

ENHANCING CARE AND SERVICES FOR MENTAL HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE USE DISORDERS

A WORKSHOP



PRESENTED BY:

Forum on Mental Health and Substance Use Disorders

**NATIONAL
ACADEMIES** *Sciences
Engineering
Medicine*

Workshop on Enhancing Care and Services for Mental Health and Substance Use Disorders

July 1, 2025 | 11:00 AM - 4:00 PM ET

July 2, 2025 | 11:00 AM - 4:00 PM ET

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NATIONAL ACADEMIES

Sciences Engineering Medicine

LOGISTICS VIRTUAL WORKSHOP

July 1, 2025
11:00 AM-4:00 PM ET

July 2, 2025
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- Public attendees will join the webcast via this link:
https://www.nationalacademies.org/event/44945_07-2025_enhancing-care-and-services-for-mental-health-and-substance-use-disorders-a-workshop
- An archive of the video webcast and presentation slides will be available at:
https://www.nationalacademies.org/event/44945_07-2025_enhancing-care-and-services-for-mental-health-and-substance-use-disorders-a-workshop
- Proceedings-in-Brief of the workshop will be published following National Academies procedures. Staff 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?

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

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



Enhancing Care and Services for Mental Health and Substance Use Disorders A Workshop

Objectives:

- Explore how structural determinants of health (SDOH) such as healthcare and social service infrastructures, economic stability, and policy environments, may influence mental health and substance use disorder (MHSUD) outcomes, particularly in communities with limited access to care.
- Provide an overview of emerging strategies and models such as telehealth, community-based interventions, and cross-sector partnerships, that aim to strengthen care coordination and improve access to supportive services.
- Facilitate dialogue around current approaches for integrating health and social systems, with attention to prevention and recovery supports for individuals with MHSUD.
- Discuss considerations related to workforce education, training, and professional development across disciplines involved in behavioral health and social care delivery.
- Examine how policies, financing mechanisms, and accountability structures may affect service availability, quality, and accessibility in behavioral health care.

DAY 1
July 1, 2025
11AM-4 PM ET

11:00 AM

WELCOME AND OPENING REMARKS

Benjamin F. Miller, Stanford University
Planning Committee Co-chair
Forum member

11:15 AM

SESSION 1
ADVANCING SDOH
VERSION 1.0 AND DEFINITIONS

MODERATOR:

Danielle Hessler Jones, SIREN Network
Planning committee member

SPEAKERS:

Rishi Manchanda, HealthBegins
Donna L. Washington, University of California, Los Angeles
Len Nichols, Urban Institute

Q&A (15-minutes)

12:30 PM	WHERE WE ARE TRYING TO GO
<p>Terri Tanielian, Bluebird Road Advisors</p> <p>Q&A (10-minutes)</p>	
1:00 PM	BREAK
1:15 PM	SESSION 2 OPERATIONALIZING
<p>MODERATOR: Benjamin F. Miller</p> <p>SPEAKERS: Donna Lynne, Denver Health Bianca Faccio, Sasha Bruce Youthwork, Inc. Adrianna Nava, National Committee for Quality Assurance</p> <p>Q&A (15-minutes)</p>	
2:45 PM	SESSION 3 COMMUNITY VOICES AND IMPLEMENTATION REALITIES
<p>MODERATOR: Ruth Shim, UC Davis <i>Forum member</i></p> <p>SPEAKERS: Alex Briscoe, Public Works Alliance Seth Berkowitz, University of North Carolina School of Medicine Keris Myrick, Inseparable</p> <p>Q&A (15-minutes)</p>	
3:45 PM	SYNTHESIS AND REFLECTIONS Q&A
<p>MODERATOR: Octavio N. Martinez, Hogg Foundation for Mental Health <i>Forum member</i> <i>Planning committee member</i></p>	
4:00 PM	RECESS

DAY 2 July 2, 2025 11AM-4 PM ET	
11:00 AM	WELCOME RECAP
Halaevalu Vakalahi , Council on Social Work Education <i>Forum member</i> <i>Planning committee member</i>	
11:15 AM	SESSION 4 EDUCATION, TRAINING, AND THE WORKFORCE PIPELINE
MODERATOR: Halaevalu Vakalahi SPEAKERS: Keawe Kaholokula , John A. Burns School of Medicine, University of Hawai'i at Mānoa Patricia Saleeby , Bradley University Kathleen Delaney , Rush College of Nursing Laura Bond , Harvard University Q&A (15-minutes)	
12:30 PM	SESSION 5 FINANCING AND ACCOUNTABILITY POLICY
MODERATOR: Howard H. Goldman , University of Maryland School of Medicine <i>Forum member</i> SPEAKERS: Heather Saunders , KFF Richard Frank , Brookings Institute <i>Forum member</i> Ellen Meara , Harvard University Alexandra Quinn , Health Leads Q&A (15-minutes)	

2:00 PM	BREAK
2:15 PM	SESSION 6 BUILDING A FUTURE READY FRAMEWORK
<p>MODERATOR: Octavio N. Martinez</p> <p>SPEAKERS: Keith Humphreys, Stanford University Laura Nissen, Portland State University Brendan Saloner, Brown University</p> <p>Q&A (15-minutes)</p>	
3:30 PM	SYNTHESIS AND REFLECTIONS Q&A
<p>Benjamin F. Miller</p>	
4:00 PM	ADJOURN

Workshop planning committee members:

Rosalie L. Pacula (Co-chair), University of Southern California
 Benjamin F. Miller (Co-chair), Stanford School of Medicine
 Octavio N. Martinez, Hogg Foundation for Mental Health
 Halaevalu Vakalahi, Council on Social Work Education
 Danielle Hessler Jones, SIREN Network
 Jeanne Miranda, University of California, Los Angeles

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Speaker and Moderator Roster

Seth A. Berkowitz, MD, MPH

Associate Professor of Medicine and
Section Chief for Research
University of North Carolina School of
Medicine

Laura Bond, PhD, MA

Senior Program Manager
Mental Health for All Lab

Alex Briscoe

Public Works Alliance
University of California, San Francisco

Kathleen R. Delaney, PhD, APRN, PMH- NP, FAAN

Professor Emeritus
Rush College of Nursing

Bianca Faccio, MPH

Director of Monitoring and Evaluation
Sasha Bruce Youthwork, Inc

Richard G. Frank, PhD

Senior Fellow and Director
USC-Brookings Schaeffer Initiative on
Health Policy

Howard H. Goldman, MD, PhD

Professor of Psychiatry
University of Maryland

Keith Humphreys, PhD

Esther Ting Memorial Professor
Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral
Sciences
Stanford University

Danielle Hessler Jones, PhD

Co-Director
SIREN Network

Keawe Kaholokula, PhD, MA

Professor and Chair of Native Hawaiian
Health
John A Burns School of Medicine
University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

Donna Lynne, DrPH

Chief Executive Officer
Denver Health

Rishi Manchanda, MD, MPH

CEO
HealthBegins

Octavio N. Martinez Jr., MD, MPH, MBA, FAPA

Executive Director
Hogg Foundation for Mental Health

Ellen Meara, PhD

Professor of Health Economics and
Policy in the Department of Health Policy
and Management
Harvard TH Chan School of Public Health

Benjamin F Miller, PsyD

Adjunct Professor
Stanford University School of Medicine

Keris Jän Myrick, MS, MBA,

Senior Vice President of Partnerships and
Innovation
Inseparable

Adrianna Nava, PhD, MPA

Research Scientist
National Committee for Quality
Assurance

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Len M Nichols, MA

Fellow
Urban Institute

Donna L Washington, MD, MPH

Professor of Medicine
Geffen School of Medicine
University of California Los Angeles

Laura Nissen, PhD, CADC III

Professor Emeritus
Presidential Futures Fellow
School of Social Work
Portland State University

Alexandra Quinn, MA

CEO
Health Leads

Patricia Saleeby, PhD

Professor and Department Chair of the
Department of Sociology, Criminology
and Social Work
Bradley University

Brendan Saloner, PhD

Donald G Millar Distinguished Professor
of Alcohol and Addiction Studies
Brown University

Heather Saunders, PhD

Senior Research Manager
KFF

Ruth Shim, MD, MPH

Luke & Grace Kim Professor in Cultural
Psychiatry and Professor of Clinical
Psychiatry in the Department of
Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences
UC Davis

Terri Tanielian, MA

Bluebird Road Advisors

Halaevalu Vakalahi, PhD

President and CEO
Council on Social Work Education

Speaker Bios



Seth A. Berkowitz, MD MPH is an Associate Professor of Medicine and Section Chief for Research at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill School of Medicine in the Division of General Medicine & Clinical Epidemiology. He is a general internist and primary care doctor. He studies the relationship between health-related social needs, such as food insecurity, and health outcomes. He is the lead evaluator for the North Carolina Healthy Opportunities Pilots, and Deputy Scientific Director for the American Heart Association's Health Care by Food (HCXF) initiative. He is also the author of the recent book *Equal Care: Health Equity, Social Democracy, and the Egalitarian State*, which examines how public policy can improve population health.



