and aligned with the Office of the US Surgeon General's priority focus on Community Health and Economic Prosperity, the Challenge calls on state, territorial, local, and tribal health officials to build healthier, more resilient communities by supporting investments in community-led, place-based approaches like Rhode Island's Health Equity Zones.

Time: 5:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.

Ballroom A

Following this session, all are invited to join us for the:

ASTHO Presidential Challenge Networking Event

Time: 5:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.

West Pre-function space

2018-2019 ASTHO President's Challenge:

BUILDING HEALTHY AND RESILIENT COMMUNITIES

The ASTHO President's Challenge, led in partnership with NACCHO's President and aligned with the Office of the US Surgeon General's (SG) focus on Community Health and Economic Prosperity, calls on state, territorial, local, and tribal health officials to build healthy, resilient communities by supporting investments in **community-led, place-based approaches**.

GOALS

ASTHO, NACCHO, and the SG will help health officials achieve the goals of the 2018-2019 President's Challenge by:

- 1. Equipping health officials to mobilize community-led, place-based collectives** focused on measurable outcomes and the US SG's motto, better health through better partnerships, to build stronger communities.
- 2. Connecting public health officials to business leaders and policy-makers who want to invest** in these community-led, place-based approaches and advance community development by reaching across sectors.

WHAT

Health equity moved from talk to action: mobilizing strategic investments in community-led, place-based approaches that address the socioeconomic and environmental determinants of health. This community-driven initiative aims to **transform systems and policies in ways that empower local communities** and limit the harms of gentrification. It also structures efforts around **measurable outcomes and cross-sector outreach**, raising the voice of community collectives to drive positive, meaningful change over the long term. Example models include Rhode Island's Health Equity Zones, the Fort Worth Blue Zones Project, Purpose Built Communities, and Live Well San Diego, among others.

WHY

TO STRENGTHEN COMMUNITY-LED, PLACE-BASED APPROACHES – through strategic investments that mobilize collective action to build healthy, resilient communities with better conditions for success in place.

TO PROMOTE POSITIVE SOCIAL CONNECTIVITY – uniting community members together to build social capital as a public health strategy, for help with combatting issues like addiction, emotional suffering, and social isolation.

TO IMPROVE COMMUNITY RESILIENCE – so communities can resist, respond to, and recover from adversity – and “bounce forward” to better socioeconomic and environmental conditions, like fewer adverse childhood events.

WHO

Governmental public health has an important role to play in changing our mindset about 1. how we should work with communities, and 2. who our partners should be. Thus, we can implement both Challenge goals by: 1. supporting community-led, place-based collectives that are outcomes-driven, and 2. attracting diverse investments from business leaders and policy-makers who can help communities transform conditions for better living long-term.

Effective **community-led, place-based collectives offer a ready-made investment opportunity** for business leaders and policy-makers, as diverse partners all calling for community development, without community displacement.



Health Equity Zones

Health Equity Zones (HEZs) are geographic areas designed to achieve health equity by eliminating health disparities using place-based (where you live) strategies to promote healthy communities.

