

***Supporting the Health and Well-Being of Gender Diverse Youth Workshop
Speaker Biographies***



Leslie R. Walker-Harding, M.D. and Forum Co-Chair (she/her)

is the Ford/Morgan Endowed Professor and Chair of the Department of Pediatrics and Associate Dean at the University of Washington and the Chief Academic Officer and Senior Vice President of Seattle Children's Hospital. Prior to returning to Seattle Dr. Walker-Harding was Chair of the Department of Pediatrics and Medical Director of Penn State Children's Hospital. From 2007 to 2016, she was the Division Chief of Adolescent Medicine and Vice Chair of Faculty Development in Pediatrics at the University of Washington. Dr. Walker-Harding serves on a

number of national boards and committees including the Council of the American Pediatric Society (APS). She currently is chair of the Committee on Diversity and Inclusion (CODI) in the APS. She serves on the American Academy of Pediatrics Committee on Substance Use and Prevention (COSUP), and she is a past President of the Society of Adolescent Health and Medicine. She has served on a number of committees at the National Academies of Medicine focused on adolescent and young adult health. Her research has been focused on prevention of adolescent risk behaviors spanning adolescent and young adult substance abuse and ADHD to adolescent pregnancy prevention. Diversity and inclusion in the workforce of health providers as a way of creating excellence in academic medicine and eliminating health disparities has also been a national focus of hers. She has publications both in adolescent and young adult health, and improving excellence in health care and research by increasing workforce diversity and inclusion.



David Willis, M.D. and Forum Co-Chair (he/him) is a senior fellow at the Center for the Study of Social Policy. He leads a national initiative to advance early relational health for child health and communities. A board -certified, developmental-behavioral pediatrician, Dr. Willis was a clinician in Oregon for more than 30 years with a practice focused on early childhood development and family therapy. Most recently, he was the first executive director of the Perigee Fund, a Seattle-based philanthropy focused on strengthening of the social and emotional development of all babies and toddlers, and on advancing the workforce to do so. From 2012-2018, he served as director of the Division of Home

Visiting and Early Childhood Services at the U.S. Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) Maternal Child Health Bureau, in Washington DC, and continues to be thought leader in home visiting and early childhood systems. During his career, Dr. Willis has also been a Harris Mid-Career Fellow with childhood development nonprofit ZERO TO THREE; the past president of the Oregon Pediatric Society; an

executive member of the American Academy of Pediatrics' Section on Early Education and Child Care; and chair of the AAP's Board's Early Brain & Child Development Strategic Initiative. Dr. Willis has been a national lecturer, advisor to early childhood national policy and visionary for the transformation of child health care in coordination with early childhood communities and focused on the advancement of early relational health and young children's social-emotional and developmental well-being. Dr. Willis received his M.D. from Jefferson Medical College of Thomas Jefferson University.



Tandy Aye, M.D. (she/her) is a Professor of Pediatrics (Endocrinology) and by courtesy a Professor of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences at Stanford University School of Medicine. She founded and directs the Stanford pediatric and adolescent multidisciplinary gender clinic. Using advance MRI and fMRI modalities, her clinical research focuses on how sex hormones impact the developing brain especially in those who have had their natal pubertal development blocked and experience only gender affirming exogenous puberty. In addition to the brain, she is studying the sexual dimorphisms in bone structure, body composition, and muscle strength and function which may emerge in response to pubertal induction with exogenous sex hormones. Her other research related to transgender youth includes the factors associated with parental acceptance and specific cultural considerations for the Asian American, Native Hawai'ian and Pacific Islander youth. Finally, she is excited to start the first advance fellowship in Pediatric and Adolescent gender medicine.



Kellan Baker, Ph.D. (he/him) is the Executive Director of Whitman-Walker Institute, the research, policy, and education arm of Whitman-Walker, a community health system in Washington, DC that also includes a Federally Qualified Health Center. Kellan is a health services researcher, educator, and health policy professional with particular expertise in transgender health. He holds appointments as affiliate faculty in the Departments of Health Policy and Management at the George Washington University and the Johns Hopkins School of Public Health, and he received his PhD in health policy and management from Johns Hopkins, where he was a Health Policy Research Scholar and Centennial Scholar; an MPH and MA from George Washington University; and a BA with high honors from Swarthmore College.



Greta Bauer, Ph.D., M.P.H. (she/they) is a Professor and Director of the Institute for Sexual and Gender Health at the University of Minnesota Medical School. She holds the endowed academic chair in sexual health. Prior to 2022, Dr. Bauer was a Professor in the Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics in the Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry at Western University in London, Canada, where she held a Sex and Gender Science Chair through the Canadian Institutes of Health Research. As an epidemiologist, Dr. Bauer's research on sexual and gender health has been both substantive and methodological, with a focus on the impacts of social marginalization. She is an international leader in both community and clinical research on transgender and non-binary health, and in quantitative research methods for the study of marginalized communities. As an interdisciplinary epidemiologist, she has published in top academic journals across medicine, public health, psychology, social science, sexual, health, and epidemiology.

