

Improving Systems of Follow Up Care for Traumatic Brain Injury: A Workshop | 9 May 2023

Speaker and Moderator Bios



David W. Baker, MD, MPH, FACP is the executive vice president for Health Care Quality Evaluation at The Joint Commission in Oakbrook Terrace, Illinois. He leads the Department of Standards and Survey Methods, the Department of Quality Measurement, and the Department of Research. Before assuming his current position, Dr. Baker was the Michael A. Gertz Professor of Medicine at the Feinberg School of Medicine at Northwestern University and deputy director of the Institute for Public Health and Medicine. He served from 2002-2015 as chief of the Division of General Internal Medicine and Geriatrics. In this capacity, he oversaw the General Internal Medicine ambulatory clinic, residents' continuity of care clinics, and the division's research programs. Dr. Baker also maintained his own very active research portfolio. He is nationally and internationally recognized for his work examining health literacy and the consequences of inadequate health literacy, racial and ethnic disparities, the impact of language barriers on health care, and differences in health outcomes for the uninsured. Dr. Baker has also conducted extensive research in quality of care, focusing on the use of electronic health records for quality measurement and quality improvement. He has published over 250 original research articles and book chapters and has won numerous awards, including the 2013 American College of Physicians' Alvan R. Feinstein Memorial Award for research in clinical epidemiology. Dr. Baker is also Editor-in-Chief for the Joint Commission Journal on Quality and Patient Safety.



Adam Barde is a senior principal at Slalom on the healthcare and life sciences team, working in such areas as healthcare innovation and transformation, patient and provider experience, and clinical operations and management. Mr. Barde has focused on transforming the patient and provider experience for over 25 years, with experience in program assessment, development, and implementation; disease management, market research, and network development. He was previously Senior Director, Health Transformation at Blue Shield of California. He received a Master of Health Administration and an MS in Gerontology from the University of Southern California.



Surendra Barshikar, M.D., M.B.A., is associate professor and vice chair of clinical operations for the Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation (PM&R) at UT Southwestern Medical Center. He specializes in concussion and traumatic brain injury, neurorehabilitation, spasticity management, and rehabilitation and management of long COVID. He joined the UT Southwestern faculty in 2016 and is double-board-certified in physical medicine and rehabilitation and brain injury medicine by the American Board of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation. In addition to his other roles, Dr. Barshikar is the Medical Director of the UT Southwestern PM&R Ambulatory Clinics and the Parkland PM&R Outpatient Clinics, as well as the Medical Director of the multidisciplinary concussion program and the COVID Recover program. He collaborates with other departments, including Neurology,

Neurosurgery, and Neuroradiology, for various research studies on long COVID and neurorehabilitation. Dr. Barshikar has delivered many presentations, contributed to the books *Textbook of Traumatic Brain Injury* and *Practical Guide for Botulinum Toxin Injections*, and published numerous academic articles, abstracts, reviews, and case reports related to his areas of expertise. He is a member of the International Society of Physical and Rehabilitation Medicine, the American Academy of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation, the Association of Academic Physiatrists, the Texas Medical Association, the Dallas County Medical Society, the Texas Medical Board, and the Maharashtra Medical Council.



Donald M. Berwick, MD, MPP, FRCP, is president emeritus and senior fellow at the Institute for Healthcare Improvement and former administrator of the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services. A pediatrician by background, Dr. Berwick has served on the faculty of the Harvard Medical School and Harvard School of Public Health, and on the staffs of Boston's Children's Hospital Medical Center, Massachusetts General Hospital, and the Brigham and Women's Hospital. He has also served as vice chair of the US Preventive Services Task Force, the first "independent member" of the American Hospital Association Board of Trustees, and chair of the National Advisory Council of the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality.

