



Developing Equity Leadership
through Training and Action

2016 Cohort Bio-sketches

Lee Collinge

Engagement & Marketing Lead, Blue Zones Project – OR



Marcella Crowson

Artistic Director, Oregon Children’s Theater

Marcella is the Artistic Director of Kaiser Permanente’s Educational Theatre Program (ETP), in collaboration with Oregon Children’s Theatre (OCT). ETP’s mission is to utilize the unique power of theatre to inspire healthy choices and build strong communities.

Marcella has been a director, set designer, and stage manager for more than 25 years, and is on the board of Theatre for Young Audiences/USA. For the last 10 years, through the innovative partnership between OCT and Kaiser Permanente, Marcella has directed a team of teaching artists, advised by researchers, clinicians, therapists, and community health providers, developing theatre-based health education programs for schools and community organizations throughout Oregon and SW Washington. This work takes the form of plays, workshops, and artist-in-residence programs, addressing a variety of health-related topics, including: peer pressure, social and emotional health, conflict resolution, social cohesion, healthy food choices, the importance of physical activity, mental well-being, stress management, body image, oral health, and others.



Dr. Kevin Ewanchyna

Chief Medical Officer, Intercommunity Health Network CCO

Dr. Ewanchyna was born in Saskatchewan, Canada. He is board certified in family medicine in both Canada and the United States. Dr. Ewanchyna is married with two sons and one daughter. He enjoys spending time with his family, reading, physical fitness, music and theater. Dr. Ewanchyna is currently the chief medical officer for Samaritan Health Plan Operations. He serves on the Executive Committee of the Oregon Medical Association. He is active in teaching medical students as an Assistant Clinical Professor in Family Medicine for Western University of Health Sciences, and a teaching physician with Samaritan Health Services Family Medicine Residency program. He is also a member of the American Medical Association, American Medical Group Association, American Association for Physician Leadership, and American College of Healthcare Executives.



Estela Gomez

Innovator Agent, OHA

Estela Gomez, M.S.W., is a social worker who was raised in rural Malheur County. She began her career as a Head Start teacher and eventually managed several Head Start

centers. Her expertise and past leadership roles include direct oversight for food assistance, Medicaid and cash assistance programs. For seven years, Estela served as Director for the Commission on Children and Families in Malheur County. Prior to joining the Oregon Health Authority, Estela provided direct clinical supervision and consultation for mental health treatment for the Oregon Department of Corrections Behavioral Health Services. Currently Estela is the Innovator Agent for Eastern Oregon CCO and its twelve counties. Estela believes community collaboration is critical in addressing new ways of health delivery. Estela has bachelor's degree in psychology from the College of Idaho and a Master's of Social Work from Northwest Nazarene University.

Arielle Goranson

Clinical Value Improvement Facilitator, PeaceHealth Medical Group

Arielle works in Process Design & Improvement for PeaceHealth Medical Group, supporting the primary care transformation effort. This work focuses on quality and process improvement, as well as supports the shift toward care team-based population health management. Arielle has experience working with multi-disciplinary partners on health promotion efforts, and is interested in facilitating multi-sectoral partnerships to address health disparities across various populations. Arielle holds a Master's degree in Public Health, Health Promotion and Health Behavior, from Oregon State University, with an emphasis in Epidemiology. Her background includes molecular genetics-based translational research, as well as international community health promotion research.