Laura Bond, PhD, MA is a Senior Program Manager at the Mental Health for All Lab. Laura's research focuses broadly on implementation science and mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) programming in underserved communities. Laura is interested in approaches for measuring and monitoring the quality of delivery, training and equipping nonspecialist providers, and integrating MHPSS programming into ongoing community service delivery platforms. Laura received her PhD from the Boston College School of Social Work, where she worked in the Research Program for Children and Adversity managing and supporting projects in Sierra Leone and Rwanda, and worked as a consultant for Sesame Workshop. Prior to her PhD, Laura worked for Catholic Relief Services managing education, child protection, and emergency response programs in Lesotho, Afghanistan, India, and Nigeria. She received her MA from American University's School of International Service.



Alex Briscoe was appointed director of the Alameda County Health Care Services Agency in 2009 where he led one of the state's largest public health systems, overseeing health and hospital systems, public health, behavioral health, and environmental health departments with an annual budget of \$700 million and 6,200 FTE contracted and civil service staff. Before joining the county, he was the director of the Chappell Hayes Health Center at McClymonds High School in West Oakland, a satellite outpatient center of Children's Hospital and Research Center. Mr. Briscoe's work has helped design the nexus of public health and public education. He has designed and administered a number of mental health and physical health programs and services in child serving systems, including home visiting programs, programs for medically fragile children, and clinical and development programs in child welfare, juvenile justice, and early childhood settings. Mr. Briscoe has served on the Alameda County First Five Commission, The Alameda Alliance, and The Kaiser Commission on Medicaid and The Uninsured, as well as a number of other public and private boards and commissions. Mr. Briscoe is a mental health practitioner specializing in adolescent services and youth development. He has advised or collaborated with a number of local and national foundations including The Atlantic Philanthropies, The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, The Annie E. Casey Foundation, The California Endowment, and most recently with Tipping Point Community. He has specialized in Medicaid policy and administration, emergency medical services, youth voice and crisis counseling, and safety net design and administration.



Kathleen R Delaney, PhD, PMHNP, FAAN has been Professor Emeritus at Rush College of Nursing since January 2024. Prior positions at Rush include Program Director of the Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner (PMHNP) program and Project Director on several HRSA grants, most recent for the expansion of PMHNP residency programs with underserved communities. For seven years as Project Director for the CMS funded Graduate Nursing Education Project, Dr. Delaney developed innovative practice sites for NP students, many with underserved populations. Her

Research has been focused on inpatient psychiatric treatment and the behavioral health workforce. In 2024, she was a member of the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine planning committee for the workshop Addressing Workforce Challenges Across the Behavioral Health Continuum of Care. In 2000 – 2006 as a member of the CMS Mental Health Workforce Task Group in Washington, D.C. she helped develop research for chapters in Mental Health US, (2002, 2004). Dr. Delaney has conducted two workforce studies for the American Psychiatric Nurses Association (APNA), the last one published in 2023. From 2013-2019, she served as a Governor appointed member of Illinois Nursing Workforce Center. Relevant honors include state and national recognition for Policy Work (on workforce and child mental health). In 2016, she was an invited Participant at the Medical Directors of the National Council of Behavioral Health- Improving Access to Mental Health Care. Her education includes a PhD from Rush College of Nursing and MSN Catholic University. Her work with NASEM includes being an Invited Participant in 2015 at the IOM Dissemination Panel- Psychosocial Intervention for Mental and Substance Use Disorders: A Framework for Establishing Evidence-Based Standards.



Bianca Faccio, MPH is the Director of Monitoring and Evaluation at Sasha Bruce Youthwork (SBY). Ms. Faccio is a Hispanic bilingual researcher (Spanish-English) with over 10 years of program monitoring and evaluation and qualitative research experience. She has special interest in culturally responsive evaluations and community-based participatory research. At SBY, Ms. Faccio assesses the quality of programs, by conducting implementation evaluations, quantitative data quality checks, yearly client satisfaction surveys, and client outcome surveys. Ms. Faccio ensures that efforts to change and improve programs are community-driven and data-driven.

Sasha Bruce Youthwork (SBY) is a leader in serving runaway, homeless, and at-risk youth in Washington, DC, and Prince George's County, Maryland. Our mission is to improve the lives of vulnerable youth and their families by providing safe housing, trauma-informed care, and comprehensive support services. SBY offers a full continuum of care that meets youth wherever they are—from street outreach and emergency shelter to transitional and permanent housing, family stabilization, workforce development, and behavioral health services. This integrated approach allows us to address both immediate crises and long-term barriers to independence.



Richard G. Frank, PhD is a senior fellow in Economic Studies and director of the USC-Brookings Schaeffer Initiative on Health Policy. He is the Margaret T. Morris Professor of Health Economics, Emeritus, in the Department of Health Care Policy at Harvard Medical School. From 2014 to 2016 he served as Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation in the Department of Health and Human Services. His research is focused on the economics of mental health and substance abuse care, long term care financing policy, health care competition, implementation of health reform and disability policy. Dr. Frank served as an editor for the Journal of Health Economics from 2005 to 2014. Dr. Frank was awarded the

Georgescu-Roegen Prize from the Southern Economic Association, the Carl A. Taube Award from the American Public Health Association, and the Distinguished Investigator Award from AcademyHealth. He was elected to the Institute of Medicine (National Academy of Medicine) in 1997. He is co-author with Sherry Glied of the book "Better but Not Well" (Johns Hopkins Press).



Howard H. Goldman, MD, PhD is a professor of psychiatry at the University of Maryland School of Medicine. His expertise is in evaluating mental health services and financing programs and policies. Dr. Goldman's recent research has focused on evaluating employment demonstrations for people with severe mental disorders who are connected to the disability programs of the Social Security Administration (SSA). He has also been involved in various studies related to early intervention services for individuals experiencing a first episode of psychosis. In the past he served as principal investigator of the study team conducting the Evaluation of the Implementation and Impact of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Parity in the Federal Employees Health Benefits program,

sponsored by the government. Dr. Goldman served as the senior scientific editor of the Surgeon General's Report on Mental Health from 1997 to 1999, for which he was awarded the Surgeon General's Medallion. During 2002 and 2003, Dr. Goldman was a consultant to the President's New Freedom Commission on Mental Health. From 2004 to 2016 he served as editor of *Psychiatric Services*, a mental health services research and policy journal published monthly by the American Psychiatric Association. He has served on the editorial boards of several other journals, including *Health Affairs*, the *American Journal of Psychiatry* and the *Journal of Mental Health Policy and Economics*. He is a member of the National Academy of Social Insurance, having served on its disability policy panel. Dr. Goldman is a member of the NAM, who currently is Chair Emeritus of a Standing Committee providing advice to SSA on its disability programs. He has also been a member or consultant on numerous NASEM consensus committees related to disability policy. He was the co-chair of the NAM Forum on Mental Health and Substance Use Disorders from 2020-2023. Dr. Goldman received joint M.D.-M.P.H. degrees from Harvard University and a Ph.D. in social policy research from the Heller School at Brandeis University.



