

Spatial Justice as a Driver of Health in the Context of Societal Emergencies: A Workshop

Committee

Lourdes J. Rodríguez

Chair

Lourdes J. Rodríguez, Dr.PH., M.P.H., serves as Senior Program Officer for Women's Health at St. David's Foundation. Prior to joining the Foundation in 2020, Dr. Rodríguez served as Associate Professor and Director of Community-Driven Initiatives at the Dell Medical School at the University of Texas at Austin. She also worked as Program Officer at the New York State Health Foundation, and from 2004–2012, she co-directed the Urbanism and the Built Environment track in the Department of Sociomedical Sciences, Columbia University Mailman School of Public Health. As a public health practitioner, and in both academic and philanthropic roles, she collaborates, develops and evaluates initiatives to improve health with people most impacted by health inequities. Dr. Rodríguez has a Dr.PH. from Columbia University, a M.P.H. from the University of Connecticut, and a B.S. in Industrial Biotechnology from the University of Puerto Rico at Mayagüez. She is a member of the National Academy of Science, Engineering and Medicine's Roundtable on Population Health Improvement and currently holds an appointment as an Adjunct Faculty with the UTHealth School of Public Health Austin Regional Campus.

Dawn Alley

Member

Dawn Alley, Ph.D., served in several leadership roles over her seven years at the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation (CMMI), most recently as Chief Strategy Officer. Prior to joining CMMI, she was a Senior Advisor in the Office of the Surgeon General and on the faculty of the University of Maryland School of Medicine. She has extensive expertise in population health and aging, with more than 50 publications in journals including the New England Journal of Medicine and JAMA. Dr. Alley holds a Ph.D. in Gerontology from the University of Southern California and received post-doctoral training in population health through the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Health and Society Scholars program at the University of Pennsylvania.

Nupur Chaudhury

Member

Nupur Chaudhury, M.P.H., M.U.P., is a public health urbanist, and interrogates the influence of the built environment on health. She was trained at the New York University Wagner School of Public Service and the Columbia University Mailman School of Public Health. She is the founder and principal of NupurSpectives Consulting, a firm that centers communities for equitable change.

Chaudhury has a background in community-based health, urban planning, and community organizing. Previously, she was the founding Director of Neighborhood Health at the Center for Health Equity, housed at New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene. She has also worked with Rebuild by Design as a resiliency planner post-Hurricane Sandy by building and strengthening neighborhood coalitions in New York, New Jersey, and Connecticut. Chaudhury was also the Director of the Creating Healthy Places program in Brownsville, Brooklyn, working with public housing residents to develop the neighborhood agenda linking the built environment, health, and violence to its work on active living and healthy eating. Most recently, she directed the Building Healthy Communities initiative as a Program Officer for the New York State Health Foundation.

Chaudhury is a member of the American Planning Association, the American Public Health Association, an Urban Design Forum's Forefront Fellow, a Salzburg Global Seminar Fellow, board member of the Center for the Living City, and past board member of University of Orange, and Made in Brownsville (now Youth Design Center).

Alejandra Hernandez

Member

Alejandra Hernandez, M.E.M., is an Environment Fellow at The Kresge Foundation. Hernandez supports the Environment Program's strategy to help cities combat and adapt to climate change while advancing racial and economic equity. She also works with the Climate Change, Health & Equity (CCHE) initiative team to mobilize equitable climate action in low-income communities across the country.

Previously, Hernandez served as a Conservation Policy Associate with the Michael Fields Agricultural Institute, where she supported policies and programming for a sustainable and resilient food and agriculture system. She has also held different positions with the John Bartkowski Department of Environmental Health at the Sixteenth Street Community Health Centers in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Hernandez holds a bachelor's degree from the University of Dallas and a master's degree from the Yale School of the Environment. She serves as a Board Associate for the Board on Population Health and Public Health Practice for the Health and Medicine Division of the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine (NASEM). She also serves as a board member for the Wisconsin chapter of the New Leaders Council and the nonprofit, Acquazul.

Milton J. Little, Jr.

Member

Milton J. Little, Jr., M.A., has served as president and CEO of United Way of Greater Atlanta since 2007. Previously, he served as president and CEO of United Way of Massachusetts Bay and Merrimack Valley. His career spans more than 30 years in the fields of urban affairs, public policy research and analysis, philanthropy and community engagement. Little is a Phi Beta Kappa graduate of Morehouse College with a B.A. in sociology and earned an M.A. in urban sociology and social policy from Columbia University.

He is a member of many boards and advisory committees. Notable among them are the Center for Assessment and Policy Development, past chair of the Southern Education Foundation, and past vice chair of the board of directors for Ways to Work. He is a member of the Atlanta Mayoral Board of Service, the Commerce Club Operating Board, 100 Black Men of Atlanta, Leadership Atlanta Class of 2010 and the Rotary Club of Atlanta. Little also serves on the Junior League of Atlanta Community Advisory Board, University of Georgia Advisory Board for the J.W. Fanning Institute for Leadership Development, Atlanta Speech School Board of Advisors, Woodruff Arts Center Board of Trustees, Central Atlanta Progress, Georgia Chamber of Commerce, Georgia Early Education Alliance for Ready Students, Georgia's Older Adults Cabinet, Georgia's Children's Cabinet, Hope Atlanta Advisory Council, Get Georgia Ready Reading Cabinet and Susan G. Komen of Greater Atlanta. In January 2018, he was selected to serve on Mayor Keisha Lance Bottoms' Transition Team.

Monique Tsosie

Member

Monique Tsosie is an enrolled member of the Navajo Nation Tribe. Tsosie currently serves as a Program Analyst for the American Indian Research Center for Health (AIRCH) program at the Inter Tribal Council of Arizona, Inc., partnered with The University of Arizona. She manages grant-funded programs, assists with the American Indian Education initiatives, Climate Resilience Project and Ending the HIV epidemic program at ITCA. She serves on the Arizona Indian Education Association (AIEA) Committee, is a member of the AIRCH Community Action Committee, and volunteers as a Community Advisor Board for the John Hopkins for American Indian Health Mother/Daughter Program.

Tsosie's prior work includes serving as Research Field Staff for the Western Region with the Southwest Research and Information Center (SRIC) and the University of New Mexico on the Navajo Birth Cohort Study (NBCS)/Environmental Influences on Child Health Outcome (ECHO) Project. As a research technician, she gained valuable trainings in motivational interviewing, youth mental first aid, and administering mental behavioral health measurement tools. Tsosie has a background illustrating her abilities to work in different environments and maintaining cultural sensitivity while working with American Indian tribal communities. She is passionate for the community she serves with experience and focus on American Indian health and wellness.