



**STRATEGIES AND INTERVENTIONS TO REDUCE SUICIDE:  
A TWO-PART VIRTUAL WORKSHOP**

**PART 2:  
BUILDING 988:  
AN OPPORTUNITY TO BUILD INCLUSIVE CARE STRUCTURES**

**WEDNESDAY, JULY 28, 2021  
11:00 AM-1:30 PM ET**

*The National  
Academies of* | SCIENCES  
ENGINEERING  
MEDICINE

**FORUM ON MENTAL HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE USE DISORDERS**

June 15, 2021

Dear Colleagues:

Welcome to the workshop on the Strategies and Interventions to Reduce Suicide, a webinar series hosted by the Forum on Mental Health and Substance Use Disorders at the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine. The workshop will be held over two separate 2.5 hour webinars exploring the strategies and best practices to improve access and drive effective intervention implementation to prevent suicide.

On June 22, the first webinar of the series, U.S. Suicide Subgroup Trends: Opportunities in Healthcare to Reduce Suicide Risk, will examine the scope of the public health problem, discuss the implementation of effective approaches for suicide prevention care, and address the known barriers to healthcare access. The second webinar, Building 988: An Opportunity to Build Inclusive Care Structures, on July 28, will discuss crisis systems, highlighting the 988 expansion initiative. Through a health equity lens, this workshop will also explore the gaps, challenges, and needs for marginalized populations.

A summary of this workshop will be published by the National Academies Press. The webinar's meeting materials as well as a video archive of the webinar will be available for free download at: <https://www.nationalacademies.org/our-work/strategies-and-interventions-to-reduce-suicide-a-workshop>

We hope you will find the workshop presentations informative, thought-provoking, motivating, and the suggestions made by the workshop participants will contribute to improving strategies to combat the prevalence of suicidal behavior.

Sincerely,

Matt Tierney, MS, APRN (Co-Chair)  
President, American Psychiatric Nurses  
Association  
Clinical Professor, UCSF School of Nursing  
Clinical Director of Substance Use Treatment  
and Education  
UCSF Office of Population Health

Mary Roary, PhD (Co-Chair)  
Director, Office of Behavioral Health  
Equity  
Office of Intergovernmental and External  
Affairs  
Office of the Assistant Secretary for  
Mental Health and Substance Use  
Substance Abuse and Mental Health  
Services Administration

**FORUM ON MENTAL HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE USE DISORDERS**

**STRATEGIES AND INTERVENTIONS TO REDUCE SUICIDE:  
BUILDING 988:  
AN OPPORTUNITY TO BUILD INCLUSIVE CARE STRUCTURES**

Webinar 2  
July 28, 2021  
11:00 AM-1:30 PM ET

**WEBINAR NOTES**

- Join the webcast via this link:  
<https://nasem.zoom.us/j/96669408516?pwd=MkExd1FtdmZqa3Z6NGYzV1loVTRMdz09>
- An archive of the video webcast and presentation slides will be available at:  
<https://www.nationalacademies.org/event/07-28-2021/strategies-and-interventions-to-reduce-suicide-a-workshop-second-webinar>
- Proceedings-in-Brief of the workshop will be published following National Academies procedures. Rapporteurs will compose the proceedings from the workshop transcript and external reviewers will examine the proceedings to make sure it accurately reflects workshop discussions and conforms to institutional policies.
- Interested in receiving updates from the Forum on Mental Health and Substance Use Disorders or the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine's Health and Medicine Division?

Sign up for the **Forum** listserv at:

<https://nationalacademies.us8.list-manage.com/subscribe?u=ab74d126b7d2db12591de5c2c&id=211686812e>

Like **NASEM Health and Medicine Division** on Facebook:

[www.facebook.com/NASEMhealth](http://www.facebook.com/NASEMhealth)

Follow **NASEM Health and Medicine Division** on Twitter: [@NASEM\\_Health](https://twitter.com/NASEM_Health)

Follow **NASEM Health and Medicine Division** on LinkedIn:

<http://www.linkedin.com/company/nasemhealth>

**FORUM ON MENTAL HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE USE DISORDERS**

**STRATEGIES AND INTERVENTIONS TO REDUCE SUICIDE:  
A TWO-PART VIRTUAL WORKSHOP**

**Part 2—Building 988: An Opportunity to Build Inclusive Care Structures**

<b>BUILDING 988: AN OPPORTUNITY TO BUILD INCLUSIVE CARE STRUCTURES WEDNESDAY, JULY 28, 2021 11:00 AM-1:30 PM ET</b>	
<b>WELCOME FROM THE FORUM ON MENTAL HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE USE DISORDERS</b>	
11:00 AM	<b>Mary Roary, PhD</b> Director, Office of Behavioral Health Equity Office of Intergovernmental and External Affairs Office of the Assistant Secretary for Mental Health and Substance Use <i>Planning Committee Co-Chair</i>
<b>WHY CRISIS SERVICES MUST BE IMPROVED</b>	
11:05 AM	<b>Mary Ann Nihart, MA, APRN, PMHCNS-BC, PMHNP-BC</b> Associate Director for Patient Care Services, Nurse Executive San Francisco VA Health Care System
<b>SESSION 3 THE 988 LIFELINE: POTENTIAL AND IMPLICATIONS FOR CRISIS RESPONSE</b>	
11:15 AM	<b>Session 3 Moderator:</b> <b>Erin Bagalman, MSW</b> Director, Division of Behavioral Health Policy Office of Behavioral Health, Disability, and Aging Policy Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation <i>Planning Committee Member</i>  <b>Speakers:</b> <b>Anita Everett, MD, DFAPA</b> Director Center for Mental Health Services Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration  <b>Richard McKeon, PhD</b> Chief, Suicide Prevention Branch