He served two terms on the Institute of Medicine's (IOM's) Governing Council, was a member of the IOM's Global Health Board, and served on President Clinton's Advisory Commission on Consumer Protection and Quality in the Healthcare Industry. Recognized as a leading authority on health care quality and improvement, Dr. Berwick has received numerous awards for his contributions. In 2005, he was appointed "Honorary Knight Commander of the British Empire" by Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II in recognition of his work with the British National Health Service. Dr. Berwick is the author or co-author of over 160 scientific articles and six books. He currently serves as lecturer in the Department of Health Care Policy at Harvard Medical School.



Matt Breiding, PhD, is a behavioral scientist and serves as team lead of the Traumatic Brain Injury Team in the Division of Injury Prevention (DIP) at CDC's Injury Center. His work at CDC has been focused on surveillance of traumatic brain injury, intimate partner violence, sexual violence, and child abuse—both domestic and international. He began his career at CDC as an Epidemic Intelligence Service (EIS) officer, assigned to CDC's Division of Violence Prevention. Upon completion of his two-year EIS fellowship, he remained with the Division of Violence Prevention, serving as a behavioral scientist. Dr. Breiding received a Bachelor of Science degree in Industrial and Systems Engineering from Ohio State University and masters and doctoral degrees in Counseling

Psychology from the University of Notre Dame. He completed a post-doctoral clinical residency at the Washington University in St. Louis Student Health and Counseling Center. He is a licensed psychologist in the state of Missouri. He has coauthored more than 70 peer-reviewed publications, government reports, and book chapters, and has received a number of awards for his work in public health.



Javier Cárdenas, MD, is a neurologist and the director of the Barrow Concussion and Brain Injury Center. He is board-certified in neurology by the American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology. Dr. Cárdenas' expertise involves concussion, post-concussion syndrome, spinal trauma, and traumatic brain injury. He is a member of the American Academy of Neurology; the National Football League Head, Neck and Spine Committee; and the Arizona Governor's Advisory Council on Spinal and Head Injuries. Dr. Cárdenas received his medical degree from the University of Arizona College of Medicine. He completed a residency in pediatrics at St. Joseph's Hospital and Medical Center and

trained in child neurology at Barrow Neurological Institute. Dr. Cárdenas founded the Barrow Concussion and Brain Injury Center, which is recognized as one of the most comprehensive concussion prevention, treatment, and education programs in the US. He also created *Barrow Brainbook*, as part of a program that Arizona high school students must complete to participate in school sports. It is the first mandated online concussion education and testing tool for student athletes in the country.



John Corrigan, PhD is an academy professor in the Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation at Ohio State University. He serves as the director of the Ohio Valley Center for Brain Injury Prevention and Rehabilitation. He also directs the Ohio Brain Injury Program, the lead agency in the State of Ohio for policy and planning related to living with brain injury. Dr. Corrigan has received local and national awards for his service and research in the field of brain injury rehabilitation, including the Gold Key Award from the American Congress of Rehabilitation Medicine, the Brain Injury Association of America's William Fields Caveness Award and the 2007 Robert L.

Moody Prize. He is a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, the American Congress of Rehabilitation Medicine, and the American Psychological Association. Dr. Corrigan is the principal investigator and co-principal investigator for the Ohio Regional Traumatic Brain Injury Model System – a multicenter, longitudinal research program funded by the National Institute on Disability Independent Living and Rehabilitation Research. For 10 years, he chaired the Executive Committee of the TBI Model Systems Project Directors. He is a member of the Board of Directors of the Brain Injury Association of America, and previously served on the Advisory Committee to the National Center on Injury Prevention and Control at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the Defense Health Board Neurological/Behavioral Health Subcommittee, and the Board of Directors of the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF).



Scott Hamilton is a social entrepreneur, having created four start-ups with strong track record of results. He is now focused on using all that has been learned about the brain in neuroscience to improve children's learning. Mr. Hamilton designed and for five years led the effort to grow the Knowledge Is Power Program (KIPP) from two schools in 2000 to 280 of the best known and celebrated inner-city public schools in America today with 175,000 students and alumni. He guided the investment of over \$100M from the Fishers, the founders of Gap, Inc., into KIPP and into the quadrupling of the Teach for America teaching corps, the creation the Charter School Growth Fund, and more. He has

held posts in the White House, with the U.S. Secretary of Education, and served as

Massachusetts' Associate Commissioner of Education. He earned his degree in Ancient Greek at the University of Pennsylvania.