Keith Humphreys, PhD is the Esther Ting Memorial Professor in the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences at Stanford University. His research addresses addictive disorders and the translation of science into public policy. In addition to over 400 scientific publications, he has written extensively for outlets like *The Washington Post* and *The Atlantic*.

Dr. Humphreys' public policy work includes testimonies to U.S. House and Senate Committees, to the Canadian and U.K. parliaments, and in many state legislatures. He served on the White House Commission on Drug-Free Communities during the Bush Administration and as Senior Policy Advisor in the White House Office of National Drug Control Policy under President Obama. He created and co-directs the Stanford Network on Addiction Policy, which brings scientists and policy makers together to improve public policies regarding addictive substances. To recognize his service to addiction-related scholarship and policy, Queen Elizabeth II made him an Honorary Officer in the Order of the British Empire in 2022.



engagement and intersections with mental health.

Danielle Hessler Jones, PhD is co-Director of the Social Interventions Research and Evaluation Network (SIREN) and a Professor and Vice Chair for Research in the Department of Family and Community Medicine at the University of California, San Francisco. Her research focuses on social care delivery in the health care sector; including understanding the impact and implementation of programs aimed at screening and addressing social risks alongside programs that seek to adjust care to fit an individual's social context. As a health psychologist Dr. Hessler Jones also brings experience in health behaviors and



Center of Pacific Innovations, Knowledge, and Opportunities (PIKO) whose mission is to improve the health and well-being of Indigenous Pacific People and other medically underserved populations. He served on the National Advisory Council on Minority Health and Health Disparities and Chaired the Intervention Research to Improve Native American Health (IRINAH), a network of NIH-funded investigators working with American Indians, Alaska Natives, and Native Hawaiians, and on the data disaggregation subcommittee of the White House Initiative on Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders. He formerly co-chaired the Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander Interest Group of the NIH Community Engagement Alliance (CEAL). In 2024, he was elected into the National Academy of Medicine for his pioneering evidence-based interventions using indigenous cultural values and practices to improve cardiovascular, diabetes, and obesity disparities for Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders.

Joseph Keawe'aimoku Kaholokula, PhD is a Professor and Chair of Native Hawaiian Health at the John A. Burns School of Medicine of the University of Hawai'i. He is a clinical health psychologist and translational behavioral scientist who leads multiple National Institutes of Health (NIH) funded research projects to improve Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander health. He has leveraged community and cultural assets to develop culturally responsive health promotion programs to improve cardiometabolic health. His research collaborations span the Pacific and North American regions including Aotearoa New Zealand, the United States, and the Pacific Region. He also oversees the



from 2016-2019. Prior to that role, she served in executive leadership positions at Kaiser Foundation Health Plan and Kaiser Foundation Hospitals, including leading strategy and business plans as President of the Colorado Region from 2005-2016.

Donna Lynne, DrPH

Prior to leading Denver Health, Dr. Lynne served as Senior Vice President and Chief Operating Officer at Columbia University Irving Medical Center, where she led administrative functions and strategic initiatives. She also directed the university's COVID-19 response and policies.

Lynne brings decades of experience as a senior health care leader and public servant to Denver Health and Denver Health Foundation. She led health care policy reform and implementation as the Lieutenant Governor of Colorado

Lynne has been listed among Modern Healthcare's Top 25 Women in Healthcare and has been recognized with the Distinguished Coloradan Award from the University of Colorado Denver and the Health Care Hero award from Project CURE. She sits on the Board of the Colorado Healing Fund and History Colorado, and

has previously served on the Boards of Building a Better Colorado, the Colorado Education Initiative, and the Denver Metro Chamber of Commerce.

She holds a bachelor's degree in Economics and Political Science from University of New Hampshire, a Master of Public Administration from George Washington University, and a Doctor of Public Health from Columbia University. In 2014, Dr. Lynne received an honorary doctorate of public service from the University of Denver, and in 2017 an honorary bachelor of science degree in nursing from Colorado Mountain College.



Rishi Manchanda, MD, MPH is CEO at HealthBegins. He has advanced bold strategies to help health care move upstream and advance health equity for historically marginalized patients and communities throughout his career as physician, executive, and public health champion. Dr. Manchanda served as the founding director of social medicine for a network of community health centers in South-Central Los Angeles, as the first lead primary care physician for homeless veterans at the Greater Los Angeles VA, and as the inaugural chief medical officer for a self-insured employer with a large rural agricultural workforce. In his book—*The Upstream Doctors*—and TED Talk,

he introduced “Upstreamists,” a new model of healthcare professionals who improve outcomes by addressing the social and structural drivers of health equity—patients’ social needs, community-level social determinants of health, and structural determinants of health equity including structural racism.



Octavio N. Martinez, Jr., MD, MPH, MBA, FAPA is executive director of the Hogg Foundation for Mental Health at The University of Texas at Austin. The foundation’s grants and programs support mental health services, research, policy analysis, and public education projects in Texas. The Hogg Foundation is part of the Division of Diversity and Community Engagement at The University of Texas at Austin. Martinez holds an appointment of Senior Associate Vice-President within the division. He is also a Professor of Psychiatry at the Dell Medical School, Clinical Professor at the Steve Hicks School of Social Work; Faculty Affiliate with the Rapoport Center for Human Rights and Justice in the School of Law, and Adjunct Professor at The

University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio School of Medicine’s Department of Psychiatry.

Martinez serves on the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s Center for Preparedness and Response Board of Scientific Counselors and National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine’s Health and Medicine Division’s Roundtable on the Promotion of Health Equity. Martinez has a master’s degree in public health from Harvard University’s School of Public Health, an M.D. from Baylor College of Medicine, and master’s and bachelor’s degrees in business administration with a concentration in finance from The University of Texas at Austin. He was Chief Resident during his psychiatric training at The University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio and is an alumnus of The Commonwealth Fund/Harvard University Fellowship in Minority Health Policy at Harvard Medical School.



Ellen Meara, PhD is a Professor of Health Economics and Policy in the Department of Health Policy and Management at the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, a Research Associate of the National Bureau of Economic Research, and an elected member of the National Academy of Medicine and the National Academy of Social Insurance. Her research studies the impact of public policies and regulations on populations insured by Medicare and Medicaid. Much of this work has focused on people with disabilities. Recent projects have focused on state regulations to prevent risky opioid prescribing, the care of people with opioid use disorder in Medicare and Medicaid, and transitions of care and insurance disruptions for children with disabilities as they enter adulthood. When studying how health and social policies affect people with disabilities, Dr. Meara focuses on the health and economic impact of changes in insurance coverage, payment strategies, and care delivery innovations. In other work, she has traced rising differences in mortality and life expectancy in the U.S. according to education and across U.S. states. Prior to joining the Chan School in 2020, she served on the faculties of Dartmouth's Geisel School of Medicine, where she was co-faculty director of Dartmouth's Master of Healthcare Delivery Science program, and at Harvard Medical School's Department of Health Care Policy. She also served as Co-editor of the Journal of Health Economics. Dr. Meara earned her B.A. in Mathematical Methods for Social Sciences and Political Science from Northwestern University and her Ph.D. in Economics from Harvard University.



Benjamin F. Miller, PsyD, a clinical psychologist by training, is an academic, executive, and policy expert. Over the last two decades, Dr. Miller has worked tirelessly to prioritize mental health in our policies, programs, and investments. He works at the intersection of policy and practice, ensuring that mental health and substance misuse solutions are a focus across the world.

Dr. Miller's expertise in the mental health space largely stems from the early days of his career. Beginning as an educator, teaching special education, he saw firsthand how our systems fail those who are in the most need. After receiving his doctorate in clinical psychology from [Spalding University](#) in Louisville, he began his years-long professional relationship with the University of Colorado School of Medicine, beginning with his predoctoral internship at Colorado in 2006. He subsequently trained at the University of Massachusetts Medical School, focusing on how we can better integrate mental health into primary care.