## FORUM ON MENTAL HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE USE DISORDERS

	<p>Division of Prevention, Traumatic Stress, and Special Programs Center for Mental Health Services Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration</p> <p><b>Madelyn S. Gould, PhD, MPH</b> Irving Philips Professor of Epidemiology in Psychiatry Columbia University, Vagelos College of Physicians and Surgeons Research Scientist, New York State Psychiatric Institute</p> <p><b>Lisa Kearney, PhD, ABPP</b> Director, Veterans Crisis Line Office of Mental Health and Suicide Prevention (11MHSP) Department of Veterans Affairs</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>SESSION 4</b> <b>988 ROLLOUT: PRIVACY, CONFIDENTIALITY, AND EQUITY CONSIDERATIONS</b></p>	
11:35 AM	<p><i>Session 4 Moderator:</i> <b>Matt Tierney, MS, APRN</b> President, American Psychiatric Nurses Association Clinical Professor, UCSF School of Nursing Clinical Director of Substance Use Treatment and Education UCSF Office of Population Health <i>Planning Committee Co-Chair</i></p> <p><i>Speakers:</i> <b>Sue Ann O'Brien, LPC, MBA</b> Chief Executive Officer Behavioral Health Link</p> <p><b>Pamela End Of Horn, MSW, LICSW</b> National Suicide Prevention Consultant, Division of Behavioral Health Office of Clinical and Preventive Services Indian Health Services</p> <p><b>Victor Armstrong, MSW</b> Director Division of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities and Substance Abuse Services NC Department of Health and Human Services</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>SESSION 5</b> <b>BUILDING CULTURAL COMPETENCE WITHIN CRISIS SERVICES</b></p>	
11:50 AM	<p><i>Session 5 Moderator:</i> <b>Jane Pearson, PhD</b></p>

## FORUM ON MENTAL HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE USE DISORDERS

	<p>Special Advisor to the Director on Suicide Research National Institute of Mental Health <i>Planning Committee Member</i></p> <p><i>Speakers:</i> <b>May Yeh, PhD</b> Associate Professor, Department of Psychology College of Sciences San Diego State University</p> <p><b>Pamela End Of Horn, MSW, LICSW</b> National Suicide Prevention Consultant, Division of Behavioral Health Office of Clinical and Preventive Services Indian Health Services</p> <p><b>Jennifer Battle, MSW</b> Director of Access The Harris Center for Mental Health and Intellectual/Developmental Disabilities (IDD)</p> <p><b>Thomas Chavez, PhD</b> Associate Professor, Counseling Psychology College of Education, University of New Mexico Transdisciplinary Research, Equity, Engagement (TREE) Center</p> <p><b>Xinzhi Zhang</b> Chief, Health Inequities and Global Health Branch Center for Translation Research &amp; Implementation Science National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute National Institutes of Health</p> <p><b>Brandon Johnson, MHS, MCHES</b> Public Health Advisor SAMHSA, Center for Mental Health Services Division of Prevention, Traumatic Stress, and Special Programs Suicide Prevention Branch</p>
<b>12:20 PM</b>	<b>BREAK</b> (5-mins)
12:25 PM	<p><b>Brandon Johnson, MHS, MCHES</b> Public Health Advisor SAMHSA, Center for Mental Health Services Division of Prevention, Traumatic Stress, and Special Programs Suicide Prevention Branch</p>

## FORUM ON MENTAL HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE USE DISORDERS

	<p><b>Sam Brinton</b> Vice President of Advocacy and Government Affairs The Trevor Project</p> <p><b>Tracie Schneider, EdD, CRC</b> Division of Aging, Adult, and Behavioral Health Services Deaf Services Coordinator Arkansas Department of Health and Human Services</p> <p><b>Sharon Hoover, PhD</b> Professor, Division of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Co-Director, National Center for School Mental Health Director, National Center for Safe Supportive Schools University of Maryland School of Medicine</p> <p><b>Dennis Mohatt, PhD</b> Vice President for Behavioral Health-Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education (WICHE) Co-Director Mountain Plains Mental Health Technology Transfer Center (MHTTC)</p>
<b>AUDIENCE Q&amp;A</b>	
12:50 PM	<p><i>Moderator:</i> <b>Jane Pearson, PhD</b> Special Advisor to the Director on Suicide Research National Institute of Mental Health <i>Planning Committee Member</i></p> <p><b>ALL SPEAKERS</b></p>
<b>REFLECTIONS AND OPPORTUNITIES IN BUILDING INCLUSIVE CARE STRUCTURES</b>	
1:20 PM	<p><b>Barbara Limandri, PhD, PMHCNS-BS</b> Psychiatric Nurse American Psychiatric Nurses Association</p> <p><b>David Covington, LPC, MBA</b> CEO, President, RI International Partner, Behavioral Health Link</p>
1:30 PM	<b>ADJOURN</b>

## FORUM ON MENTAL HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE USE DISORDERS

### Workshop on Strategies and Interventions to Reduce Suicide Speakers and Moderators

#### Webinar 2: July 28, 2021

**Victor Armstrong, MSW**

Director of the NC Division of  
Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities,  
Substance Abuse Services at  
NC Department of Health and Human  
Services

**Erin Bagalman, MSW (Planning Committee Member)**

Director, Division of Behavioral Health Policy  
Office of Behavioral Health, Disability, and  
Aging Policy  
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning  
and Evaluation

**Jennifer Battle, MSW**

Director of Access  
The Harris Center for Mental Health and IDD

**Sam Brinton**

Vice President of Advocacy and Government  
Affairs  
The Trevor Project

**Thomas Chavez**

Associate Professor, Counseling Psychology  
College of Education, University of New  
Mexico  
Transdisciplinary Research, Equity,  
Engagement (TREE) Center