Flora Hammond, MD is a board-certified physical medicine and rehabilitation physician and physiatrist, and is active as a clinician, researcher, and administrator. She completed her medical degree at Tulane University School of Medicine, her Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation residency at Baylor College of Medicine, and her Brain Injury Medicine fellowship at the Rehabilitation Institute of Michigan. She is professor and chair of physical medicine and rehabilitation at Indiana University School of Medicine. She is also the chief of medical affairs and brain injury and the co-medical director at the Rehabilitation Hospital of Indiana. She is the project director of the Indiana Traumatic Brain Injury Model System, and chair of the TBI Model Systems Program Executive Committee. Dr. Hammond also chairs the Chronic Brain Injury Special Interest Group of the TBI Model Systems, co-Chairs the American Congress of Rehabilitation Medicine Chronic Brain Injury Task Force, and chairs the Tri-Model Systems Chronic Injury Special Interest Group. She has helped pioneer the transition of brain injury care from brief attention early-on to care spanning one's lifetime to optimize the outcomes possible after brain injury.



Odette Harris, MD, MPH, is the Paralyzed Veterans of America, Endowed Professor of Spinal Cord Injury Medicine, a Professor of Neurosurgery and the Vice Chair, Diversity and Director of Brain Injury for Stanford. She is the Deputy Chief of Staff, Rehabilitation at the Veterans Affairs Palo Alto Health Care System, overseeing the TBI/Polytrauma System of Care, Spinal Cord Injury, Blind Rehabilitation Services, Recreational Therapy and Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation. Dr. Harris graduated from Dartmouth College and received her MD from Stanford University School of Medicine. She did her internship and residency at Stanford and earned a Master of Public Health, Epidemiology from the University of California, Berkeley. Dr. Harris has authored numerous articles/books, is a member of several Editorial Boards and National Committees including as the Associate Editor for *Neurosurgery* and as an appointed Member, National Football League (NFL) Head, Neck and Spine Committee. She also serves on several Boards including the Defense Health Board's (DHB) Trauma and Injury Subcommittee and a Trustee of Dartmouth College. She has won numerous awards: Appointed a Fellow of the Aspen Global Leadership Network in 2018; Recognized in 2019 by Forbes and Ebony Magazine *Power 100 List Award* as one of 100 most influential African Americans and received the National Medical Fellowships Award for Excellence in Academic Medicine. In 2021 she received the Stanford RISE Award. In 2022 Dr Harris was recognized by Stanford University as one of Stanford's 13 women's history makers. Dr Harris' Endowed Professorship further distinguishes her as the first woman in Neurosurgery at Stanford to receive this honor.



Karen Hirschman, PhD, MSW, is the NewCourtland Term Chair in Health Transitions Research and a Research Professor in the University of Pennsylvania's School of Nursing. As a nationally recognized researcher, Dr. Hirschman's career has focused on improving health care transitions for older adults and their family caregivers, with a specific emphasis on those living with cognitive impairment. She is a member of the Transitional Care Model team, led by Dr. Mary Naylor. This rigorously tested advanced practice registered nurse-led model targets high-risk hospitalized older adults and focuses on transitional care to improve outcomes for older adults and their

family caregivers. The team studies both replication and adaptation of the Model into health care settings and fidelity to implementation of the Model's components. Dr. Hirschman is a Fellow of the Gerontological Society of America.



Glen Jacques is a Managing Director for Slalom's Northern California market and leads the Healthcare and Life Sciences industry vertical. Slalom is a global business and technology consulting company with over 14,000 employees across 43 markets. Slalom's purpose is to help people and organizations dream bigger, move faster, and build better tomorrows for all. Mr. Jacques and his Slalom colleagues partner with clients to improve the health of people around the world. He has 23 years of experience in strategy and technology consulting for Fortune 500 companies and manages the relationship between Slalom and UCSF, as well as many other local industry clients. He has vast

expertise in developing impactful client relationships, building high performance teams, and leading complex enterprise-wide technology and strategy programs.