After returning to Colorado from Massachusetts, he joined the [Department of Family Medicine](#) where he worked for over 8 years, ultimately achieving the academic rank of Associate Professor. During his tenure at Colorado, he helped establish the [Eugene S. Farley, Jr. Health Policy Center](#) as its founding director. The Farley Center positioned Miller as a national thought leader on mental health and policy and led to the creation of several seminal documents and publications. From Colorado, he transitioned to help start Well Being Trust, a national foundation that focused on advancing the mental, social, and spiritual health of the nation. Under his leadership as president of the foundation, Well Being Trust helped invest in the creation of several movement building organizations, reports that influenced policy change, and tools that could be used by communities to advance mental health.

With over 100 publications and hundreds of invited keynote speaking engagements, Miller has fought relentlessly to change the national narrative around mental health.



Keris Jän Myrick, MS., MBA is Senior Vice President of Partnerships and Innovation at Inseparable, a national nonprofit focused on mental health policy reform. She is a nationally recognized mental health advocate and nonprofit executive with more than 20 years of leadership experience in mental health services innovation, peer workforce development, and equity-centered systems transformation at local, state, and federal levels.

Ms. Myrick is known for integrating lived experience with professional expertise in mental health policy, program design, and evaluation. Her work has advanced inclusive practices and the development of peer-led services, particularly for communities of color. She serves as Co-Editor of the *Lived Experience Inclusion and Leadership* column in *Psychiatric Services* and is a member of the boards of Mental Health America, Disability Rights California, and the Center for Health Care Strategies.

A published author, Ms. Myrick has contributed peer-reviewed articles and book chapters on topics including peer support, digital mental health, and the integration of lived experience in systems change. She is the creator and host of the podcast *Unapologetically Black Unicorns*, which centers conversations at the intersection of race, mental health, and lived experience.

Ms. Myrick brings a "whole person" approach to mental health, informed by her expertise in organizational psychology and strategic planning. She serves as a clinical advisor to the Digital Psychiatry Program at Harvard Medical School's Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center and has led the development of digital health literacy curricula for peer specialists in Los Angeles County. She also served on the American Psychiatric Association's App Evaluation Model workgroup.

Ms. Myrick holds a Master of Science in Organizational Psychology from the California School of Professional Psychology at Alliant International University and a Master of Business Administration from Case Western Reserve University's Weatherhead School of Management. She is also a Certified Personal Medicine Coach.



Adrianna Nava, PhD, MPA serves as the Scientific Lead for the development of HEDIS® measures that address the social drivers of health and is the Primary Care and Prevention Center Lead, where she guides strategic initiatives to enhance care delivery, quality measurement and population-level outcomes. She holds an MPA from Harvard University, PhD in Nursing and Health Policy from the University of Massachusetts Boston, an MSN from the University of Pennsylvania, and a BSN from Saint Francis Medical Center College of Nursing. Dr. Nava was recently named one of the Top 25 Emerging Healthcare Leaders of 2023 by Modern Healthcare; and was inducted as a Fellow into the American Academy of Nursing in 2024.



Len M. Nichols, MA is a nonresident fellow at the Urban Institute, professor emeritus at George Mason University, and president of NS Ideas, LLC, a health policy consulting firm. In all three capacities he continues to expand his recent work on incentivizing investments in social determinants of health. Len's career has spanned academia (Wellesley College and George Mason University), public policy research institutions (Urban, Mathematica, New America Foundation), and government (Office of Management and Budget, Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, and Federal Trade Commission), with a consistent focus on using economic analysis to improve the balance between equity and efficiency in public policies, especially in health insurance, health care, and social

service markets. His current Collaborative Approach to Public Goods Investment, or CAPGI, project at Urban is the culmination of lessons learned while teaching, researching, writing, testifying, advising, and listening throughout his career. Since his experience as senior advisor for health policy at the Office of Management and Budget during the Clinton administration, Nichols has consistently tried to add moral arguments to the technical health and social policy debate, for he believes they are more complementary than contradictory, as did Adam Smith. He was a principal research associate in Urban's Health Policy Center from 1994 to 2001 and is glad to be back with colleagues singularly dedicated to using data, logic and evidence to make health policy and health outcomes more equitable.

Len earned his BA in economics and business from Hendrix College in 1975, his MA in economics from the University of Arkansas in 1976, and his PhD in economics from the University of Illinois in 1980.



Laura Nissen, PhD, CADC III is a Former Dean and Professor Laura Burney Nissen is from the Portland State University School of Social Work. With a commitment to innovative and equity-centered systems change, Laura has worked with futures practice and lenses throughout her career in a variety of transdisciplinary settings. She is in the foresight practitioner and a Research Fellow with the Institute for the Future and has served as a Presidential Futures Fellow at PSU 2019-2022. She has been PI on a two-year grant to convene first of its kind national Social Work Health Futures Lab from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. This lab provides infrastructure and inspiration to further develop applications of a futures lens for the social work profession with an emphasis on practice in health and health justice and produced a national conference on this topic in 2024. She has a new book with Oxford University Press entitled “Anticipatory Social Work: Foresight

Approaches and Tools for Social Imagining and Collective Praxis” which is just out now. Her commitment is to challenge social work and social workers to think beyond the traps of “short-termism” and participate in co-creating the world we want. She lives on the Columbia River Gorge in Washington. For additional information about her work, please visit: www.socialworkfutures.com.



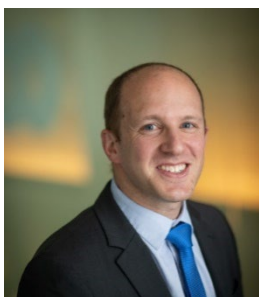
Alexandra Quinn, MA is the CEO of Health Leads, a US based NGO that partners with communities, health systems and public health to address systemic causes of inequity and disease. Alexandra has spent two decades in the federal government and non-profit sectors, focused on equity, justice, education and health. She has been a W.K. Kellogg Foundation Community Leadership Network Fellow focused on racial equity, racial healing and leadership, sat on the World Economic Forum Global Future Council for Mental Health and was named to the “Care100 list” as one of the most influential people in care in 2020. Alexandra holds a B.A. from Smith College

and an M.A. from Georgetown University and resides in Oakland, CA with her two kids, two dogs and partner.



Patricia Saleeby, PhD is Professor and Department Chair of the Department of Sociology, Criminology and Social Work at Bradley University. She is the current global Co-Chair of the WHOFIC Functioning and Disability Reference Group that focuses on improving the quality and comparability of data on functioning, disability and health through the use of international classifications like ICD, ICF, and ICHI. Between 1997-2001 Dr. Saleeby participated on the WHO Environmental Task Force that created the environmental categories and codes in the ICF. Additionally, she is a member of the Post-Acute Care Interoperability Project (PACIO) sponsored by CMS and MITRE Corporation as well as the GRAVITY Project,

which is a national collaborative developing data standards around using and sharing information on social determinants of health. Dr. Saleeby is an International Advisory Board member for the Columbia-WHO Center for Global Mental Health, and a member of the Council on Social Work Education and the National Association of Social Workers.



Brendan Saloner, PhD is the Donald G. Millar Distinguished Professor of Alcohol and Addiction Studies at the Brown University School of Public Health. One strand of his research focuses on access and quality of care for people with mental health and substance use disorders. He received an early career award from the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) to study the effects of Medicaid expansion under the Affordable Care Act on treatment for opioid use disorder. A second strand of his research focuses specifically on health care for people in the criminal legal system. He has received grants from NIDA and Arnold Ventures to investigate medications for opioid use disorder among

incarcerated people. He is currently evaluating the statewide expansion of addiction treatment in Maryland county detention facilities. Finally, Professor Saloner maintains an active research program in bioethics. He led a Making a Difference grant supported by the Greenwall Foundation to study resource allocation in jails and prisons during the COVID-19 pandemic. He received the Greenwall Faculty Scholars Award in 2023 for a project focused on ethical issues related to mandated addiction treatment for people in the criminal legal system. Dr. Saloner was at the Johns Hopkins School of Public Health from 2014 until July 2025.