**David Covington, LPC, MBA**

President and CEO  
RI International  
Partner, Behavioral Health Link

**Pamela End of Horn, MSW, LICSW (Oglala Lakota)**

National Suicide Prevention Consultant  
Indian Health Service Headquarters  
OCPS/Division of Behavioral Health

**Anita Everett, MD, DFAPA**

Director  
Center for Mental Health Services  
Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services  
Administration

**Madelyn S. Gould, Ph.D., M.P.H.**

Irving Philips Professor of Epidemiology in  
Psychiatry  
Columbia University, Vagelos College of  
Physicians and Surgeons  
Research Scientist, New York State  
Psychiatric Institute

**Michael F. Hogan, PhD (Planning Committee Member)**

Principal  
Hogan Health Solutions LLC

**Sharon Hoover, Ph.D.**

Professor, Division of Child and Adolescent  
Psychiatry  
Co-Director, National Center for School  
Mental Health  
Director, National Center for Safe  
Supportive Schools  
University of Maryland School of Medicine

**Brandon J. Johnson, MHS, MCHES**

Public Health Advisor  
SAMHSA, Center for Mental Health Services  
(CMHS)  
Division of Prevention, Traumatic Stress, and  
Special Programs (DPTSSP)  
Suicide Prevention Branch

**Lisa K. Kearney, Ph.D., ABPP**

Director - Veterans Crisis Line  
Office of Mental Health and Suicide  
Prevention (11MHSP)



**FORUM ON MENTAL HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE USE DISORDERS**

**Barbara Limandri, PhD, PMHNP, BC**

Psychiatric-Mental Health Nurse  
American Psychiatric Nurses Association

**Richard McKeon, PhD**

Chief, Suicide Prevention Branch  
Division of Prevention, Traumatic Stress, and  
Special Programs  
Center for Mental Health Services  
Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services  
Administration

**Dennis Mohat**

Vice President for Behavioral Health-  
Western Interstate Commission for Higher  
Education (WICHE)  
Co-Director Mountain Plains Mental Health  
Technology Transfer Center (MHTTC)

**Mary Ann Nihart, MA, APRN, PMHCNS-BC,  
PMHNP-BC**

Associate Director for Patient Care  
Services/Nurse Executive  
San Francisco VA Health Care System

**Sue Ann O'Brien, LPC, MBA**

CEO  
Behavioral Health Link

**Jane Pearson, PhD (Planning Committee  
Member)**

Special Advisor to the Director on Suicide  
Research  
National Institute of Mental Health

**Mary Roary, PhD (Planning Committee  
Member)**

Director, Office of Behavioral Health Equity  
Office of Intergovernmental and External  
Affairs  
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Mental  
Health and Substance Use  
Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services  
Administration

**Tracie Schneider, Ed.D., CRC**

Division of Aging, Adult, and Behavioral  
Health Services  
Deaf Services Coordinator  
Arkansas Department of Health and Human  
Services

**Matt Tierney, MS, APRN (Planning  
Committee Member)**

President, American Psychiatric Nurses  
Association  
Clinical Professor, UCSF School of Nursing  
Clinical Director of Substance Use Treatment  
and Education  
UCSF Office of Population Health

**May Yeh, Ph.D**

Associate Professor  
Department of Psychology  
College of Sciences  
San Diego State University

**Xinzhi Zhang, MD, PhD, FACE, FRSM**

Chief, Health Inequities and Global Health  
Branch  
Center for Translation Research &  
Implementation Science  
National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute |  
National Institutes of Health

**FORUM ON MENTAL HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE USE DISORDERS**

Workshop on the Strategies and Interventions to Reduce Suicide

Webinar 2: July 28, 2021

Speakers' Bios

**Victor Armstrong, MSW** joined North Carolina DHHS as Director of the NC Division of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities, Substance Abuse Services in March of 2020, with responsibility and oversight of the public community-based mental health, intellectual and other developmental disabilities, substance use, and traumatic brain injury system in North Carolina. Prior to accepting this role, Victor spent six years as Vice President of Behavioral Health with Atrium Health. Based in Charlotte, NC Victor had responsibility for operations of Atrium's largest behavioral health hospital, Behavioral Health Charlotte (BHC). The BHC campus contains the southeast's only psychiatric emergency department, staffed 24/7 with board certified psychiatrists, as well as 66 inpatient beds, and 10 outpatient programs. Victor has over 30 years of experience in human services, primarily dedicated to building and strengthening community resources to serve individuals living with mental illness. Victor currently serves on the board of directors for American Association of Suicidology (AAS), the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention (AFSP) of NC, and United Suicide Survivors International. He is also former board chair of NAMI NC, and member of National Association of Social Workers (NASW). Victor is a former member of the board of directors of National Council for Behavioral Health, i2i Center for Integrative Health, and RI International. Victor's awards and recognitions include Mental Health America's 2021 H. Keith Brunnemer, Jr. Award for "Outstanding Mental Health Leadership", 2019 Black Mental Health Symposium -Mental Health Advocate of the Year, 2019 Atrium Health Excellence in Diversity & Inclusion Award, 2018 Distinguished Alumni Award from East Carolina University School of Social Work, Pride Magazine 2018 "Best of the Best", and i2i Center for Integrative Health 2018 Innovation Award for "Whole Person Care", 2012 National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) NC, Mental Health Professional of the Year. Victor graduated, Magna Cum Laude, from North Carolina Central University with a bachelor's degree in Business Management and received a Master of Social Work (MSW) from East Carolina University. He is the husband of Dr. Charletta Armstrong and the father of 3 sons, Carter, Alonzo, and Victor Jr.

