



Developing Equity Leadership
through Training and Action

2018-19 Cohort Bio-sketches

John Adams

Eastern Oregon Health Alliance



Quinn Arrington
AllCare Health, CCO

Quinn retired September 1, 2001, ten days before 9-11 from the U.S. Navy after 20 years. Before retiring, I became a certified Drug & Alcohol counselor at Point Loma, CA. I continued to work in the addiction field after retiring from the Navy @ Scripps Hospital, McDonald Treatment Center in La Jolla, CA. I moved to Southern Oregon October 2003 and continued to assist Veterans in addiction recovery at the Veteran’s Administration in White City. During my time at the VA-SORCC, I became a committee member of the Equal Employment Opportunity Committee (EEOC). While on the EEOC, I came to understand how federal employment measures are met. I was introduced to So-Healthy-E committee working @ United Community Action Network (UCAN). At UCAN, I got first-hand account of assisting Veterans and civilians on how to navigate barriers encountered in housing. I also observed how social determinants impacts health equity throughout Josephine County. I continued to increase my understanding of health equity as I was re-introduced to So-Healthy Committee at my current position @ AllCare Health. Working on the So-Healthy-E committee helped me develop my empathy gene. It is my hope during my time in the program, I learn how to change workplace attitudes of indifference and challenge the culture conditioning as it relates to diversity, equity and inclusion.

Daphne Auza

IRCO/National Alliance for Filipino Concerns

Audra Baca

Linn County Public Health



BB Beltran
Sexual Assault Support Services (SASS)

BB Beltran is a long-time Oregonian and has been involved in the movement to end domestic and sexual violence for over a decade. Currently, she is the Executive Director of Sexual Assault Support Services (SASS), a community-based non-profit that provides support to past and present survivors of sexual assault and their partners, friends and family. SASS, located in Eugene, serves all of Lane County and is one of only two stand-alone sexual assault specific agencies in Oregon. Ms. Beltran began her career at the Oregon Attorney General’s Sexual Assault Task Force (SATF) where she coordinated the SATF’s one hundred plus membership; supported the Sexual Assault Training Institute (SATI) in the development of training

curricula and coordinated discipline specific and multi-disciplinary professional training on sexual assault response and investigation; researched the impacts of trauma on survivors and best practices; and assisted with legislative advocacy and research. Ms. Beltran has been active in improving and promoting public policy which impacts survivors of sexual violence in Oregon through participation on various committees and partnerships including the SATF's Legislative and Public Policy subcommittee, Oregon Legislative Alliance to End Violence Against Women, the Governor's Joint Interim Task Force on Testing of Sexual Assault Forensic Evidence Kits and was a founding member of the Oregon End Violence Against Women Political Action Committee. Ms. Beltran regularly participates in efforts to improve a coordinated community response to sexual violence including the Lane County Sexual Assault Response Team, Lane County Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children Task Force, and the University of Oregon's School of Law Domestic Violence Clinic. She is fun, likes dogs and loves to spend time with family and friends. Ms. Beltran has a B.A. from the University of Oregon.



Emily Berry
Insights Teen Parent Services

Emily Berry is the Healthy Families supervisor at Insights Teen Parent Services, where she has worked for 14 years in various roles. During her first seven years at Insights, she offered parenting support through advocacy and home visiting to young parents in programs that focused on youth experiencing homelessness and/or child welfare involvement. In 2010 Emily began supervising the Healthy Families program at Insights, a nationally accredited child abuse and neglect prevention program. Healthy Families is an evidence-based home visiting model that focuses on strengthening parent-child relationships to foster healthy growth and development. In 2016 Emily began membership in the Measuring Success Committee, meant to advise the Early Learning Council on issues and priorities related to measuring the success of the early learning system and ensuring equitable outcomes for Oregon's children. Emily grew up in a small former mill town 40 minutes outside of Portland. She earned her bachelor's degree in studio art and education from Whitman College, and her Master's degree in Mental Health Counseling from Lewis and Clark College.