Heather Saunders, PhD is a senior research manager with KFF's Program on Medicaid and the Uninsured. Her work primarily focuses on mental health and substance use policy, covering key areas such as the delivery of crisis care, treatment of opioid use disorders, and efforts to address the behavioral health workforce shortages. Prior to joining KFF, she participated in evaluations for Virginia Medicaid programs, using quantitative and qualitative research methods. She received her Master of Social Work degree and served clients in hospital, school and outpatient settings. She also managed behavioral

randomized controlled trials in medical settings. Dr. Saunders received her doctorate in health care policy and research from Virginia Commonwealth University.



Ruth Shim, MD, MPH is the Luke & Grace Kim Professor in Cultural Psychiatry and Professor of Clinical Psychiatry in the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences at the University of California, Davis. She also serves as Associate Dean of Diverse and Inclusive Education at the University of California, Davis School of Medicine. Dr. Shim's research focuses on mental health disparities and inequities, and she provides clinical psychiatric care in the UC Davis Early Diagnosis and Preventative Treatment (EDAPT) Clinic.

Dr. Shim is a member of the Board of Trustees of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and the American Association for Community Psychiatry. She serves on the Research and Evaluation Committee of the California Mental Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commission. Additionally, Dr. Shim serves on the editorial boards of *JAMA Psychiatry*, *Psychiatric Services*, *Community Mental Health Journal*, and *American Psychiatric Publishing*. She is co-editor of the books, *The Social Determinants of Mental Health*, and the recently published, *Social (In)Justice and Mental Health*.

Dr. Shim is a former fellow of the Executive Leadership in Academic Medicine (ELAM) Program, and an at-large member of the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine Forum on Mental Health and Substance Use Disorders.

Dr. Shim received a Master of Public Health specializing in health policy from the Rollins School of Public Health at Emory University and an M.D. from Emory University School of Medicine.



Terri Tanielian, MA is a nationally recognized expert in veteran and military health policy, behavioral health, suicide prevention, and resilience. From 2021 to 2025, she served in the Biden-Harris Administration as Special Assistant to the President for Veterans Affairs and Behavioral Health. In this role, she led the Administration's efforts to improve services for veterans, families, caregivers, and survivors, and to transform the nation's approach to mental health and substance use.

Terri was the architect of the White House's national strategy to address the mental health crisis and directed historic investments in behavioral health. She led the launch of the 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline, facilitated the 2024–2034 National Strategy for Suicide Prevention, and spearheaded efforts to grow and diversify the behavioral health workforce. Her leadership expanded access to treatment for substance use disorders and mental health services across federal programs including Medicare and Medicaid.

As the President's lead advisor on veterans' issues, Terri played a central role in securing bipartisan passage of the PACT Act, delivering new benefits to over 1.2 million veterans exposed to toxic substances. She led the White House Strategy to Reduce Military and Veteran Suicide and represented the U.S. at international commemorative events, including the 2023 Invictus Games and the 80th anniversaries of D-Day and the Battle of the Bulge.

Terri previously served as a Senior Behavioral Scientist at the RAND Corporation, where she led influential research on mental health, military caregiving, and the psychological impacts of war—including the landmark studies *Invisible Wounds of War* and *Hidden Heroes*. Her work has shaped national policy, and she has testified before Congress multiple times. She has authored over 100 peer-reviewed publications and received RAND's highest research award twice.

She has advised organizations including the National Academy of Medicine, The Carter Center, and the Bush Institute's Military Service Initiative. In 2019, she served as a Congressional Fellow with the House Veterans' Affairs Committee, drafting legislation on veteran suicide prevention.

Terri holds a Master of Arts in Psychology from The American University and a Bachelor of Arts from Boston University.



Halaevalu Vakalahi, PhD is a Pacific Islander woman, born in Tonga and raised in Hawai'i. She is the President and CEO of the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE). Prior to joining CSWE, she was a Professor and Dean of the College of Health and Society, an interdisciplinary college, at Hawai'i Pacific University (HPU). Prior to HPU, she was a tenured full-Professor and Associate Dean of the School of Social Work at Morgan State University (Baltimore, MD); Associate Professor and MSW Program Director at George Mason University (Fairfax, VA); Lecturer and BSW Coordinator at San Francisco State University (San Francisco, CA); Assistant Professor and Department Chair at BYU-Hawai'i (La'ie, Hawai'i); and Assistant Professor at New Mexico State University (Las Cruces, NM). She earned a BS in Business Management from BYU-Hawai'i, MSW from University of Hawai'i-Manoa, and MEd and PhD in Social Work from University of Utah.

Dr. Vakalahi has been privileged to serve in various professional organizations across disciplines and in communities in which she has lived and worked. Her areas of teaching include social policy, human behavior and the social work environment, and organizational leadership. Her two areas of research/scholarship are Pacific Islander culture/community and Women of Color in academia, in which she has contributed extensively to the existing literature through peer-reviewed articles, chapters, books, references, and other mediums. She is a proud alum of the CSWE Minority Fellowship Program, a Fulbright Senior Scholar, a Hartford Faculty Scholar, recipient of the CSWE Feminist Scholar award, and the Morgan State University Iva G Jones award. Among many things, Dr. Vakalahi is deeply committed to the futures and advancement of justice, equity, diversity, and inclusion, which, in essence, has been shaped by extraordinary people and places that have invested in her. For that, she is eternally grateful.



Donna L. Washington, MD, MPH is a Professor of Medicine at the University of California Los Angeles (UCLA) Geffen School of Medicine, Director of Population Health for the VA Center for the Study of Healthcare Innovation, Implementation & Policy at VA Greater Los Angeles Healthcare System (GLAHS), Director of Health Services Research for the VA GLAHS Department of Medicine, and Director/PI of the VHA Health Equity-Quality Enhancement Research Initiative National Partnered Evaluation Center. Dr. Washington's research examines health and health care access, quality, equity, and outcomes of U.S. Veterans with a focus on understanding multi-level factors influencing unwanted variation in VA care and outcomes. Her research has impacted

national VA health care delivery, policies, and strategic planning related to health equity and to delivery of services for women. Dr. Washington has received numerous awards and recognition for her work, including the Society of General Internal Medicine's Herbert Nickens Award and the VA Under Secretary's Award for Outstanding Achievement in Health Services Research. Dr. Washington is an elected member of the National Academy of Medicine class of 2024.

Planning Committee Roster

Rosalie L. Pacula PhD (Co-chair),

Elizabeth Garrett Chair in Health Policy, Economics & Law at the Sol Price
School of Public Policy
University of Southern California

Benjamin F. Miller PsyD (Co-chair),

Adjunct Professor
Stanford University School of Medicine

Octavio N. Martinez, MD, MPH, MBA, FAPA

Executive Director
Hogg Foundation for Mental Health

Halaevalu Vakalahi, PhD

President and CEO
Council on Social Work Education

Danielle Hessler Jones, PhD

Co-Director
SIREN Network

Jeanne Miranda, PhD

Distinguished Professor Emeritus
University of California, Los Angeles

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Planning Committee Member Bios



Rosalie Liccardo Pacula PhD holds the Elizabeth Garrett Chair in Health Policy, Economics & Law at the Sol Price School of Public Policy, University of Southern California and is a Senior Fellow with the Leonard D. Schaeffer Center for Health Policy & Economics, where she co-directs the RAND-USC Schaeffer Opioid Policy Tools & Information Center of Excellence (OPTIC) in addition to leading numerous National Institute of Health funded studies examining the impact of federal, state and local laws on the supply, demand and access to treatment for intoxicating substances. Previously she spent 21 years at the RAND Corporation, serving as co-director of RAND's Drug Policy Research Center for 15 of those years, working on drug policy studies for the U.S. Office of National Drug Control Policy, U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, European Commission, and the U.K. Home Office. She served on NIDA's National Advisory Council Cannabis Policy Workgroup (2017), the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA's) technical advisory committee on preventing cannabis use among youth (2020-present), the World Health Organization's Technical Expert Committee on Cannabis Use and Cannabis Policy (December 2019-2020), the National Academy of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine Committee on the Review of Specific Programs in the Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act (2021 – present), the CDC's National Injury Prevention's Board of Scholarly Counsellors (2021- present), and is currently President of the International Society for the Study of Drug Policy (2019- present). Dr. Pacula is a graduate from the Santa Clara University and received her doctorate in economics from Duke University.