**Erin Bagalman, MSW**, joined the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation (ASPE) in 2018. She serves as director of the Division of Behavioral Health Policy in ASPE's Office of

## FORUM ON MENTAL HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE USE DISORDERS

Behavioral Health, Disability, and Aging Policy. In that role, she manages an interdisciplinary team focused on policies addressing mental health, substance use, and related topics such as suicide. Previously, she served as the lead analyst for behavioral health policy at the Congressional Research Service, providing non-partisan analysis of behavioral health services, financing, and research. Before that, she worked in the private sector conducting health outcomes research. She began her career as a psychiatric social worker. She holds a BA in political science from the University of Massachusetts at Amherst and an MSW from Tulane University.

**Jennifer Battle, MSW**, is the Director of Access at The Harris Center for Mental Health and IDD in Houston, Texas. Jennifer oversees The Harris Center Access Hub which includes the Access Line and the Crisis Line which serves as the crisis line for 39 Texas counties as well as a regional provider of the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline, soon to be 988. Jennifer also oversees the Southeast Texas Regional Suicide Care Support Center and The Harris Center Community Outreach Department. In collaboration with the Houston Police Department, Houston Fire Department, and Houston Emergency Communications Center, she leads the 911 Crisis Call Diversion Program, the first program of its kind in the US. Jennifer is also proud to lead the implementation team for the agency's Zero Suicide initiative and serves as an advisory council member on the Mayor's Challenge to Prevent Veteran Suicide. In addition to her work at The Harris Center, Jennifer serves on the Board of the National Association of Crisis Organization Directors (NASCOD). She is the Co-Chair of the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline Steering Committee, serves on the Clinical Advisory Council for Crisis Text Line and as a Crisis Text Line volunteer, and is a Crisis Center site examiner for the American Association of Suicidology. Jennifer is best reached via email at [Jennifer.battle@theharriscenter.org](mailto:Jennifer.battle@theharriscenter.org) or on Twitter @Battle4Justice.

**Sam Brinton** is the Vice President of Advocacy and Government Affairs for The Trevor Project, the world's largest suicide prevention and crisis intervention organization for LGBTQ youth. They are the founder of Trevor's 50 Bill 50 States campaign to end the dangerous and discredited practice of conversion therapy, first in the United States and then around the globe. As a survivor of conversion therapy, Sam has spoken before the United Nations and Congress as well as testified on legislation from coast to coast to protect LGBTQ youth mental health. Sam also led the federal legislative campaign leading to the passage of the National Suicide Hotline Designation Act, the nation's first unanimously supported LGBTQ inclusive legislation. They have been featured in numerous media including

## FORUM ON MENTAL HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE USE DISORDERS

multiple New York Times op-eds as well as The Washington Post, Playboy Magazine, and TIME Magazine. Sam uses they, them, or theirs pronouns as a genderfluid person.

**Thomas Anthony Chavez** is an assistant professor and research faculty at the University of New Mexico. Upon graduating from the University of Wisconsin - Madison in counseling psychology, he provided clinical service and taught counselor education to diverse communities. His scholarly work explores social determinants of Latinx health, healing, and wellness through community-engaged approaches. He has received NIH grant funding through the UNM Transdisciplinary Research on Equity and Engagement center to explore the experiences of undocumented Latinx individuals and families.

**David W. Covington, LPC, MBA** is CEO and President of Recovery Innovations, Inc. (d/b/a RI International). He is a behavioral health innovator, entrepreneur and storyteller. He is also a partner in Behavioral Health Link, and founder of the international innovations “Moving America’s Soul on Suicide,” “Zero Suicide,” “Crisis Now,” “Crisis Talk” and “Hope Inc. Stories.” A licensed professional counselor, Mr. Covington received an MBA from Kennesaw State and an MS from the University of Memphis. He previously served as Vice President at Magellan Health responsible for the executive and clinical operations of the \$750 million Arizona contract. He is a member of the DHHS Interdepartmental Serious Mental Illness Coordinating Committee (ISMICC) established in 2017 in accordance with the 21st Century Cures Act to report to Congress on advances in behavioral health. Mr. Covington is a two-time national winner of the Council of State Governments Innovations Award (2008 & 2012). He also competed as a finalist in Harvard’s Innovations in American Government in 2009 for the Georgia Crisis & Access Line, and the program was featured in Business Week magazine. Mr. Covington has served on the National Action Alliance for Suicide Prevention Executive Committee since 2010. He was also the Vice-Chair of the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline SAMHSA Steering Committee from 2005 until 2020 and served as a former President of the American Association of Suicidology. He has served on numerous committees and task forces on clinical care and crisis services, including the National Council for Behavioral Health Board of Directors.

**Pamela End of Horn, MSW, LICSW**, is responsible for the development and oversight of the Suicide Prevention and Care Program. Her work focuses on program policy development, program implementation and evaluation. Pamela has a Master’s Degree in Social Work and currently holds advanced practice licenses in

## FORUM ON MENTAL HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE USE DISORDERS

North Dakota and Minnesota. Pamela is an enrolled member of the Oglala Lakota Sioux of the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation, Pine Ridge, South Dakota. Pamela is currently completing a Doctorate in Social Work at the University of Pennsylvania, in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

**Anita Smith Everett, M.D.DFAPA**, currently serves as the Director of the Center for Mental Health Services in the US, Health and Human Services, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration. There she oversees the administration of grants that aim to increase mental health literacy and well as build responsive mental health services for crises management, ongoing treatment and recovery support for children and adults. Dr. Everett comes to SAMHSA with extensive experience in the delivery and leadership of psychiatric services for persons with schizophrenia and other psychiatric conditions in health underserved areas. Previously she was faculty in the department of psychiatry at Johns Hopkins School of Medicine and the Bloomberg School of Public Health. She is a past president of the American Psychiatric Association, the American Association of Community Psychiatrists and has received commendation for her work in national healthcare reform and advocacy.