Renee Greenwood

Program Manager, Healthy Start Program of Southern Oregon

Renee Greenwood serves as Program Manager for the Healthy Start Program of Southern Oregon. She joined forces with the Health Care Coalition of Southern Oregon (HCCSO) in May 2015. She primarily manages efforts to reduce infant mortality and eliminate perinatal health disparities in Jackson, Josephine, and Douglas Counties. Also housed under HCCSO, Renee is a member of the So-Health-E coalition in Jackson County and will aid in coordinating the health equity coalition in Josephine County. Her roots are embedded in Louisiana where she obtained a degree in Psychology from Louisiana State University. Renee's journey in Maternal and Infant health continued as she studied epigenetics at The University of Iowa and Developmental Psychology at The University of Virginia, respectively. After participating in projects to combat maternal and infant health disparities, a career merger combining research and community advocacy naturally ensued. She has published on environmental impacts on children's executive function and cognitive health. Her mission is to help build systems that are sustainable, and culturally inclusive for perinatal health practices in impoverished and historically marginalized communities. Renee is a lover of diverse dance genres, organic foods, and the outdoors. She enjoys voyaging to places that cannot be authentically captured through photos.



Miguel Angel Herrada
Health Equity Coordinator, PacificSource

Miguel Angel Herrada serves as the Health Equity Coordinator at PacificSource. He studied art history and Novohispanic Art, at the Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México and has a Bachelor in music and a Master's degree in Ethnomusicology from the Faculté de Musique de l'Université de Montréal, (Canada). For some years he combined his career as a music teacher with social work. He designed and implemented educational programs of social service focusing on the dissemination and promotion of the Arts in the poor communities in Mexico (art exhibitions, conferences, film, theatre, dance and music) He founded the Municipal Sports Council and the Cultural Council of San Andrés Cholula, Puebla. For several years he was Coordinator for the development of social responsibility at the Universidad de las Americas in Puebla and participated as a consultant and speaker in conferences and workshops of social service of the National Association of universities and institutions of higher education in Mexico, ANUIES. Miguel Angel currently serves as Medical Interpreter for Volunteers in Medicine, is Member of the Let's Talk Diversity Coalition, Member of the Advisory Board of the Institute of Development and Disability (IDD) Oregon Health and Science University (OHSU) and Member of the Board of Directors of Mosaic Medical Group.



Sharon Kuehn
Executive Director, Mental Health America of Oregon (MHAO)

Sharon's experience as a peer recovery specialist, trainer, community organizer, and public speaker powers her work to achieve a vision of health as connection, purpose and inclusion in community. MHAO is a peer-run, grassroots organization dedicated to empowering consumer/survivor voices to drive services and policies that foster wellness and full participation in life choices and recovery. Sharon has worked with diverse communities in California over two decades, developing peer support, recovery and educational programs as an ally in Latino and African American communities. Her education includes Community Studies, Organizational Systems, and Capacitar (trauma healing). Sharon practices appreciative advocacy: focusing on what we are moving toward. Her current passions include: developing a statewide Peer Support Coalition and promoting Reconnect!: an approach to enlivening change and alternatives for a new, life-sustaining, life-affirming society.



Jennifer Mead
Healthy Aging Coordinator, DHS - AP&D

Jennifer works with Oregon's 17 Area Agencies on Aging (AAAs) and statewide Aging & Disability Resource Connection (ADRC) to implement Older Americans Act and grant-funded projects addressing falls prevention, chronic disease self-management, physical activity, Alzheimer's disease and caregiving. Jennifer works for the Oregon Department of Human Services – Aging & People with Disabilities, but she is based in the Public Health Division in order to help link aging and public health efforts, and increase health promotion/disease prevention strategies that include older adults. Jennifer received her MPH from the University of Michigan. Prior to coming

to Oregon, she worked in southeastern Virginia for the Alzheimer’s Association, in West Virginia on rural and community public health projects, and in the Peace Corps in West Africa.



Katie McClure

Executive Director, Oregon Healthiest State

As Executive Director of Oregon Healthiest State, Katie is committed to enticing and engaging Oregonians to make social and built environment changes to make healthy choices easier for all Oregonians. OHS pursues this work primarily through building measurement systems and launching workgroups where there are partners interested in learning together and aligning their efforts toward a pressing issue in the state. Prior to this position, Katie launched and oversaw the implementation of local community transformation projects with health improvements like a 40 percent reduction in the cost of care for employees, a 14 percent reduction in obesity and a 30 percent reduction in smoking community wide. Previously, she spent twenty years in education, social service, upstream health, and health care not-for-profits including ten years with Kaiser Permanente in Portland, OR. Katie enjoys the mountains in Central Oregon with her husband Craig and 2 year old daughter Elliot.