Benjamin F. Miller, PsyD, a clinical psychologist by training, is an academic, executive, and policy expert. Over the last two decades, Dr. Miller has worked tirelessly to prioritize mental health in our policies, programs, and investments. He works at the intersection of policy and practice, ensuring that mental health and substance misuse solutions are a focus across the world.

Dr. Miller's expertise in the mental health space largely stems from the early days of his career. Beginning as an educator, teaching special education, he saw firsthand how our systems fail those who are in the most need. After receiving his doctorate in clinical psychology from [Spalding University](#) in Louisville, he began his years-long professional relationship with the University of Colorado School of Medicine, beginning with his predoctoral internship at Colorado in 2006. He subsequently trained at the University of Massachusetts Medical School, focusing on how we can better integrate mental health into primary care.

After returning to Colorado from Massachusetts, he joined the [Department of Family Medicine](#) where he worked for over 8 years, ultimately achieving the academic rank of Associate Professor. During his tenure at Colorado, he helped establish the [Eugene S. Farley, Jr. Health Policy Center](#) as its founding director. The Farley Center positioned Miller as a national thought leader on mental health and policy and led to the creation of several seminal documents and publications. From Colorado, he transitioned to help start Well Being Trust, a national foundation that focused on advancing the mental, social, and spiritual health of the nation. Under his leadership as president of the foundation, Well Being Trust

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helped invest in the creation of several movement building organizations, reports that influenced policy change, and tools that could be used by communities to advance mental health.

With over 100 publications and hundreds of invited keynote speaking engagements, Miller has fought relentlessly to change the national narrative around mental health.



Octavio N. Martinez, Jr., M.D., MPH, MBA, FAPA is executive director of the Hogg Foundation for Mental Health at The University of Texas at Austin. The foundation's grants and programs support mental health services, research, policy analysis, and public education projects in Texas. The Hogg Foundation is part of the Division of Diversity and Community Engagement at The University of Texas at Austin. Martinez holds an appointment of Senior Associate Vice-President within the division. He is also a Professor of Psychiatry at the Dell Medical School, Clinical Professor at the Steve Hicks School of Social Work; Faculty Affiliate with the Rapoport Center for Human Rights and Justice in the School of Law, and Adjunct Professor at The

University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio School of Medicine's Department of Psychiatry.

Martinez serves on the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Center for Preparedness and Response Board of Scientific Counselors and National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine's Health and Medicine Division's Roundtable on the Promotion of Health Equity. Martinez has a master's degree in public health from Harvard University's School of Public Health, an M.D. from Baylor College of Medicine, and master's and bachelor's degrees in business administration with a concentration in finance from The University of Texas at Austin. He was Chief Resident during his psychiatric training at The University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio and is an alumnus of The Commonwealth Fund/Harvard University Fellowship in Minority Health Policy at Harvard Medical School.



Halaevalu Vakalahi, PhD is a Pacific Islander woman, born in Tonga and raised in Hawai'i. She is the President and CEO of the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE). Prior to joining CSWE, she was a Professor and Dean of the College of Health and Society, an interdisciplinary college, at Hawai'i Pacific University (HPU). Prior to HPU, she was a tenured full-professor and Associate Dean of the School of Social Work at Morgan State University (Baltimore, MD); Associate Professor and MSW Program Director at George Mason University (Fairfax, VA); Lecturer and BSW Coordinator at San Francisco State University (San Francisco, CA); Assistant Professor and

Department Chair at BYU-Hawai'i (La'ie, Hawai'i); and Assistant Professor at New Mexico State University (Las Cruces, NM). She earned a BS in Business Management from BYU-Hawai'i, MSW from University of Hawai'i-Manoa, and MEd and PhD in Social Work from University of Utah.

Dr. Vakalahi has been privileged to serve in various professional organizations across disciplines and in communities in which she has lived and worked. Her areas of teaching include social policy, human behavior and the social work environment, and organizational leadership. Her two areas of research/scholarship are Pacific Islander culture/community and Women of Color in academia, in which she has contributed extensively to the existing literature through peer-reviewed articles, chapters,

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books, references, and other mediums. She is a proud alum of the CSWE Minority Fellowship Program, a Fulbright Senior Scholar, a Hartford Faculty Scholar, recipient of the CSWE Feminist Scholar award, and the Morgan State University Iva G Jones award. Among many things, Dr. Vakalahi is deeply committed to the futures and advancement of justice, equity, diversity, and inclusion, which, in essence, has been shaped by extraordinary people and places that have invested in her. For that, she is eternally grateful.



Danielle Hessler Jones, PhD is co-Director of the Social Interventions Research and Evaluation Network (SIREN) and a Professor and Vice Chair for Research in the Department of Family and Community Medicine at the University of California, San Francisco. Her research focuses on social care delivery in the health care sector; including understanding the impact and implementation of programs aimed at screening and addressing social risks alongside programs that seek to adjust care to fit an individual's social context. As a health psychologist Dr. Hessler Jones also brings experience in health behaviors and engagement and intersections with mental health.



Jeanne Miranda, PhD is Assistant Director of the Center and a Professor in the Department of Psychiatry and Biobehavioral Sciences. She is a mental health services researcher who has focused her work on providing mental health care to low-income and minority communities. She holds a Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology from University of Kansas and completed post-doctoral training at University of California, San Francisco.

Dr. Miranda's major research contributions have been in evaluating the impact of mental health care for ethnic minority communities. She conducted a trial of treatment of depression in impoverished minority patients at San Francisco General Hospital. Traditional care for depression was contrasted with traditional care supplemented by case management. Case management offered additional benefits for Latino patients but were not beneficial for African American and white participants. Her most recent NIMH-funded trial is a study of care for depression in low-income, minority women screened through county entitlement programs. She is an investigator in two UCLA centers focusing on improving disparities in health care for ethnic minorities. She directs community cores and an innovative research core focusing on translating lifestyle interventions (diet and exercise) for low-income and minority communities. She was the Senior Scientific Editor of "Mental Health: Culture, Race and Ethnicity, A Supplement to Mental Health: A Report of the Surgeon General," published August 2001. She became a member of the Institute of Medicine in 2005. Dr. Miranda is the 2008 recipient of the Emily Mumford Award for Contributions to Social Medicine from Columbia University. She is currently working with two community partners, TIES for Families and the Center for Adoption Support and Education to develop evidence-based care for families adopting older children from foster care.

FORUM ON MENTAL HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE USE DISORDERS

The Health and Medicine Division of the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine's [Forum on Mental Health and Substance Use Disorders](#) provides a structured environment and neutral venue to discuss data, policies, practices, and systems that affect the diagnosis and provision of care for mental and substance use disorders, including for substance-related and addictive conditions. Its activities, which will focus on adults, will facilitate sustained attention to these conditions throughout the Academies.

PUBLIC WORKSHOPS

Addressing Workforce Challenges Across the Behavioral Health Continuum of Care: A [Workshop](#)

July 10-11, 2024

A National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine planning committee will organize and host a hybrid public workshop to explore the workforce needs and challenges in different settings across the continuum of behavioral health care.

Workshop on Essential Health Care Services Related to Anxiety and Mood Disorders in Women: A [Workshop](#)

April 29-30, 2024

The National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine hosted a two-day public workshop which featured invited presentations and panel discussions on topics such as: Essential health care services related to anxiety and mood disorders in women based on currently available evidence; preparing for and prioritizing the provision of essential health care services related to anxiety and mood disorders in women; and health disparities related to anxiety and mood disorders in women.