**Madelyn Gould, PhD, MPH**, is the Irving Philips Professor of Epidemiology in Psychiatry at the Columbia University Medical Center in the U.S. and a Research Scientist at the New York State Psychiatric Institute, where she directs the Community Suicide Prevention Research Group. For nearly four decades, she has attained international recognition as an expert in the area of suicide prevention, conducting numerous federally funded grants from the National Institute of Health (NIMH), Centers for Disease Control (CDC), and Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), as well as collaborating on research studies with international investigators, and publishing several seminal articles on youth suicide risk and preventive interventions. Dr. Gould has a strong commitment to applying her research to program and policy development. Her current projects focus on the evaluation of suicide crisis interventions via telephone, chat and text. This research has been used by SAMHSA and the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline to support the passage of the National Suicide Hotline Designation Act of 2020. Her research - most notably in the areas of suicide contagion/clusters; screening and assessment of suicide risk; and crisis interventions - has laid the groundwork for state, national and international suicide prevention programs. Her research contributions have been recognized by numerous awards, including the Shneidman Award for Research from the American Association of Suicidology (AAS), the New York State

## FORUM ON MENTAL HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE USE DISORDERS

Office of Mental Health Research Award, the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention (AFSP) Research Award, the NYS Suicide Prevention Center's Excellence in Suicide Prevention Award, and the Dublin Award from AAS, which is a lifetime achievement award for outstanding contributions to the field of suicide prevention.

**Michael Hogan, Ph.D.**, served as New York State Commissioner of Mental Health from 2007-2012, and now operates a consulting practice in health and behavioral health care. The NYS Office of Mental Health operated 23 accredited psychiatric hospitals, and oversaw New York's \$5B public mental health system serving 650,000 individuals annually. Previously Dr. Hogan served as Director of the Ohio Department of Mental Health (1991-2007) and Commissioner of the Connecticut DMH from 1987-1991. He chaired the President's New Freedom Commission on Mental Health in 2002-2003. He served as the first behavioral health representative on the board of The Joint Commission (2007-2015) and chaired its Standards and Survey Procedures Committee. He has served as a member of the National Action Alliance for Suicide Prevention since it was created in 2010, co-chairing task forces on clinical care and interventions and crisis care. Previously, he served on the NIMH Council (1994-1998 and 2014-2018), as President of the National Association of State Mental Health Program Directors (2003-2005) and as Board President of NASMHPD's Research Institute (1989-2000). His awards for national leadership include recognition by the National Governor's Association, the National Alliance on Mental Illness, the Campaign for Mental Health Reform, the American College of Mental Health Administration and the American Psychiatric Association. He is a graduate of Cornell University (BS, 1960), and earned a MS degree from the State University College in Brockport NY (1972), and a Ph.D. from Syracuse University (1977).

**Sharon A. Hoover, Ph.D.** is a licensed clinical psychologist and Professor at the University of Maryland School of Medicine, Division of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry and Co-Director of the National Center for School Mental Health (NCSMH, [www.schoolmentalhealth.org](http://www.schoolmentalhealth.org)). She currently leads national efforts to support states, districts and schools in the adoption of national performance standards of comprehensive school mental health systems ([www.theSHAPEsystem.com](http://www.theSHAPEsystem.com)). Dr. Hoover has led and collaborated on multiple federal and state grants, with a commitment to the study and implementation of quality children's mental health services. Creating safe, supportive and resilient schools has been a major emphasis of Dr. Hoover's research, education and clinical work. She has worked with the National Child Traumatic Stress Network (NCTSN) to

## FORUM ON MENTAL HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE USE DISORDERS

train school district and school leaders, educators and support staff in multi-tiered systems of support for psychological trauma. She has trained school and community behavioral health staff and educators in districts across the United States and internationally. In 2020, Dr. Hoover was awarded a SAMHSA grant to develop the NCTSN Center for Safe Supportive Schools ([www.ncs3.org](http://www.ncs3.org)), aimed at integrating trauma-informed policies and practices in school mental health systems, with a specific focus on social justice and supporting youth of color, newcomer youth, and other marginalized students and families. Since the onset of COVID-19, Dr. Hoover has worked with education and mental health leaders across the United States as they support educators, students and their families with social, emotional and academic needs amidst the global pandemic.

**Brandon J. Johnson, M.H.S., MCHES** is a tireless advocate for positive mental health and suicide prevention services for youth and adults across the country. Brandon earned a Bachelor of Science Degree from Morgan State University in 2008 and a Master of Health Science Degree from Johns Hopkins University in 2012. Currently, he serves as a Public Health Advisor at the Substance Abuse Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) in the Suicide Prevention Branch at the U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services (HHS). In this role, Brandon serves as a Government Project Officer (GPO) for various suicide prevention grant programs that respectively target youth, adults, and health care systems. Brandon is the Program Lead of the Garrett Lee Smith State/Tribal Suicide Prevention Program which provides grants for states, tribes, and territories to reduce suicides among 10-24 year olds. Brandon is also the GPO for the Suicide Prevention Resource Center (SPRC) which provides suicide-specific materials, webinars, and training to organizations and communities all over the country working to prevent suicides. Another highlight of Brandon's career is his current role as the Co-Lead of the National Action Alliance for Suicide Prevention's Faith Communities Task Force. The group works with faith communities all over the nation to equip them with tools and resources to combat the often stigmatized issue of suicide. Brandon serves as the subject matter expert in suicide among Black people and has lead numerous projects to develop resources and materials to specifically prevent suicide among African-American youth. Previously, Brandon served as the Director of Suicide and Violence Prevention for the State of Maryland where he worked in communities throughout the state to help develop strategies to end violence in various forms, such as community violence and human trafficking.