Backbone Agency, HEZ Coordinators	Description	RIDOH Project Officer
Providence HEZ: Citywide <i>Healthy Communities Office, City of Providence</i> Ellen Cynar, 401-421-7740, ecynar@providenceri.com Rachel Newman Greene, 401-680-5493, rnewmangreene@providenceri.gov Evaluator: Sarah Hall, Fio Partners, 203-615-4833, sarah@fiopartners.com	Focuses on improving community health around the city's recreation centers, improving nutrition, developing community gardens, offering Providence Summer Food Service program, developing healthy food policies for public facilities, increasing access to physical fitness programs for adults and youth in public places, conducting activities to increase health and safety in parks and recreation centers, offering diabetes prevention and self-management programs, and improving environmental health by implementing green infrastructure projects. providenceri.com/healthy-communities	Christopher Ausura 401-222-1383 Christopher.Ausura@health.ri.gov Evaluator: Morgan Orr 401-222-1250 Morgan.Orr@health.ri.gov
Pawtucket and Central Falls HEZ: Citywide <i>Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC)</i> Deanna Bruno, 401-519-5696, dbruno@lisc.org Pauline Bellavance, 401-519-5608, pbellavance@lisc.org	Focuses on resident engagement around increased access to healthy affordable food, diabetes prevention and other self-management programs, adoption of nutrition guidelines where food is sold, healthy housing and empowering tenants, increasing landlord accountability, community kitchen development, improving transportation efficiency, creating linkages to job training, supporting small and micro businesses, establishing youth coalitions, and facilitating positive relationships across diverse neighborhood populations. LISC also focuses on adolescent and behavioral health while supporting culturally competent health services. rilisc.org/hez	Mia Patriarca, MA 401-222-1225 Mia.Patriarca@health.ri.gov Evaluator: Elise George, MPH 401-222-2030 Elise.George@health.ri.gov
Newport HEZ: Citywide <i>Women's Resource Center</i> Neyda DeJesus, 401-846-5263, ndejesus@wrcnbc.org Jessica Walsh, 401-846-5263, jwalsh@wrcnbc.org Evaluator: Cynthia Roberts, PhD, cynthia@ricadv.org	Focuses on mobilizing residents and resources of the Broadway and North End neighborhoods, improving transportation, increasing healthy food access, creating economic opportunity, securing open space, parks and trails; embracing arts and culture, and developing physical and emotional health through two new neighborhood Wellness Hubs that will house evidence-based programs, offering diabetes prevention and other self-management programs, and LAUNCH. newportthealthequity.com	Christopher Ausura 401-222-1383 Christopher.Ausura@health.ri.gov Evaluator: Morgan Orr 401-222-1250 Morgan.Orr@health.ri.gov
Providence HEZ: Olneyville Neighborhood <i>ONE Neighborhood Builders</i> Allegra Scharff, MPH, 401-351-8719, ext 112, scharff@onenb.org Jen Hawkins, hawkins@onenb.org	Focuses on increasing and promoting physical activity, access to healthy affordable foods, farmers markets and community gardening, redevelopment of distressed and vacant properties, addressing public safety issues, improving public transportation, offering diabetes prevention and other self-management programs, opportunities for resident financial stability, and community engagement through community pride events and initiatives in efforts to build a more collective and cohesive community. ovhez.com	Deb Golding 401-222-5954 Deb.Golding@health.ri.gov Evaluator: Morgan Orr 401-222-1250 Morgan.Orr@health.ri.gov
Providence HEZ: Neighborhoods Southside, Elmwood, West End <i>Providence Children and Youth Cabinet</i> Rebecca Boxx, 401-662-1637, Rebecca_Boxx@cycprovidence.org Matthew Billings, Matthew_Billings@cycprovidence.org	Focuses on increasing enrollment and implementation of the <i>Incredible Years Parent Program</i> (promoting young children's social, emotional, and academic lives), creating solutions for greater resident engagement, community organization, and neighborhood ecosystem support, reducing violence, and improving distressed and vacant properties. cycprovidence.org	Deb Golding 401-222-5954 Deb.Golding@health.ri.gov Evaluator: Morgan Orr 401-222-1250 Morgan.Orr@health.ri.gov