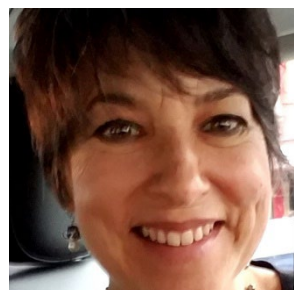
Kathy Lee, MS, CRNP, ANP-BC, CNRN, currently serves as the Director of Casualty Management Policy & Programs and is the lead for the US DoD Warfighter Brain Health program supporting the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Readiness Policy and Oversight. She brings considerable clinical, educational and research experience in the field of neuroscience and neurotrauma to include more than 200 regional, national and international presentations and more than 30 peer-reviewed publications. Ms. Lee has served in a variety of leadership, advisory and operational roles in the US Department of the

Army and US Department of Defense for over 15 years; including the Assistant Chief of the Defense and Veterans Brain Injury Center (DVBIC), Deputy Director for the Defense Centers of Excellence for Psychological Health and Traumatic Brain Injury; Deputy Director for the Clinical and Educational Affairs Office for DVBIC and the manager of the Office of Clinical Standards at DVBIC. Prior to working in Washington DC, Ms Lee worked in 2 academic/level I trauma centers as a nurse practitioner/clinical care coordinator at the University of Louisville Hospital; and clinical research coordinator in the Division of Neurosurgery at the Medical College of Virginia Hospitals/Virginia Commonwealth University. Ms. Lee holds both Bachelor's and Master's degrees in nursing from Virginia Commonwealth University, as well as a Bachelor of Science in family and child development from Virginia Tech University. She has earned the following certification: Adult Nurse Practitioner (ANP) through the American Nurses Credentialing Center.



Geoffrey Manley, MD, PhD, is the chief of neurosurgery at the Zuckerberg San Francisco General Hospital (ZSFG) and is the professor and vice chairman of neurosurgery at the University of California, San Francisco. Dr. Manley is an internationally-recognized expert in neurotrauma. In addition to a robust clinical practice at ZSFG, San Francisco and the Greater Bay Area's level 1 trauma center, he coordinates and leads national and international clinical research efforts in the study of the short- and long-term effects of TBI. With a nationwide team of TBI experts, he has recently launched the TRACK-TBI NETWORK, an innovative, precision-medicine driven consortium that will test Phase 2 drugs for TBI. The TRACK-TBI studies have created a

modern precision medicine information commons for TBI that integrates clinical, imaging, proteomic, genomic, and outcome biomarkers to drive the development of a new TBI disease classification system, which could revolutionize diagnosis, direct patient-specific treatment, and improve outcomes.



Amy J. Markowitz, JD is the scientific writing specialist and editorial consultant for UCSF's Clinical and Translational Research Career Development Program, and program manager for the Traumatic Brain Injury Endpoints Development Initiative at San Francisco General Hospital. She is a freelance editor, scientific writing mentor and instructor, and curriculum development consultant, with a special focus on medicine and health policy, and serves as the project editor for the UCSF Health Workforce on Long-Term Care Research Center. Ms. Markowitz was a co-creator and founding managing editor of JAMA's "Care of the Aging

Patient" section, and served in the same capacity for JAMA's "Perspectives on Care at the Close of Life" section, and the Annals of Internal Medicine's "Quality Grand Rounds" series. In addition to her work at UCSF, she has served as writer and editor for such diverse clients as Google, the California HealthCare Foundation, and amFAR TREAT Asia's HIV network – which is based in Bangkok, Thailand. She has developed an interest and expertise in assisting writers and researchers writing for English-language journals for whom English is not a first language, as well as for investigators with learning differences.