JoAnn Miller

Director of Community Health Promotion, Samaritan Health Services

JoAnn has over 20 years of community development and promoting public health initiatives in Washington and Oregon. She currently supervises 3.0 FTE employees and advises 36 advisory board members from five hospitals on community benefit. She serves on the Open Wide Leaders collaborative, a member of Oregon Oral Health Coalition board, and supports the Benton, Lincoln, Linn Counties Regional Oral Health Coalition as well as serving on each of the local Oral Health Coalitions in Benton and Linn Counties. As a member of Oregon Oral Health Coalition, she serves on the Early Childhood Caries Prevention Committee. She has lead community planning in the prevention field as well as providing direction to local boards that provide funding to community agencies. She has served on local, state, and national advisory boards promoting supports and services for children, youth and families and serves as a state and federal grant reviewer. She holds a Master’s Degree from Oregon State University, Bachelor’s Degree from Southern Illinois University and two Associate Degrees from Olympic College, Bremerton Washington.



Betsy Stark Miller

Executive Director, CASA for Children

Betsy Stark Miller serves as the Executive Director for CASA for Children of Multnomah, Washington and Columbia Counties. As the largest CASA agency in Oregon, CASA for Children will serve over 1000 children with 450 volunteer CASA’s. CASA’s advocate for the best interests of abused and neglected children who are under the protection of the court. Before coming to CASA for Children, Betsy was the Director of Development for Youth Villages Oregon.



Ben Milner

HR Business Partner, Oregon Health Authority

Ben graduated from Oregon State University with a Bachelors in Business Administration with a dual major in Management and Marketing. His work experience includes holding a variety of operational positions as a Leadership Development Associate for Consolidated Graphics before joining the Oregon Health Authority (OHA). He came to OHA as a Workforce Recruitment Consultant and is now a Human Resources Business Partner. Ben was recently recognized by the Executive Board of the Human Capital Institute as a Strategic HR Business Partner. Ben has a passion for the healthcare industry and to help people reach their full potential. He works for the Oregon Health Authority to support the agency in achieving its vision: a healthy Oregon.

Wendy Morgan

Maternal & Child Public Health Educator, OHA

Wendy Morgan works as a Public Health Educator for the Maternal and Child Health Section of the Oregon Health Authority, where she has been for five years. Originally from southeastern Massachusetts, she studied psychology at Lynchburg College in Virginia, and then Social Work in Boise, ID. After receiving her MSW, she worked for 6 years as a statewide organizer for the Idaho Women’s Network, focusing primarily on reproductive rights and LGBT policy work. In 2007, Wendy took the Communications Director position with the Idaho Office for Refugees, managing training for service providers, cultural orientation programs for refugees, monitoring contracts for resettlement agencies, and coordinating special events (i.e. conferences, cultural events, community meetings). This position fueled her passion for social justice through offering an acute awareness of the struggles and successes of multicultural/multilingual organizing. Wendy is excited to be a part of the DELTA program for many reasons; the opportunity to learn from cohort partners about the successful strategies they have utilized in their work and the guidance from the DELTA partners to effectively create change from within a government agency.



Megan Pugmire

Graphic Designer, OHSU

Megan is a graphic designer in Marketing and Communications at OHSU. She has a liberal arts background with undergraduate work in humanities/comparative literature and graduate work in theatre critical studies. She’s been a designer for over ten years and has worked at OHSU for four, where she’s been able to combine her love for both the arts and the sciences. At OHSU, she's become passionate about health equity and how design can assist in communicating to vulnerable populations. She serves on the Interdisciplinary Patient and Family Education Committee at OHSU and works within the OHSU branding team to address health literacy needs in organizational materials.