Stephen Chukumba, J.D. (he/him/his) is an activist, advocate, and ally, working actively to support and raise awareness about the myriad of issues impacting LGBTQ+ people and communities. The father of four children, one who identifies as transgender, Stephen is a member of the Human Rights Campaign, Parents for Transgender Equality Council, Garden State Equality and PFLAG. He frequently speaks on issues of race, gender and intersectionality, and is active on social media where he discusses transgender issues and his journey with his son.

a.t. furuya (they/them/theirs) is a queer, trans, nonbinary, neurodivergent, Japanese American caregiver living on the traditional and unceded land of the Kumeyaay also known **Tipai-Ipai** people in San Diego, CA. They are an organizer, educator, and advocate with over 20 years of experience working in youth advocacy and education, disability, gender, racial, and economic justice movements. a.t. has provided direct service support for transgender and nonbinary youth including mental health, housing, crisis intervention, leadership development, advocacy, and gender affirming resources. They have extensive work in grassroots organizing, non-profits, solidarity and collaboration movement building with a decentralized hierarchical approach with a transformative justice lens. They are currently pursuing their Master's in Educational Leadership at High Tech High Graduate School of Education. They founded Transform Together consulting which centers advancing equity to transform communities together.

Libby Gonzales (she/her) is an advocate for transgender rights in her home state of Texas and across the country. At age 13, she has spent more than half of her life standing up to the bullies of the Texas Legislature and fighting for a more equitable world for herself and kids like her. As long as she can remember, she has wanted to be a fashion designer and began learning how to hand stitch at age 3 and started using a sewing machine at age 5. When she's not advocating, sketching or sewing, she loves writing poetry, swimming, running, cooking and hanging out with her siblings and 3 dogs.



Nadeen Herring (she/her) Nadeen is a children's book author, consultant, educator, and aspiring co-conspirator for transgender/gender-diverse youth; however, everything pales in comparison to her first priority: MOTHER.



Charity Jackson, M.Ed. (she/her/ella) an adjunct professor at Miles College, a local HBCU in Fairfield, AL. She has over 11 years of experience in public education. She began her career as an educator in Bridgeport, Connecticut where she was a Spanish teacher and founder of PRIDE (Peers Rallying for the Inclusion of Diversity and Equity). She transitioned back to her hometown where she continued her work as a Spanish educator at the historic Arthur Harold Parker High School. During her tenure at A.H. Parker High School, she also served as the founding board member and board chair for TFA-Bamaly (TFAB) Prism board. With TFAB, she led programming for developing Ally Educators as well as hosting a Movie Night Moonlight: Navigating the Intersections of Masculinity, Race, and Sexuality. She went on to join TFA Alabama's staff as a Manager of Teacher Leadership Development and coached 1st and 2nd year corps members. She then transitioned to be the founding Chief Academic Officer of the 1st LGBTQ+ affirming public charter school. Charity graduated from Howard University with a B.A. in Spanish. She also graduated from the University of Alabama at Birmingham with a M.Ed. for English as a Second Language.

Kabir Amari (they/them) is a nonbinary educator, speaker, and curriculum creator. Currently, they serve as the Interim Senior Managing Director of National Prism Alliances for Teach For America and as the Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS) Consultant for Advocates For Youth. They enjoy building courses that allow participants to examine the experiences of students who have been marginalized by various and intersecting systems of oppression, and helping participants locate their unique role in liberating youth. Kabir Amari has trained pre-K-12 and post-secondary educators across the country about the importance of approaching queer and trans equity through an intersectional lens. They've spent a decade providing guidance, mentorship, and leadership opportunities for queer and trans youth in South Florida and beyond. While

serving as the LGBTQ+ Coordinator for Broward County Public Schools, they were selected for South Florida Gay News' "Out 50", a distinguished list recognizing openly LGBTQ+ individuals who make an impact in South Florida. Kabir Amari received the Bishop S.F. Makalani-Mahee award for Trans Equality in 2019 and was a finalist for GLSEN's Educator of the Year award In 2020.