Michael McCrea, MD is a board-certified clinical neuropsychologist. He is currently The Shekar N. Kurpad, MD, PhD, Chair in Neurosurgery; Professor of Neurosurgery and Neurology; Vice Chair of Research; Co-director of the Center for Neurotrauma Research; and Director of Brain Injury Research at the Medical College of Wisconsin in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Dr. McCrea earned his doctoral degree from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, then completed his internship training in neuropsychology at Vanderbilt University School of Medicine, followed by a postdoctoral fellowship at Northwestern University Medical School. He is a past President of the American Academy of Clinical Neuropsychology (AACN). Dr. McCrea has been an active researcher

in the neurosciences, with numerous scientific publications, book chapters, and national and international lectures on the topic of traumatic brain injury. He authored the text, *Mild Traumatic Brain Injury and Postconcussion Syndrome: The New Evidence Base for Diagnosis and Treatment* published by Oxford University Press. He is a member of the United States Department of Defense Health Board External Advisory Committee on Traumatic Brain Injury, where he advises the Office of the Secretary of Defense on management and research of military-related traumatic brain injury.



Mary D. Naylor, PhD, RN is a professor of gerontology at the School of Nursing and director of the NewCourtland Center for Transitions and Health. For over two decades, Dr. Naylor has designed, tested, implemented, and translated a model of transitional care to improve outcomes for older adults and their family caregivers. Dr. Naylor has also been a leader in building the evidence linking nursing to the quality of care delivered by nurses. With Mark Pauly, Dr. Naylor designed and directed the RWJF Interdisciplinary Nursing Quality Research Quality Initiative (INQRI) that supported research teams to advance the science of nursing through rigorous, interdisciplinary research, focused on new methods to facilitate and advance efforts to improve care for patients.

Dr. Naylor was elected to the National Academy of Medicine (NAM) in 2005; she is a member of NAM's Leadership Consortium for Value & Science-Driven Health Care and co-chairs the Care Culture and Decision-Making Innovation Collaborative. She recently completed terms as a commissioner on the Medicare Payment Advisory Commission (MedPAC), board member of the National Quality Forum and member of the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality's National Advisory Council. In 2016, she was honored with AcademyHealth's Distinguished Investigator Award, a recognition of significant and lasting contributions to the field of health services research.



Julianna Nemeth, PhD, MA is an intervention scientist dedicated to conducting the scientific work needed to improve health and reduce disparities for those impacted by violence in the context of trauma—most notably women and children exposed to domestic violence and homelessness. Dr. Nemeth's work focuses on building and optimizing behavioral interventions for these populations recognizing the chaotic circumstances in which they live and are trying to recover, heal, and make behavioral change. Informed by nearly two decades of community work in violence prevention and crisis response, and trained as a feminist theorist, she also brings gender, culture, justice, and community practice lenses to the study of health behavior and the promotion of health equity.

Dr. Nemeth is the co-founder of the Ohio Alliance to End Sexual Violence, a 501(c)3 organization recognized by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Office on Violence Against Women as Ohio's coalition addressing sexual violence response and its prevention. In addition, she serves as an evaluator on an Office of Victims of Crime funded demonstration grant (2016-2019) awarded to the Ohio Domestic Violence Network; this work focuses on the creation, implementation, and evaluation of the C.A.R.E. model, designed to increase advocacy organizations' capacity to better meet the complex and often interconnected health concerns of domestic violence survivors—including brain injury, mental health, trauma, and substance use.



Tolu Oyesanya, PhD, RN, joined Duke University School of Nursing (DUSON) in 2018, and is a member of the Healthcare in Adult Populations Division. Dr. Oyesanya is an associate professor at DUSON and is also the associate program director for the Duke National Clinicians Scholars Program (NCSP). Dr. Oyesanya's research program focuses on treating patients with traumatic brain injury (TBI) in acute and post-acute treatment settings and providing support to their family caregivers. Her current research focuses on transitional care needs of patients with TBI, with an emphasis on improving post-discharge, and self- and family-management of care.