Michael Reyes Andrillon

Community Engagement Officer, Northwest Health Foundation

As a Community Engagement Officer at NWHF, Michael spends much of his time out in the community, interacting with current and potential partners. He is a point person for questions about Kaiser Permanente Community Fund, as well as our Healthy Beginnings + Healthy Communities Initiative. He also organizes gatherings for our funded partners and reviews grant applications for our funding opportunities. Michael's previous professional positions include Youth Outreach Coordinator for the Snake River Housing GEAR UP grant in Prescott, WA; Admissions Counselor for Washington State University Vancouver; and, more recently, Director of Inclusion and Access for the Linfield College School of Nursing. Michael graduated from Washington State University in 2003 with degrees in zoology and comparative ethnic studies. He also earned his master of public administration from Washington State University Vancouver in 2012.



Erica Sandoval

ScreenWise Program Coordinator, OHA

Erica Sandoval currently serves as the ScreenWise Program Coordinator for the Oregon Health Authority (OHA). Erica leads a team providing outreach, education, and access to breast cancer, cervical cancer, genetics and cardiovascular screening and diagnostic services to Oregon women. She supports initiatives addressing health disparities and leads contract negotiations and administration for agreements with community agencies providing culturally and linguistically specific services to ScreenWise clients. Erica serves on the Komen Latina Initiative Advisory Council overseeing the Poder y Vida initiative which aims to address late stage breast cancer disparities in Oregon. She also serves on the American College of Preventive Medicine Advisory Board to support the creation of WISEWOMAN provider education models that include a health equity lens. Prior to her time at OHA, Erica worked at the Virginia Garcia Memorial Center as a Patient Care Coordinator, served families in Southern California promoting healthy living and performed research in Thailand on pesticide exposure to women in a rural farming community. She holds a Master of Public Health with a Women's Health emphasis from Portland State University and a Bachelors in Biochemistry and Cell Biology from the University of California, San Diego. Erica lives in the greater Portland metro area and enjoys anything that involves trees, trails and bodies of water.

Dalila Sarabia

Maternal & Child Health Coordinator, 211 info

Monica Serrano

Program Manager, Kaiser Permanente



Josie Silverman
Health Equity Coordinator, FamilyCare

Josie Silverman recently joined FamilyCare Health as Health Equity Coordinator. In this new role, Josie collaborates with numerous partners and FamilyCare staff to reduce health disparities for marginalized and underserved communities. Prior to FamilyCare, Josie worked for the Oregon Health Authority's Community Partner Outreach Program where she trained and supported community partner organizations in their health insurance outreach and enrollment efforts. Josie possesses over ten years of experience working for nonprofit organizations, both in the United States and internationally. Josie also operates a small, independent nonprofit consulting practice and serves as Board President of the Inter-American Health Alliance, a nonprofit that supports rural health projects in Guatemala. Josie holds a Master's in Public Health from Columbia University and a Bachelor's of Arts in Philosophy and Medical History and Ethics from the University of Washington.



Jen Turner
Agency Capacity and Education Coordinator, Oregon Food Bank

Jen is a native Oregonian with a passion for facilitating community-scale collaborations to resist hunger, poverty, and oppression. Jen serves as Oregon Food Bank's Agency Capacity and Education Coordinator for Multnomah County, where she works with a diverse set of stakeholders to meaningfully address hunger and its root causes in the Portland Metro area. She currently leads on the Oregon Food Bank's Healthy Pantry Initiative, a joint effort with OSU Extension to holistically transform food pantries into community-driven spaces that support and encourage health and wellness. Prior to joining OFB, Jen was a post-graduate fellow with the Institute for Sustainable Solutions at Portland State University. Jen holds a Master of Urban Studies degree with an emphasis on equity and sustainability from Portland State University, and a Bachelor of Arts in Communications and American Studies from American University.