## FORUM ON MENTAL HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE USE DISORDERS

**Lisa K. Kearney, Ph.D., ABPP**, provides oversight to the development and implementation of VA's comprehensive public health approach to suicide prevention, combining both community-based prevention and clinically-based intervention strategies. She is responsible for overseeing the day-to-day operations of the Suicide Prevention Program and the Veterans Crisis Line, which provides 24/7 crisis line support to Veterans and Service Member through calls, chat, and text services. Dr. Kearney recently served as the Deputy Director – Suicide Prevention and as the Associate Director of Education at the VA Center for Integrated Healthcare. Previously, she worked nationally as part of the executive team in the VA Office of Mental Health Operations (OMHO) as the Senior Consultant for Technical Assistance, overseeing mental health policy implementation through quality improvement site visits across the VA system. At the local level, Dr. Kearney served as the Chief of Psychology, Assistant Chief, Director of Training, and Director of Primary Care Mental Health Integration at the South Texas Veterans Health Care System. Dr. Kearney is also a Clinical Associate Professor of Psychiatry at the University of Texas Health San Antonio. She is the Associate Editor for Psychological Services and an Editor for Psychology of Men and Masculinity. She currently serves as the Past-President of the American Academy of Clinical Health Psychology. She has received the following national awards: American Psychological Association (APA) Excellence in Clinical Health Psychology Award (2020), Association of Psychologists in Academic Health Centers Outstanding Mid-Career Professional Contributions Award (2019), Russell B. Lemle Leadership Award (2018), APA Presidential Citation (2016), APA Peter J.N. Linnerooth National Service Award (2015), and Association of VA Psychologist Leaders Special Contribution Award (2010). She is a fellow in APA Division 18, APA Division 38, the American Academy of Clinical Health Psychology, and the Bexar County Psychological Association. She is an active member of the American Psychological Association, American Academy of Clinical Health Psychology, and Association of VA Psychologist Leaders and has over 40 publications in the areas of integrated primary care, suicide prevention, mental health business operations, and training of mental health providers.

**Barbara Limandri, PhD, PMHNP, BC** is a retired psychiatric mental health nurse practitioner and Professor Emerita at Linfield University in Portland Oregon. She earned her baccalaureate degree in nursing at Virginia Commonwealth University, her master's degree in psychiatric-mental health nursing at The Catholic University of America, and her doctorate in psychiatric nursing at the University of California, San Francisco. She is a member of the American Psychiatric Nurses Association where she co-chaired the task force to develop clinical competencies for psychiatric



## FORUM ON MENTAL HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE USE DISORDERS

nurses for suicide prevention and management. As a follow up on those competencies, Dr. Limandri co-chaired the committee to develop a curriculum to prepare nurses to meet those competences and has taught over 20 workshops throughout the US in suicide prevention and management. Additionally, Dr. Limandri helped develop the training course for facilitators of the Suicide Prevention Training workshop and has taught the course for 5 years for the American Psychiatric Nurses Association. Dr. Limandri has authored several articles related to suicide prevention and two textbook chapters. Essential for nurses and all health care providers is developing skill in asking about suicidal thoughts in universal screening and follow up in-depth suicide risk assessment. In addition, Dr. Limandri has expertise in Dialectical Behavior Therapy that was originally developed to assist those struggling with chronic suicidal thinking and behavior associated with borderline personality disorder. Treatment strategies used in DBT includes individual psychotherapy, skill development in groups, and pharmacotherapy.

**Richard McKeon Ph.D., MPH**, received his Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology from the University of Arizona, and a Master's of Public Health in Health Administration from Columbia University. He has spent most of his career working in community mental health, including 11 years as director of a psychiatric emergency service and 4 years as Associate Administrator/Clinical Director of a hospital based community mental health center in Newton, New Jersey. In 2001, he was awarded an American Psychological Association Congressional Fellowship and worked in the United States Senate, covering health and mental health policy issues. He spent 5 years on the Board of the American Association of Suicidology as Clinical Division Director and has also served on the Board of the Division of Clinical Psychology of the American Psychological Association. He is currently Chief for the Suicide Prevention Branch in the Center for Mental Health Services, of the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, where he oversees all branch suicide prevention activities, including the Garrett Lee Smith State/Tribal Youth Suicide Prevention, and Campus Suicide Prevention grant programs, the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline, the Suicide Prevention Resource Center, and the Native Connections program. In 2008, he was appointed by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to the Secretary's Blue Ribbon Work Group on Suicide Prevention. In 2009, he was appointed by the Secretary of Defense to the Department of Defense Task Force on Suicide Prevention in the Military. He served on the National Action Alliance for Suicide Prevention Task Force that revised the National Strategy for Suicide Prevention and participated in the development of WHO's World Suicide Prevention Report. He is also the Co-Chair of the Federal Working Group on Suicide Prevention.