Her long-term research goals are to: 1) improve self- and family-management of care for persons with TBI and their family caregivers and 2) decrease re-admissions for persons with TBI. Dr. Oyesanya earned her BSN, MSN, and PhD in Nursing from University of Wisconsin-Madison. She completed a post-doctoral fellowship in Brain Injury Research at Shepherd Center in Atlanta, GA. Her research has been supported by federally- and internally funded awards. Dr. Oyesanya is actively involved in several professional organizations, including serving as Chair of the Mentoring Task Force of the American Congress of Rehabilitation Medicine and as a member of the Association of Rehabilitation Nurses and the International Brain Injury Association.



Monique R. Pappadis, MEd, PhD is a tenured associate professor in the Department of Population Health and Health Disparities at the University of Texas Medical Branch (UTMB) at Galveston. She is a fellow of the Sealy Center on Aging, and currently the Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Accessibility (DEIA) Lead for the CTSA Program Steering Committee Task Force/Institute for Translational Sciences. Dr. Pappadis is also an investigator and the director of Dissemination and Cultural Humility at TIRR Memorial Hermann's Brain Injury Research Center in Houston, Texas. Her research aims to improve rehabilitation outcomes and decrease ethnic minority health disparities, particularly among persons with traumatic brain injury (TBI) or stroke, as well as improve care transitions and continuity of care following acute and post-acute care. Her recent work aims to improve

screening for elder mistreatment with emphasis on vulnerable, older adults with mild cognitive impairment or Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementias, as well as the intersection between elder mistreatment and TBI. She has a continued interest in minority aging, gender/sex disparities in rehabilitation, health literacy of patients and caregivers, and psychosocial adjustment to disability. She is a member of the Academy of Certified Brain Injury Specialists' (ACBIS) Board of Governors for the Brain Injury Association of American and member of the Pink Concussions Professional Advisory Board. Dr. Pappadis was recently named a Fellow of the American Congress of Rehabilitation Medicine (ACRM) for her outstanding record of professional service to ACRM and for the nationally significant contributions she has made to the field of medical rehabilitation.



Seth Seabury, PhD, is director of the Keck-Schaeffer Initiative for Population Health Policy at the USC Schaeffer Center and associate professor in the USC School of Pharmacy in the Department of Pharmaceutical and Health Economics. He is also the director of graduate studies for the Pharmaceutical Economics and Policy Program in the USC School of Pharmacy. His work examines the impact of legal and regulatory policy on healthcare delivery and patient outcomes, with a particular focus on at-risk and underserved populations. His research has been published in leading medical and health policy journals,

including the *New England Journal of Medicine* and the *Journal of the American Medical Association*, and featured in major media outlets. He has been funded by the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, the National Institute on Aging, the California Department of Industrial Relations and the U.S. Department of Labor. Dr. Seabury is also a faculty research fellow at the National Bureau of Economic Research, a member of the National Academy of Social Insurance and an associate editor of the *International Review of Law and Economics*. Prior to coming to USC, Dr. Seabury was a senior economist and associate director of the Center for Health and Safety in the Workplace at the RAND Corporation and professor of economics at the Pardee RAND Graduate School.



Teena Shetty, MD is a neurologist at the Hospital for Special Surgery and is triple board-certified in neurology, neuromuscular medicine, and electrodiagnostic medicine. She is the director for the Concussion Program in Neurology at HSS. She specializes in sports neurology, concussions, neuromuscular diseases, myopathies, peripheral neuropathy, intraoperative monitoring, and spine disorders. In addition to directing the concussion program and seeing patients, Dr. Shetty is also an associate professor of neurology at Weill Cornell Medical College. Dr. Shetty is both the neurologist for the New York Mets and unaffiliated Neuro-Trauma Consultant for the New York Giants. In 2011, Dr. Shetty was featured in Crain's New York Business "40 under Forty", an annual listing of 40 successful professionals under the age of 40. She was also featured in the November, 2011 issue of *Marie Claire* magazine presenting eight inspirational professional women in New York City. Dr. Shetty is the principal investigator of multiple grants at the Hospital for Special Surgery, funded by the GE-NFL Head-Health Initiative, Abbott pharmaceuticals, Perseus/Chembio and TEVA pharmaceuticals. Her research interests include imaging biomarkers in mild TBI, blood biomarkers in mild TBI, barriers to concussion recovery, and postoperative neuropathies following arthroplasty.