Kristen Wils
Program Coordinator, Klamath County Public Health

Kristen works with Klamath County Public Health, primarily as the Tobacco Prevention and Education Program Coordinator, but also with the My Future My Choice sexual education and healthy relationships program. In addition, Kristen is a member of the Regional Health Equity Coalition and has taken responsibility for the Klamath County Employee Wellness Committee. Kristen got her degree in Public Health and Health Promotions from Swansea University in Wales. Kristen is only second generation, on her father's side, with an English/Irish grandmother and a Dutch grandfather and tries to keep in touch with her traditions and roots on both sides of her family (her mom's family came over on the Oregon Trail). Kristen is particularly proud of the relationships she's been able to build with Klamath Tribal and Family Health. She hopes to be able to include health

equity more fully in her own work and to help support it as a priority for Klamath County Public Health as a whole.



Christy Wright

Provider Services Representative, Western Oregon Advanced Health

Christy has worked at Western Oregon Advanced Health since March, 2015. She is a Provider Services Representative covering several communities throughout Coos County. She fosters strong positive relationships by coordinating and facilitating meetings and proactively identifying needs. Christy assures that all provider orientations, educational events, site visits, access and availability studies are completed within established timeframes. She is involved in the Community Advisory Councils for both Coos and Curry Counties. Prior to working at WOA, she worked for various public and healthcare agencies. Her goal is to learn new approaches that would inform and guide new initiatives to better serve Oregon Health Plan members in Coos and Curry Counties.



Mitch Yoder

Program Manager, Providence Medical Group

Mitch Yoder currently serves as a program manager for Health Literacy and Patient Engagement. He has been with Providence Health & Services in Oregon since 1993, serving in various roles including marketing, employee communications, patient education, and workforce development. His work focuses on identifying and implementing best practices for patient engagement within the medical home care setting, including the delivery of culturally appropriate and relevant care and services to patients and their family members. Mitch also serves as chairperson for Providence Medical Group’s Diversity Committee. In 2010, this committee developed staff training and patient education materials for the collection of patient race, ethnicity and preferred language information. In 2015, the American Medical Association’s Commission to End Health Care Disparities recognized these efforts for excellence at its Spring Best Practice Showcase. Looking ahead, Mitch will be collaborating with multiple organizational and community stakeholders to utilize this patient information to identify existing health inequities and implement culturally appropriate interventions to eliminate care gaps. He is currently completing work on his Master’s in Public Health at Portland State University with a focus on management and policy.



Miao Zhao

Clinical Manager, Albany InReach Services

Miao Zhao is the Clinic Manager for Albany InReach Services. She began her public health journey in 2009 as an AmeriCorps VISTA volunteer to expand InReach’s free medical clinic to include dental care for the underserved population. After completing her service, she was hired to develop a mental health clinic and manage the medical and dental clinics. At present, she also provides direct support to a diverse team of physicians, nurse practitioners, psychiatrists, dentists, dental hygienists, nurses, medical school students, pharmacy students, nursing students, public health undergraduates, Master’s in Public Health students, and PhD

students. She works tirelessly to advocate for the medically vulnerable population by serving on various community committees, councils, and coalitions, including co-chairing the Health Disparities workgroup for InterCommunity Health Network Coordinated Care Organization (IHN-CCO), and serving as a communications liaison for the IHN-CCO Community Advisory Council. At a global level, Miao promotes health equity by serving as the vice-president for Global Nutrition Empowerment.