## FORUM ON MENTAL HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE USE DISORDERS

**Dennis Mohatt** is Vice President for Behavioral Health for the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education (WICHE) and directs its behavioral health program. Founded in 1955, WICHE Behavioral Health and its 16 member states and territories collaborate to improve systems of behavioral health care and build a highly competent behavioral health workforce for the West. Mohatt leads this mission through promoting innovation, cooperation, resource sharing, and data driven public policy formation. Dennis served as Deputy Director for the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services from 1996-1999. In that position, he was designated the state's Commissioner of Mental Health, as well as providing leadership in the areas of public assistance, rural health, primary care, disabilities, and child welfare. Dennis also was responsible for the administration of Nebraska's public managed care initiatives in Medicaid for both physical and behavioral health. He has over a decade of experience in community mental health, and provided executive leadership for a CMHC in Michigan's rural Upper Peninsula, and its successful integration of community mental health services with primary care in two rural family medicine practices, and 4 school districts. Dennis served on the National Rural Health Advisory Committee, to the United States Secretary of Health and Human Services, from 1994 – 1998. Dennis served as the Chief Consultant to the Rural Issues Subcommittee of the President's New Freedom Commission on Mental Health (2001-2003) and lead author of the subcommittee report to the Commission, the President, and the nation. Dennis received his undergraduate training at the University of Oregon, and received a NIMH Training Fellowship in rural mental health while at Mansfield University in Pennsylvania, where he received his Master of Arts degree in rural community-clinical psychology. Dennis has been a member of the Board of Directors for the National Association for Rural Mental Health since 1987, and served as the association's President from 1992-1995. In 1996, Dennis was awarded the Victor I. Howery Award for outstanding contributions to rural mental health. In July 1993, Dennis was featured as one of "Five Healthcare Heroes" in a feature article in Omni magazine. In 2000, Dennis was named Outstanding Young Alumnus by Mansfield University. In 2019, Dennis was nominated and selected for the Award for Distinguished Contributions to Practice in Community Psychology Award from Division 27 of the American Psychological Association. His professional work has been primarily focused on rural and remote issues of prevention and treatment, integration of mental health with other systems of care (e.g. primary care, school health, military/Veteran). Dennis was born and raised in the small farming community of Vail, Iowa, and the Rosebud Reservation in South Dakota. He has lived and worked extensively in the

## FORUM ON MENTAL HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE USE DISORDERS

Western U.S., including the Pacific Territories and Freely Associated States. His experience has included considerable exposure to cultural diversity, especially in working in partnership with Indigenous people.

**Mary Ann Nihart, MA, APRN, PMHCNS-BC, PMHNP-BC**, currently serves as the Associate Director for Patient Care Services/Nurse Executive at the San Francisco Veterans Affairs Healthcare System. Despite her primarily administrative role, Ms. Nihart continues to practice as a Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner, established the first PMHNP residency program at the San Francisco VA in conjunction with the University of California San Francisco where she is Associate Clinical Professor in the School of Nursing. She is a nationally and internationally known speaker as an early integrator of biology in psychiatric mental health nursing and has spent much of her career developing and working with community agencies on crisis management. At the time of the incident she is about to discuss, Ms. Nihart was serving as Mayor of the City of Pacifica. Coincidentally, she was also the President-elect of the American Psychiatric Nurses Association (APNA) and one of most recent award winners of the APNA Psychiatric Nurse of the Year.

**Sue Ann O'Brien, LPC, MBA**, is President and CEO at Behavioral Health Link (BHL) and Executive Vice President at RI International. Together, these two teams deliver a full continuum of best practice crisis services, powered by customized software and technology solutions and real-time access to mental health and substance use services; diverting thousands from hospital EDs and justice systems to care in communities throughout the United States. They were both leading contributors to the development of the National Action Alliance for Suicide Prevention's Crisis Now exceptional practice standards in crisis care. As CEO of Behavioral Health Link, Ms. O'Brien leads a team of visionary crisis innovators whose break-through technology and crisis services have been featured worldwide. Recognized for innovation by the National Council for Behavioral Health, the Council of State Governments, Harvard University and others, BHL operates Georgia's statewide Crisis and Access Line; offering the nation's broadest application of advanced crisis call center technology through their Care Traffic Control system. BHL also delivers and/or deploys 24/7 community-based mobile crisis in all 159 Georgia counties. Ms. O'Brien was formerly Chief Operating Officer at RI International, and previously responsible for Crisis Facility services that spanned five states. RI, founders of the "living room" model in 2002, deliver no-wrong-door crisis facility-based services in seven states with rapid growth targeted. RI's Campus of Connection model includes a strong peer workforce and surrounds the individual with support on their journey towards

## FORUM ON MENTAL HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE USE DISORDERS

recovery. With 25 years of senior leadership experience in behavioral health, Ms. O'Brien aims to foster and create crisis care equivalents to the nation's rapid response system for individuals with medical emergencies by making care available to anyone, anywhere and anytime. Together, these two strategic partners employ nearly 1,800 staff and have offices in Arizona, California, Delaware, Georgia, Louisiana (2020), New Zealand, North Carolina, Virginia (2020) and Washington State. And, their impact is growing through consulting, training and crisis immersion experiences.

**Jane Pearson, Ph.D.**, is a widely recognized authority on suicide and suicide prevention with expertise in clinical psychology and public health strategies. She serves as the Special Advisor to the Director of NIMH on Suicide Research. She leads the NIMH Suicide Research Team and serves on the National Action Alliance for Suicide Prevention Research Task Force. She assisted in the development of the first Surgeon General's Call to Action to Prevent Suicide and the first U.S. National Strategy for Suicide Prevention. Dr. Pearson is also an adjunct associate professor at The Johns Hopkins University and a Fellow of the American Psychological Association. She has practiced as a licensed clinical psychologist and has authored papers on the ethical and methodological challenges of suicide research.

**Mary Roary, Ph.D.**, is a public health epidemiologist who focuses on infectious and chronic diseases. Dr. Roary is currently the Director of the Office of Behavioral Health Equity (OBHE) at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) - Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA). She is also an Adjunct Professor at The Catholic University of America. She has worked across government, academia, and the private industry.

Dr. Roary has worked in two components of the National Institutes of Health (NIH) since 2013 as a Program Director and Officer. At NIH, Dr. Roary was responsible for Health Promotion, Disease Prevention, Environmental Influences, Health Disparities, low resources in the "IDeA States" and Child Health portfolio. Dr. Roary has developed national funding opportunities, overseen complex budgets, mentored investigators in developing project grants, and disseminated research findings to stakeholders.