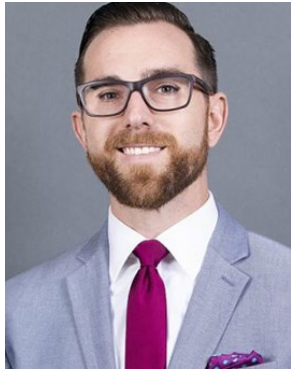


April Turner is currently the state head injury coordinator for the Alabama Department of Rehabilitation Services. She is also The Traumatic Brain Injury Program director of the Federal Administration on Community Living TBI Partnership Grant, the State TBI Pre-Vocational Care Coordination Program and Statewide TBI/Spinal Cord Injury Registry Services for the Lead Agency on TBI. Her agency also carries the Alabama Head Injury Task Force and The Alabama Head and Spinal Cord Injury Trust Fund. Recently, she wrote and was awarded a 5-year Administration on Community Living Federal TBI Grant for systems change in the Behavioral Health area for individuals with TBI. Mrs. Turner received her Bachelor of Science Degree in Rehabilitation from Troy University in 1999 and then went on to receive her Master of Science in Rehabilitation Counseling and Vocational Evaluation from Auburn University in 2001. During her master's program, she completed a thesis on, "Characteristics of a Mentally Ill Population Associated with Employability". She began her work for Alabama Department of Rehabilitation Services over 21 years ago. She has also worked as a vocational evaluator, welfare to work counselor and transition/general vocational rehabilitation counselor and a specialized hybrid traumatic brain injury/vocational rehabilitation counselor.



Rebecca Wolfkiel, MPP joined NASHIA as executive director in January 2018. She brings fifteen years of experience in promoting policies that provide resources for individuals with brain injury, and their families. In her role as executive director, Rebecca is committed to representing the interests of state governments and supporting the unique and integral role they play within the service delivery system. Rebecca has also worked with former Pennsylvania Governor, Tom Ridge, at the Ridge Policy Group, for ten years, where she formerly represented NASHIA as a government affairs advisor. She played an integral role in the successful reauthorization of the Traumatic Brain Injury in 2014, paving the way for the federal TBI program's move to the Administration for Community Living. Prior to her time at the Ridge Policy Group, Rebecca

worked on Capitol Hill for over six years where she served as legislative director to Congressman Todd R. Platts, co-chair of the Traumatic Brain Injury Taskforce. Managing the Congressman's legislative agenda, she learned how to effectively navigate the lawmaking process and develop successful strategies. During her tenure on the Hill, Rebecca became keenly aware of the importance of bipartisanship and developed strong Congressional relationships with Republicans and Democrats alike. She often bridged partisan gaps and facilitated communication between contrasting viewpoints.



David Wright is the Founder & CEO of Disruptive Innovations headquartered in New York, NY, as well as the host of the Disruptive Innovators (DI) podcast. DI is a digital business and technology consulting firm specializing in helping enterprise organizations with IT strategy and the implementation of transformative solutions that serve to optimize processes, improve workflow, reduce cost, and align technology with the company's business vision. Mr. Wright has worked in the technology world for over 12 years, but has been passionate about technology since he was a young boy – building computers and setting up LAN's in his early-teens and studying MSCE in his free time by the time he was in high school. He has helped hundreds of clients over the years in nearly every vertical - including healthcare, retail, financial and technology. Mr. Wright also has extensive experience in working with private equity firms and their subsequent portfolio companies and is well versed in client asset management, financial modeling and analysis, and relationship management. David has spoken on panels at conferences throughout the US and his young organization has received numerous awards acknowledging their achievements. He has a strong understanding of payback models and ROI in both the public and private sectors.