Workshop on Identifying and Managing Veteran Suicide Risk in Non-VA Healthcare Settings: A [Workshop](#)

May 23, 2023

The National Academies held a one-day hybrid public workshop on May 23 to explore issues related to identifying and managing suicide risk for veterans who receive care outside of Veterans Health Administration facilities. Sessions focused on examining the experiences of veterans in seeking care; understanding the policy context; exploring the landscape of veteran health care and suicide risk; and discussing best practices, knowledge gaps, and challenges for the assessment and mitigation of suicide risk.

Addressing the Rising Mental Health Needs of an Aging Population: A [Workshop](#)

May 15-16, 2023

A National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine planning committee organized and hosted a public workshop to explore the current state of mental health care for older adults in the United States and potential strategies to address the mental health needs and challenges of our aging population.

Improving Access to High-Quality Mental Health Care for Veterans: A [Workshop](#)

April 20-21, 2023

A planning committee of the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine will organize and conduct a public workshop to explore the current landscape for veterans' access to

mental health care services in the United States, including the use of telehealth services. The workshop will consider ways to improve veterans' timely access to high-quality care for mental health conditions.

Early Interventions for Psychosis: First Episodes and High-Risk Populations: A [Workshop](#)

July 11, 2022

This workshop explored the deficiencies in the behavioral health system with a focus on early intervention for psychosis and featured experts examining the data on the epidemiology and outcomes for people at high risk for psychosis and those who have experienced a first episode of psychosis, and considered ways to improve the care and outcomes for these individuals.

Innovative Data Science Approaches to Assess Suicide Risk in Individuals, Populations & Communities: Current Practices, Opportunities, and Risks: A [Workshop](#)

April 28, May 12, June 30, 2022

This virtual workshop featured national experts examining data science techniques and real-time data sources to identify, predict, support, and refer individuals to appropriate care and services. Presentations explored risks and unintended consequences of leveraging AI/ML algorithms, privacy, and confidentiality; and evidence, research, and program evaluation gaps to measure effectiveness of data science techniques in upstream suicide interventions.

Suicide Prevention in Indigenous Communities: A [Workshop](#)

April 22, May 13, June 10, 2022

This virtual workshop featured subject matter experts examining risk and protective factors in Indigenous populations; effective suicide prevention policies and programs; culturally appropriate and sensitive approaches to prevention strategies; existing data systems and how these data can be used for tracking suicide rates; and gaps and challenges in providing continuum of substance use and mental health services in multiple health care settings.

An interactive overview can be found [here](#).

Strategies and Interventions to Reduce Suicide: A [Workshop](#)

June 22, July 28, 2021

Reducing suicide-related mortality is a global imperative declared by The World Health Organization. The suicide prevention movement has been gaining momentum as organizations, advocates, and others have increasingly collaborated on effective strategies. Health care settings provide an important opportunity for suicide intervention and prevention but cannot yet fully manage suicide risk due to a lack of training, knowledge gaps, and reimbursement challenges. School, workplace, and community-based interventions can help reduce the incidence of suicidal behavior, as can better access to care and reduced access to lethal means of suicide. The persistent trends in suicide necessitate action among mental health care providers and payers, researchers, and community leaders. This virtual workshop featured national subject matter experts discussing strategies to improve access to effective interventions to prevent suicide.

Mental Health and Substance Use Disorders in the Era of COVID-19: With a Special Focus on the Impact of the Pandemic on Communities of Color: A [Workshop](#)

November 23, December 3, and December 14, 2020

The COVID-19 pandemic has created both short-term and long-term negative consequences for behavioral health outcomes. The National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine's Forum on Mental Health and Substance Use Disorders hosted a virtual public workshop with a

special focus on the impact of the pandemic on communities of color that examined how COVID-19 has revealed and exacerbated mental health and substance use disorders, the impact of COVID-19 on access to mental health care and service delivery, and the behavioral health impact of COVID-19 on the health care workforce.

Caring for People with Mental Health and Substance Use Disorders in Primary Care Settings: A Virtual [Workshop](#)

June 3, July 29, August 26, 2020

The Forum hosted a virtual public workshop that examined approaches to facilitate the delivery of essential components of care for people with mental health and substance use disorders in primary care settings using three illustrative conditions (depression, alcohol use disorders, and substance use disorders). Workshop sessions explored the landscape of evolving models of care, barriers and potential solutions to the implementation of the essential components of care, improving the workforce, and addressing financing and policy incentives to support the provision of the essential components of care.

Key Policy Challenges and Opportunities to Improve Care for People with Mental Health and Substance Use Disorders: A [Workshop](#)

October 15-16, 2019

Individuals with mental health and substance use disorders, particularly those with the most serious conditions, face substantial obstacles to receiving effective, evidence-based care. The Forum's initial workshop took a broad approach to examine several related overarching topics, including the importance of shared decision-making, the essential components of care for people with mental health and substance use disorders, translating knowledge into practice, using data to improve care delivery, and developing the workforce to provide high-quality care.

WEBINARS

988: It is NOT just a number [Series](#)

Webinar [1](#): Providing a Consistent, Systemic Framework for Crisis Response Services

January 20, 23, 2023, October 3, 2023

The first webinar presented an overview of the 9-8-8 implementation landscape, how mental health and crisis services need to be viewed as a utility and public good for counties to adopt and implement.

Webinar [2](#): State and Local Exemplars

The second webinar featured 9-8-8 implementation examples at the state and local level sharing challenges, best practices, and gaps. Other topics included state insurance coverage, learning from 911 and working with law enforcement, rural and urban challenges, how children and youth can use 988, and developing a workforce to create a robust continuum of care.

Webinar [3](#): Data Collection and Developing Metrics

The third webinar focused on collecting data and developing metrics to help inform 988 implementation and improvement efforts. This webinar featured state and local examples to provide an overview on available data and impact.

Effective Models to Address Mental Health and Substance Use Disorders: Strategies for Successful and Equitable Abatement Using Opioid Settlement Dollars: A [Webinar](#)

The webinar will highlight strategies for successful and equitable abatement for state and local jurisdictions receiving opioid settlement dollars. Discussion topics may include policy implications of selected abatement interventions, effective care models for opioid use disorder and substance use disorder, and addressing equity issues in access to effective, affordable, and appropriate treatments.

COLLABORATIVE WORKSHOPS

Innovations in Pharmacy Training and Practice To Advance Patient Care: A [Workshop](#)

May 29-30, 2025

Experts at this 2-day workshop will discuss new models in which pharmacists have expanded roles in health care delivery system, strategies for collaborative care environments that reduce clinician burnout, next generation training, and ways to diversify the workforce to eliminate pharmacy deserts, and reduce health disparities.

Applying Neurobiological Insights on Stress to Foster Resilience Across the Lifespan: A [Workshop](#)

March 24 - 25, 2025

The workshop brought together experts across neuroscience, psychology, public health, medicine, education, and related fields to explore how neurobiological insights on stress can be applied to foster resilience across the lifespan. Discussions focused on developmental windows, risk and protective factors, and opportunities to inform policy, practice, and research.

Addressing the Impact of Tobacco and Alcohol Use on Cancer-Related Health Outcomes: A [Workshop](#)

March 17-18, 2025

The use of both alcohol and tobacco has independent and synergistic health effects, including links to many different cancers. There is a clear need to better understand the impact of dual use on cancer incidence and outcomes, to improve public education, and to develop oncology clinical practice guidelines for patients who use alcohol and tobacco. Speakers highlighted opportunities to integrate behavioral health and oncology care, identified evidence gaps in screening and intervention, and discussed policy and clinical practice implications for addressing substance use among cancer patients and survivors.

Artificial Intelligence in Education and Mental Health for a Sustainable Future: A [Workshop](#)

May 30, 2024

The workshop consisted of two parts: AI in mental health and well-being and AI in education. Participants reviewed AI tools, applications, and strategies in education and mental health and the implications for sustainable development. Discussions included knowledge gaps between academia and the private sector, as well as opportunities and key priorities for promoting sustainability, including startup and local perspectives.