Backbone Agency, HEZ Coordinators	Description	RIDOH Project Officer
Washington County HEZ <i>South County Health</i> <i>South County Healthy Bodies, Healthy Minds</i> Susan Orban, 401-788-2347, sorban@southcountyhealth.org Cindy Buxton, MS, RDN, 401-788-2426, cbuxton@southcountyhealth.org Evaluator: Tamara Calise, DrPH MEd, tcalise@jsi.com	Focuses on and promotes programs related to childhood obesity and mental health. Programs include: 5-2-1-0, an evidence-based program, encouraging families to keep a healthy weight, <i>Reach Out and Read</i> , promoting reading aloud to children daily, and Youth Mental Health First Aid, for those interacting with adolescents, and LAUNCH, serving families with children birth to 8 years of age. The HEZ also focuses on connecting residents to local farmers markets accepting SNAP and WIC benefits for access to healthy food. bodiesminds.org	Deb Golding 401-222-5954 Deb.Golding@health.ri.gov Evaluator: Morgan Orr 401-222-1250 Morgan.Orr@health.ri.gov
West Warwick HEZ: Citywide <i>Thundermist Health Center</i> Susan Jacobsen, MA, LMHC, CCM, 401-767-4100, ext 4304, susanj@thundermisthealth.org Krista Handfield, 401-615-2800, ext 4994, kristah@thundermisthealth.org Evaluator: Denise Crooks, denisecr@thundermisthealth.org	Focuses on improving walkability and transportation, access to recreation, increased access to healthy affordable fresh food, weekly farmers markets, community garden and orchard, summer meal and school meal programs, addressing high rates of substance use and overdose through rescue, treatment, and recovery strategies, naxolone training, Police Department behavioral health pilot, medication assisted treatment, peer recovery supports, adolescent healthcare with school and community support links, trauma and toxic stress mitigation, diabetes prevention and other self-management programs. Works with 10 engaged neighborhood leaders acting as HEZ citizen ambassadors. thundermisthealth.org	Lauren Conkey, MPH 401-222-7622 Lauren.Conkey@health.ri.gov Evaluator: Elise George, MPH 401-222-2030 Elise.George@health.ri.gov
Woonsocket HEZ: Citywide <i>Thundermist Health Center</i> Susan Jacobsen, MA, LMHC, CCM, 401-767-4100, ext 4304, susanj@thundermisthealth.org Alyssa Menard, 401-615-2800 exx 4964, alyssam@thundermisthealth.org Evaluator: Denise Crooks, denisecr@thundermisthealth.org	Focuses on access to healthy affordable fresh food, year-round farmers markets, addressing high rates of substance use and overdose through rescue, treatment, and recovery strategies, opened <i>The Serenity Center</i> (free community drop-in center for adults in recovery), naxolone training, medication assisted treatment, peer recovery supports, teen health, adolescent medical homes, trauma awareness, physical activity, pedestrian walking plan "Woonsocket Walks - A City on the Move", and offering diabetes prevention and other self-management programs. Works with 10 engaged neighborhood leaders acting as HEZ citizen ambassadors. thundermisthealth.org	Lauren Conkey, MPH 401-222-7622 Lauren.Conkey@health.ri.gov Evaluator: Elise George, MPH 401-222-3030 Elise.George@health.ri.gov
Bristol HEZ: Townwide <i>Town of Bristol</i> Emily Pearce-Spence, M.Ed, 401-253-1611, emily.spence@bwrsd.org Craig Pereira, 401-272-1717, cpereira@horsleywitten.com	Focuses on improving nutritional standards and access to healthy food, promoting physical activity throughout the community for a range of demographics, facilitating community public health events (including opioid forums, suicide prevention efforts, and an annual Recovery Rally), educating the community to facilitate adoption of a <i>Green and Complete Streets</i> policy, offering diabetes prevention programming, expanding collaboration of faith-based leaders, increasing awareness of substance use disorders in the areas of prevention, recovery, and rescue, including supporting the opening of the East Bay Recovery Center in March 2018, and implementing a suicide prevention program. bristolthealthequityzone.org	Mia Patriarca, MA 401-222-1225 Mia.Patriarca@health.ri.gov Evaluator: Elise George, MPH 401-222-2030 Elise.George@health.ri.gov

For general information about the HEZ initiative, contact Christopher Ausura | 401-222-1383 | Christopher.ausura@health.ri.gov or visit www.health.ri.gov/hez



2018

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