Dr. Roary previously served as the data lead for the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services - Office of Minority Health Committees on the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, Healthy People 2020, and Environmental Justice. She was the Principal Investigator and Co-Principal Investigator for multiple community-based participatory research grants at Johns Hopkins University and the University of Arizona.

## FORUM ON MENTAL HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE USE DISORDERS

Dr. Roary earned her Ph. D. in Epidemiology and was an Epidemiology and Biostatistician CDC fellow at the University of Arizona. She holds several Master's Degrees from Johns Hopkins University. Her ultimate goal is to become an influential champion of eliminating health disparities by identifying and implementing data-driven best practices that promote health equity and wellness.

**Tracie Schneider, Ed.D., CRC**, has worked in the intersection of disability, employment, and education for over ten years. She currently serves as Arkansas' Department of Human Services (DHS) Deaf Mental Health Coordinator. Her background is in accessibility, policy development, service coordination, and vocational rehabilitation counseling. She earned her bachelor's from Texas A&M University in Texarkana, Texas, her master's from Southern University and A&M College in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, and her doctorate from Lamar University in Beaumont, Texas. Her primary areas of interest are: Deaf mental health, communication equity, and transition services for youth with disabilities.

**Matthew Tierney, MS, APRN** is a Clinical Professor at the UCSF School of Nursing and is Clinical Director of Substance Use Treatment and Education for the Office of Population Health at UCSF Health. He is currently President of the American Psychiatric Nurses Association (APNA) and represents APNA on this NASEM panel. An educator and clinician for over 2 decades, his work focuses on increasing access to essential mental health and substance use treatment by developing and implementing innovative clinical treatment programs and by educating the existing and rising healthcare workforce. As an active Nurse Practitioner certified in adult primary care, addictions nursing and psychiatric-mental health care, his clinical work focuses on providing evidence-based care to vulnerable and highly-stigmatized populations. He is an active participant in numerous professional organizations including: the Association for Multidisciplinary Education and Research in Substance use and Addiction (AMERSA); the American Society of Addiction Medicine (ASAM) where he serves on the national Planning Committee for the Treatment of Opioid Use Disorder Course Program; and ASAM's California Chapter (CSAM) where he serves as the only nurse on the Committee on Opioids and as an educator and mentor in CSAM's Medical Education and Research Foundation (MERF). He is also a Fellow of the American Academy of Nursing (FAAN) where he actively serves on the Expert Panel on Psychiatric-Mental Health and Substance Use.

**May Yeh, PhD**, is an Associate Professor of Psychology at San Diego State University, Research Scientist at the Child and Adolescent Services Research Center, Associate Adjunct Professor of Psychiatry at the University of California, San Diego, and faculty in the SDSU/UCSD Joint Doctoral Program in Clinical Psychology. Her

## FORUM ON MENTAL HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE USE DISORDERS

work focuses on cultural issues, cultural competence, and personalization of evidence-based treatment in mental health services for children.

**Xinzhi Zhang, MD, PhD, FACE**, is the Chief of Health Inequities and Global Health Branch at the Center for Translation Research and Implementation Science at the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute (NHLBI), part of the National Institutes of Health (NIH). Dr. Zhang has broad research interests that include clinical epidemiology, health services research, data science, health informatics, and their applications to promote health equity nationally and globally. He is a lieutenant commander in the U.S. Public Health Service Commissioned Corps, an elite group of public health leaders who respond to national health crises.

Before joining NHLBI, Dr. Zhang was a program director in the National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences (NCATS) Division of Clinical Innovation, where he managed a portfolio of Clinical and Translational Science Awards (CTSA), including overseeing the CTSA National Center for Data to Health (CD2H). During the COVID-19 pandemic, CD2H initiated National COVID Cohort Collaborative (N3C), the first-ever nationally centralized electronic medical record data openly accessible for the clinical and research community to use for studying COVID-19 and for identifying potential treatments. Dr. Zhang was the NCATS lead on rural health and health equity and currently co-chairs the NIH Rural Health Interest Group. He was also the lead for the diversity and re-entry research supplements program.

Dr. Zhang joined NIH in 2012 as a program director in the National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities' Division of Extramural Scientific Programs where he provided leadership for scientific program development and project management on minority health and health disparities research. He spearheaded the development of research initiatives including Multilevel Chronic Disease Prevention, Simulation Modeling and System Science, Enhancing Diversity in Biomedical Data Science, and Social Determinants of Health Collection using the PhenX Toolkit. Prior to that, Dr. Zhang had joined the National Center for Infectious Diseases' Office of Surveillance at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) in 2003 as a Steven M. Teutsch Prevention Effectiveness Fellow. His pandemic preparedness tool, FluSurge, is widely recommended (e.g. by WHO/PAHO, Johns Hopkins University) and used (e.g., by STAT, countries like Spain) to estimate surges in demand for hospital-based services during the COVID-19 pandemic. From 2005 to 2012, he was an epidemiologist in CDC's National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion's Division of Diabetes Translation and was instrumental in establishing the vision and eye health program at CDC.

Dr. Zhang has authored 4 papers for inclusion in CDC's Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report, 3 book chapters, and 68 articles published in peer-reviewed

**FORUM ON MENTAL HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE USE DISORDERS**

journals, including the Journal of the American Medical Association, the American Journal of Public Health, and the American Journal of Preventive Medicine. He is one of the editors of the 2021 textbook on The Science of Health Disparities Research. Currently, he also serves as an associate editor of Health Equity. Throughout his career, Dr. Zhang has received many honors and awards from NIH, CDC, AHRQ, American Public Health Association, and Commissioned Corps of the U.S. Public Health Service, including 2 Presidential Unit Citations and 2 Outstanding Service Medals. Dr. Zhang received his M.D. from Peking Union Medical College in 1998 and his Ph.D. in health services administration from the University of Alabama at Birmingham in 2003.