Harm Reduction Services for People Who Use Drugs: Exploring Data Collection, Evidence Gaps, and Research Needs: A [Workshop](#)

January 30-31, 2024

A planning committee of the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine organized and conducted a two-day virtual public workshop that brought together data experts, program implementers and evaluators, and other key interested parties to explore data collection efforts, evidence gaps, and research needs on harm reduction for people who use drugs

(PWUD). The workshop examined harm reduction strategies and services that aimed to: prevent overdose and infectious disease transmission; enhance the health, safety, and wellbeing of PWUD; and offer low-threshold options for accessing substance use disorder treatment. Such strategies and services include syringe services programs; providing fentanyl and xylazine test strips; distributing naloxone and other reversal medications; and facilitating connections to social services for PWUD in need of medical services, stable housing, food-assistance, or employment.

Community Safety as a Social Determinant of Health: A [Workshop](#)

December 6-7, 2023

This workshop brought together researchers, practitioners, leaders, and others with expertise in violence prevention and promoting community safety to (1) define community safety, (2) examine the landscape of threats to safety affecting specific populations, (3) explore attributes of physical spaces and social structures that create and reinforce safer communities, and (4) discuss frameworks for reimagining public safety, and related policy and programmatic interventions.

Supporting the Health and Well-Being of Gender Diverse Youth: A [Workshop](#)

April 25, 2023

The Forum for Children's Well-Being hosted a one-day public workshop to explore the health and well-being of gender diverse youth. It examined how this growing population is currently faring and featured expert presentations and lived experience perspectives.

Methadone Treatment for Opioid Use Disorder: Examining Federal Regulations and Laws: A [Workshop](#)

March 3-4, 2022

Opioid use disorder (OUD)—a chronic brain disease caused by prolonged use of prescription opioids, heroin, or other illicit opioids—imposes heavy costs on individuals, their families, and society. Methadone is one of three safe and highly effective medications that are already approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration to treat OUD; however, stringent laws and regulatory policies pose substantial barriers to provision of and access to treatment. This two-day public workshop will bring together experts and key stakeholders to examine the current federal regulatory and legal landscape regarding provision of and access to methadone for the treatment of OUD.

Community Interventions to Prevent Veteran Suicide: The Role of Social Determinants: A [Workshop](#)

March 28-29, 2022

The National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine will appoint a planning committee to organize an open, three-day virtual workshop to gain a better understanding of social determinants influencing the recent increase in suicide risk and how currently available practice guidelines can inform community-level preventive interventions, particularly those targeting veteran populations. The workshop will address: (1) the relevant social, cultural, and economic factors driving changes in suicide risk among veterans and (2) ways that current best practices for suicide prevention and treatment can be applied at the community level.

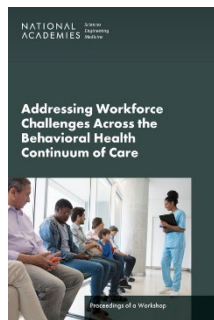
The Interplay Between Environmental Exposures and Mental Health Outcomes: A [Workshop](#)

February 2-3, 2021

There is growing evidence that the environment can play an important role in mental health—yet research into the effects of environmental stressors rarely focuses on behavioral and mental health outcomes. This virtual workshop brought together experts in mental health and environmental

health research to explore emerging research on the relationship, harmful or beneficial, between environmental factors and mental health. This workshop is a collaboration between the National Academies' Standing Committee on the Use of Emerging Science on Environmental Health Decisions in collaboration with the Forum on Mental Health and Substance Use Disorders, the Forum on Neuroscience and Nervous System Disorders, and the Board on Behavioral, Cognitive, and Sensory Sciences.

FORUM PUBLICATIONS



Addressing Workforce Challenges Across the Behavioral Health Continuum of Care: Proceedings of a Workshop—in Brief

<https://nap.nationalacademies.org/catalog/28583>

Released: December 2024

Downloaded 542, top 50% of all NAP products

Reach: 47 countries and states and D.C.

Download domains: 23% local, state, federal and military agencies;
24% research and academic community, 51% public at large



Artificial Intelligence in Education and Mental Health for a Sustainable Future: Proceedings of a Workshop—in Brief

<https://nap.nationalacademies.org/catalog/27995>

Released: September 2024

Downloaded 494, top 56% of all NAP products

Reach: 81 countries and states and D.C.

Download domains: 9% local, state, federal and military agencies;
13% research and academic community, 68% public at large



Essential Health Care Services Related to Anxiety and Mood Disorders in Women

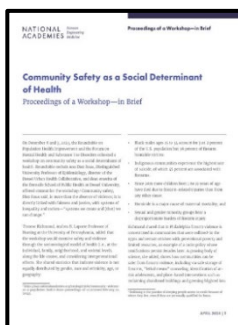
<https://nap.nationalacademies.org/catalog/27912/>

Released: August 2024

Downloaded 286 times, top 65% of all NAP products

Reach: 40 countries and 40 states and D.C.

Download domains: 22% local, state, federal and military agencies;
15% research and academic community, 61% public at large



Community Safety as a Social Determinant of Health: Proceedings of a Workshop—in Brief

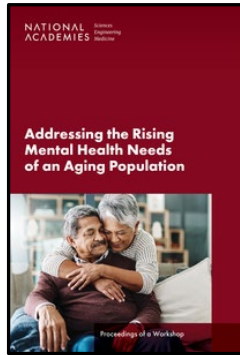
<https://nap.nationalacademies.org/read/27741/chapter/1>

Released: January 2024

Downloaded 581 times, top 50% of all NAP products

Reach: 58 countries and 43 states and D.C.

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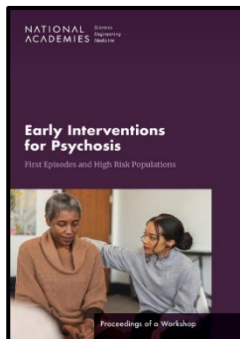
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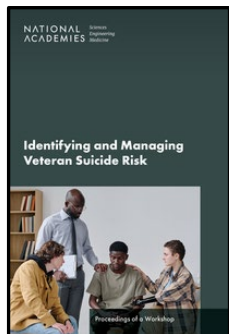
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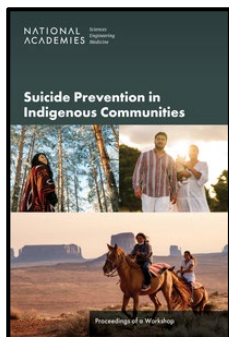
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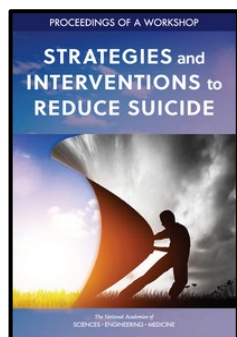
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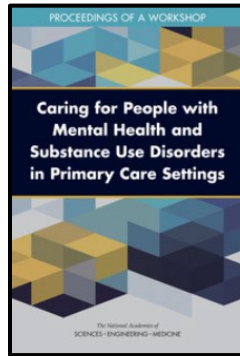
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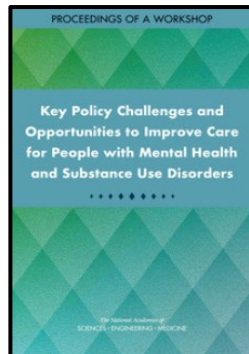
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Integrated care, or when behavioral health and primary care providers work as a team to address patient concerns, allows for easier access to care, the potential for more effective care coordination, the use of an integrated medical record, and the inclusion of a range of other care providers. This approach to comprehensive care has existed since the 1990s, and the authors envision what needs to be improved or added to carry integrated care into its “next generation.”

Improving Behavioral Health Services in the Time of COVID-19 and Racial Inequities

<https://nam.edu/improving-behavioral-health-services-in-the-time-of-covid-19-and-racial-inequities/>

The emergence of coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19), coupled with the increasing awareness of racial inequity in the United States, as sparked by the killing of George Floyd at the hands of police officers, has led to a moment of reckoning regarding health inequities in the United States.

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