Office of Equity and Inclusion, Staff Bio-sketches

Carol Cheney Equity Manager

Since 2010, Carol has served as the Equity Manager for the Oregon Health Authority Office of Equity and Inclusion. A graduate of the University of Oregon, Carol's field of study focused on women and people of color and her commitment to gender, racial, and LGBTQ justice. She has worked for the last 22 years in organizations promoting social change as case manager for survivors of domestic violence, health educator, fundraiser, and nonprofit organizational development consultant and trainer. Her public health experience includes administering grants to increase cancer screening rates for women of color and managing sexual health education programs. Carol was born in Seoul, South Korea and was adopted at 13 months with her twin sister. She grew up on a wheat and alfalfa ranch in Eastern Oregon, and her early adult work included working in the fields with Migrant Farmworkers. She loves adventure travel with her partner Kris, which has included bike touring through the Canadian Rockies, canoeing through the Canyonlands of Utah, and trekking to Mt Everest Base Camp. Closer to home, she likes to knit, bike, and knock out a few songs at a karaoke joint.

Leann R. Johnson Director

Previously to her position of Director of the division, Leann was the Diversity, Civil Rights and Inclusion Manager for the Oregon Health Authority in the Office of Equity and Inclusion. She holds a master's degree in Industrial/Organizational Psychology with program focus in Multicultural Organizational Development and Indigenous Psychology. Leann also has a B.S. in Communications Management from the University of Portland. Leann has nearly 20 years of leadership experience developing equity, diversity and intercultural programs in the public and non-profit sectors. Past employers include Clark College, the City of Vancouver and the YWCA of Clark County. She has also served as a consultant to multiple agencies and organizations including the Vancouver Police Department, PGE, Bonneville Power Administration, Hewlett Packard and the Southern Poverty Law Center. Leann is also a Qualified Administrator for the Intercultural Development Inventory. In addition to her professional career Leann has dedicated years of service to the Girls Scouts, including five years as the volunteer director for Camp Julianna and was a CYO track and field coach for six years. More recently Leann completed seven years as a member of the Governor's appointed Washington State Arts Commission, serving as chair of that commission for two years. Leann is the mother of two grown daughters. In her spare time Leann enjoys

theater, participating in a number of improvisational comedy theater troupes in Vancouver and Portland.

Anastasia Sofranac
DELTA Coordinator

Anastasia Sofranac coordinates the Developing Equity Leadership through Training and Action (DELTA) leadership development program. Prior to joining OEI, she was the Program Manager at Oregon Center for Nursing, overseeing collaborative leadership and diversity/inclusion programs, a podcast series, and other resources for nurses throughout the state. Anastasia has over 10 years of nonprofit program management experience at organizations including INROADS, the National Conference for Community & Justice (NCCJ), and the Amity Foundation (in China). She received her Master's in Global Leadership & Nonprofit Management in the school of Public Administration at Portland State. Locally, she has served on the boards of the Montavilla Food Co-op, Bridger Elementary School PTA and Save a Survivor's Smile (formerly the Council for Prostitution Alternatives). She lived in Arizona, Ohio, Finland, and China before moving to Portland in 2002.

Charniece Tisdale
Equity and Inclusion Training Coordinator

Charniece moved to Portland in October 2012 to work with as a Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Prevention Specialist and was the Developing Equity Leadership through Training and Action (DELTA) leadership development program Coordinator. She completed her assignment with OEI on 10/12/14. In her role, she coordinated DELTA and helped provide technical assistance to health-related organizations throughout Oregon. Her previous experiences have included planning, implementing and evaluating public health research, programs and community-based initiatives in various settings including non-profits, hospitals, health departments and universities. Her desire to address equity stemmed from working on a critical race media literacy study in her undergrad work. From that point, she has tried to incorporate issues of disparities into all aspects of her work and personal life. For example, she completed the inaugural Portland African American Leadership Forum (PAALF) Leadership Academy in 2013, and she is a member of the City of Portland, Arts Education and Access Citizen Oversight Committee. Charniece is originally from Chicago and is has a master's degree from the University of Michigan, School of Public Health. Her personal interests include photography, blogging, event planning, volunteering, running, traveling and being a foodie.