Katherine A. Kuvalanka, Ph.D. (she/her) is currently Professor and Interim Chair in the Department of Family Science and Social Work at Miami University in Ohio and earned her Ph.D. in family studies from the University of Maryland, College Park. Her research has focused on families with lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer (LGBTQ) family members, and how factors in various contexts (e.g., family, school, legal climate) pose challenges to, and foster resilience among, families with LGBTQ members. She has taught various courses, including "Family Policy and Law" and "Diverse Family Systems across the Life Cycle." She has received funding from the Williams Institute at the University of California Los Angeles School of Law, the Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues, the National Council on Family Relations, and the American Psychological Foundation. She is principal investigator of the Trans*Kids Project, a longitudinal study of 50 families with transgender and gender-diverse (TGD) children, which began more than a decade ago. Her research related to custody cases involving TGD children has been cited in news outlets, such as *The New York Times*, *The Washington Post*, *New York Magazine*, *Vox*, and *Harper's Bazaar*.



Christy Mallory, J.D. (she/her) oversees the Williams Institute's legal work, including legal research and analysis, scholarship, amicus briefs, and law student programming. Her work focuses on how federal, state, and local laws impact and shape the lives of LGBTQ people. Her writing has been published in *When Mandates Work* (UC Press, 2013), the *Loyola of Los Angeles Law Review*, the *LGBTQ Policy Journal* at the Harvard Kennedy School, the *Albany Government Law Review*, and other outlets.



Christy L. Olezeski, Ph.D. (she/her) is a clinical psychologist and Associate Professor in the departments of Psychiatry, Pediatrics and the Child Study Center at the Yale School of Medicine. Dr. Olezeski is also the co-founder and director of the Yale Pediatric Gender Program, an interdisciplinary program serving transgender and gender diverse individuals 3-25 and their families throughout the state of Connecticut and 5 outside states. Along with providing comprehensive clinical care for transgender and gender diverse youth, Dr. Olezeski engages in mentorship, education and research, and she has served as a member of the USA Volleyball Gender Committee member since 2016. Dr. Olezeski has published widely in academic peer-reviewed journals, and has also educated the public through op-eds, public interviews and popular press articles. She is passionate about advocating for the rights of transgender youth, and the liberation of all individuals.



Luis Parra (he/him) is an assistant professor at the University of Michigan who uses an intersectionality approach to further understand the lived experiences of adolescents and emerging adults who belong to multiple marginalized social groups. Specifically, Dr. Parra studies the effects of heterosexist, cissexist, and racist discrimination, as sources of stress, on neurobiological regulation, and in turn, their associations with mental health.



Myeshia Price, Ph.D. (she/they) is the Director of Research Science at The Trevor Project. Myeshia has more than fifteen years of experience in adolescent public health research, with a focus on sexuality, gender, and LGBTQ youth from an intersectional perspective. After completing their Ph.D. in developmental psychology at the University of Wisconsin-Madison with research focusing on predicting early sexual behaviors during adolescence, they were an assistant professor at the State University of New York at Old Westbury prior to taking a postdoctoral research associate position at the Center for Innovative Public Health Research (CiPHR). Her primary research interest areas include developmental understandings of adolescent gender and sexuality and reducing LGBTQ youth mental health disparities with a particular focus on the role of protective factors.



Gwendolyn Quinn, Ph.D. (she/her) is the Livia Wan MD Endowed Chair, Tenured Professor and Vice Chair of Research in the Department of OB-GYN and Professor in Population Health and the Division of Medical Ethics at the New York University Grossman School of Medicine. She is President-Elect of the American Society for Reproductive Medicine Fertility Preservation group and a member of the Ethics Committee and on the Board of the Alliance for Fertility Preservation (a non-profit dedicated to fertility preservation for patients receiving gonadotoxic treatments). She co-chairs the American Society for Clinical Oncology task force on Sexual and Gender Minorities. As a health psychologist

and bioethicist, her research focuses on health disparities and social determinants of health in patient-clinician communication primarily in reproductive health and cancer in adolescent and young adults, LGBTQ health issues, uptake of genetic technologies, clinical trials and access to care for minority and underserved populations. Dr. Quinn has over 400 peer-reviewed publications, books and book chapters and has been funded by the NIH, CDC, March of Dimes, V Foundation, American Cancer Society, and Livestrong.

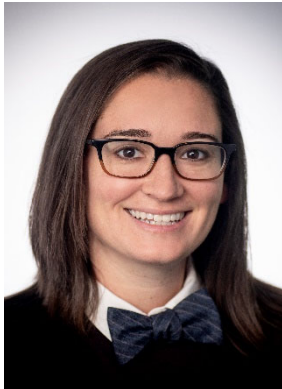


Jason Rafferty (he/him/his) is a board-certified child psychiatrist and pediatrician who is the medical director of the Gender & Sexuality Program at Hasbro Children's Hospital in Rhode Island, an interdisciplinary program caring for LGBTQ+ youth and their families. He is a Clinical Assistant Professor with dual appointments the Department of Pediatrics and the Department of Psychiatry and Human Behavior at the Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University. He graduated from Harvard Medical School and obtained post-graduate training through the Triple Board Residency at Brown University. The Triple Board is a

combined program in Pediatrics, General Psychiatry and Child/Adolescent Psychiatry. He has additional degrees from Harvard University in public health concentrating on Maternal and Child Health, and education focused on adolescent development and psychology. He is engaged in the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) as the chair of the Section of LGBT Health and Wellness and was the lead author of the AAP's policy statement on gender affirmative care, "Ensuring Comprehensive Care and Support for Transgender and Gender-Diverse Children and Adolescents."