Michelle Brandsma
Greater Oregon Behavioral Health (GOBHI)



Claire Catt
The Public Health Foundation of Columbia County

Claire Catt is the Health Promotion Team Lead at The Public Health Foundation of Columbia County, a non-profit with the vision of *Healthy People, Healthy Community*. She supports Prevention Coordinators reduce the burden of tobacco, alcohol, problem gambling, and other drugs, through community coalition building, policy change, leveraging resources for built environment, and direct prevention education. Previous work experience includes early childhood outdoor education, parent education, nutrition education, and school health/nutrition policy. Her out-of-work interests include dance, gardening, and raising her two brave, kind, bold, and authentic children.



Cindy Fletcher
Susan G. Komen Oregon & Southwest Washington

Cindy joined Komen Oregon and SW Washington as director of programs in October, 2015, after having volunteered on the affiliate's Grants Committee since 2006, including 2 years as chair. As director of programs, she oversees the work being done in Komen's 39-county service area, on programs that focus on the early detection of breast cancer, survivor/forever fighter support, and advocacy. Cindy has spent her career working in and volunteering for nonprofits. In her spare time, she volunteers in the community, spends time doing outdoor activities, and travels.



Janet Hamilton
Project Access NOW

Janet's title of Deputy Director provides cover for her actual role as Fomenter of Chaos. At Project Access NOW, she combines removing barriers for our awesome staff and volunteers to effectively serve our clients with finding new opportunities to make those services as comprehensive as possible. She is passionate about winning the War on Poverty, which by the way, has not yet been won. Janet first began volunteering for Project Access NOW during it's first year, when it was building it's original program connecting low income, uninsured people with donated health care services in the Portland Metro Area. A recovering Californian, Janet fell in love with the Pacific Northwest in the early 1990s when she traveled here regularly for her work as a healthcare information systems consultant, a profession she has yet to fully shed despite various career forays as a coffee shop/specialty grocery store-owner, organizational development consultant, mediator, and even one day of law school.



Yolanda Ledezma
Lane County Public Health

Yolanda is a Bilingual Sr. Office Assistant in the Maternal Child Health program for Lane County Public Health. The Maternal Child Health program she works for consists of a team of nurses who provide support to pregnant mothers and do home visits with them through pregnancy, postpartum and beyond. MCH also provides support to families who have children with special healthcare needs. Yolanda is a part of the Public Health Equity Committee as well as the Maternal Child Health Community Advisory Board. She holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Psychology from the University of Oregon.



Felicita Montebalanco
Virginia Garcia Memorial Foundation

Felicita Montebalanco is the Policy and Advocacy Officer at Virginia Garcia Memorial Foundation, where she supports the efforts of the internal Equity Team and leads the efforts of the Advocacy Team. She has over ten years of experience working for nonprofit organizations, most recently as the Washington County Nonprofit Network Coordinator at Vision Action Network. Outside of work she serves on Board of Directors for the Hillsboro Library and in 2017 was elected to the Board of Directors for the Tualatin Hills Park and

Recreation District. She also hosts quarterly gatherings for Latinx leaders in Washington County providing opportunities for her peers to connect and discuss social justice issues impacting our community.

Nakisha Nathan
Coalition of Communities of Color

Florence Pourtal-Stevens
Coos Heath & Wellness



Katie Thornton
Multnomah County Health Dept.

Katie Thornton has been a nurse for over 10 years. She began as an addiction specialty nurse running clinical operations at Oregon's largest methadone clinic. She transitioned after 6 years to Multnomah County where she ran the refugee health screening program as nursing supervisor for the state of Oregon. She now happily resides as clinic manager at Multnomah County's Northeast Health Center, the county's historically black American health clinic. As a biracial woman with a 2-year-old son Katie strives every day to make sure the world she leaves to her son is made a little better than the one she inherited, this is the long-standing tradition of her family.

Ewnetu Tsegaw
Urban League of Portland

Kacey Urrutia
Samaritan Health Services

Kacey is the Health Education Manager for Samaritan Health Services. In her role, she oversees the Regional Health Education Hub. The main goal of the Hub is to improve health outcomes through coordination of health education programs in Chronic Disease Self-Management and Mental Health programs the Linn, Lincoln and Benton County Region. Her teams primary focus is to create better access and opportunities for under-served populations in the region.