Carlos Santos, Ph.D. (he/him) is an associate professor at University of California, Los Angeles' Luskin School of Public Affairs. Dr. Santos' research draws on diverse disciplines, theories and methods to better understand how oppressions (e.g., racism, heterosexism, etc.) overlap to create unique conditions for individuals; conditions that are shaped by the contexts one occupies, with implications for one's development and well-being. He is interested in how individuals cope with these overlapping stressors through attitudes associated with membership in different social groups (e.g., having pride in one's ethnic-racial and/or sexual identity group), and positions one occupies (e.g., being undocumented), and whether such coping attenuate or amplify the negative consequences of overlapping oppressions on mental health, educational outcomes, and civic engagement.



Gina Sequeira, M.D. (she/her) is an Adolescent Medicine physician, Assistant Professor of Pediatrics at the University of Washington and Co-Director of the Seattle Children's Gender Clinic. Her research program focuses on understanding the barriers transgender and gender diverse youth (TGD) face when seeking healthcare, investigating strategies to expand the reach of pediatric gender specialists, and evaluating the impact of technology-based interventions. She began her research career investigating TGD youths' healthcare experiences and exploring opportunities to overcome barriers to accessing gender-affirming care by leading a cross-sectional study to explore the factors influencing gender identity disclosure and preferences regarding gender-affirming care provision via telehealth. Since beginning her current faculty position in September 2020, she has received multiple grants to support additional research involving TGD youth, including a PEDSnet Learning Health Systems Scholars K12 award. This funding has allowed her to conduct additional research with TGD youth, their families, and pediatric primary care providers (PCPs) to better understand their experiences with gender-affirming care, and implement a novel specialist-PCP electronic consultation platform to facilitate the provision of care to TGD youth in the pediatric primary care setting.



Jama Shelton, Ph.D. (they/them) is an Associate Professor at the Silberman School of Social Work at Hunter College and the Associate Director of the Silberman Center for Sexuality and Gender. Shelton's program of research focuses on cisgenderism in social services and social work education, as well as LGBTQ+ youth homelessness and structural inequity. In particular, they are interested in identifying and addressing systemic barriers rooted in hetero/cisgenderism and the binary gender system that frequently constrain the successful transition into stable housing for transgender, nonbinary and gender expansive youth and limit the efficacy of social service responses to homelessness.



stef shuster (they/them) is an assistant professor in Lyman Briggs College and Sociology at Michigan State University. Their current research in gender, medicine, and feminist science and technology studies considers how evidence is constructed, mobilized, and weaponized, which is the subject of their book, *Trans Medicine: The Emergence and Practice of Treating Gender* (NYU Press, 2021). In *Trans Medicine*, shuster traces the development of this medical field from the 1950s to modern medicine to show how providers create and use scientific and medical evidence to quell uncertainty, "treat" a gender identity, and uphold their authority. shuster currently serves on the editorial boards for *Social Science & Medicine*, *Social Currents*, and *Contemporary Sociology*.



Toni-Michelle Williams (she/her) is an auto-theorist, performance artist, embodied leadership/ somatics coach and executive director of Solutions Not Punishment Collaborative (SNAPCO). Grounded in humor and joy, she is a celebrated community organizer in prison abolition/ criminal (IN)justice reform issues and leadership development for Black transgender, LGBTQ people, sex workers, people living with HIV (PLHIV), and Black youth. She has co- led city wide campaigns that have incubated the Atlanta Pre-Arrest Diversion (PAD) Initiative, cannabis reform, sex worker protections, and police accountability for the families of Alexia Christian, DeAundre Phillips, Tee Tee Dangerfield and Rayshard Brooks.

Wyatt Williams (he/him) is a remarkable 16-year-old transgender young man from South Dakota who has an extraordinary talent for both ballet and poetry. Despite the challenges he has faced, Wyatt has never lost sight of who he is and has always followed his passions. He has excelled in both his art forms, earning awards and recognition for his honest and raw writing and his skill in ballet. Wyatt's natural talent and dedication to his craft have brought him immense fulfillment and opportunities. Wyatt is a true inspiration to all who know him. He is an advocate for inclusivity and

uses his talents to create a more welcoming world for everyone. His bravery, talent, and commitment to his art are a testament to the power of following one's passions and being true to oneself.