Earlean Wilson Huey
Samaritan Health Services

Carolina Zamora Salazar
Clackamas Volunteers in Medicine



Selina Washington
211info

Her given name is Selina Washington. She is the Community Information Center (CIC) Lead Specialist for our Core services here at 211info. They provide resources and referrals for social and health services to the state of Oregon and 4 counties in SW Washington: including Clark, Cowlitz, Skamania, and Wahkiakum. She currently sits on the Equity Team at 211info and am a member of the Portland Area Wellbriety Movement. She strives to learn and understand all areas of life and is looking forward to the challenges as well as lessons to be learned this cohort year.

Office of Equity and Inclusion, Staff Bio-sketches

Maria Elena Castro
Health Equity Program Analyst

Maria has been part of the OEI for the last eight years. She started her work as the State's Migrant Health Coordinator and transitioned to her current role in 2016. Maria coordinates OEIs role on agency projects and programs with strong health equity, culturally and linguistically responsive healthcare and workforce diversity components such as CCO 2.0, health equity activities related to Public Health Modernization and the Oregon workforce diversity report being developed by the State Primary Care Office and the Healthcare Workforce Committee. Maria is also the staff responsible for the Health Equity Committee, a subcommittee of the Oregon Health Policy Board. Maria has more than 20 years of experience in healthcare, education and social services including work with at-risk youth and prevention programs in Hood River County, and management of community relations and outreach for Providence Health and Services (Gorge Service Area-Oregon region). Maria has a Bachelor's in Organizational Communication and Master's in Business Administration from Marylhurst University and a Master's in Adult Education from Concordia University. Maria has served in multiple boards such as Mid-Columbia Head Start, One Community Health (Migrant Health Center in Hood River County) and United Way of the Columbia Gorge. Currently, she was recently appointed by Governor Kate Brown to serve on the Oregon Public Utility Commission's Oregon Lifeline - Oregon Telephone Assistance Program (OTAP) Advisory Board. Maria was born and raised in the South of Chile. She lives in Hood River, Oregon with her husband Carlos, an Environmental Civil Engineer and her daughter Montserrat, who is a senior at Hood River Valley High School.

Brad Fortier
Training Development Specialist

Brad Fortier is an anthropologist, educator, and author. He is the training & development specialist for Oregon Health Authority's Office of Equity and Inclusion. Brad has been performing and teaching improvised theater across the globe since 1996. He holds an interdisciplinary master's degree in the anthropology of improvised theater from Portland State University. Brad was the coordinator for a unique student leadership program at Portland Community College that used interactive theater to teach about social justice issues. He has authored 2 books and a chapter on the anthropology of

improvised theater, as well as applying it offstage. Brad is an expert at applying the tools of improv to learning, leadership, communication, and collaboration.

Leann R. Johnson
Division 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.

Mavel Morales
ADA Coordinator + Civil Rights Investigator

Mavel is the ADA Coordinator + Civil Rights Investigator for Oregon Health Authority service recipients. For the past five years Mavel has collaborated with OHA staff to create OHA's nondiscrimination policy for members of the public, the Traditional Health Worker and Health Care Interpreter complaint process and helped with the coordination of an agency wide database to maintain data on these complaints. Mavel also currently serves as the agency Section 1557 of the Affordable Care Act compliance liaison. Mavel has a J.D. from Lewis and Clark Law School and a Master's in Education from Arizona State University and is a native Spanish speaker. She is the daughter and granddaughter of Mexican farmworker women. She worked for Oregon's legal aid services for eight years representing immigrant women, survivors of domestic violence and indigenous farmworkers in the areas of family law, housing and employment law. She was the project manager for the Oregon Law Center's promotoras program where she trained over 30 indigenous promotoras to help stop sexual harassment in the workplace. While in law school Mavel clerked at Disability Rights Oregon helping individuals with disabilities with accommodations in housing and places of public accommodation. Prior to law school Mavel worked as a bilingual teacher in Phoenix, Arizona.

Nina Perard
Diversity Liaison - Oregon State Hospital

Nina Perard is a Licensed Professional Counselor, working in the mental health/behavioral health field for over 13 years. She has worked in residential facilities, forensic psychiatric facilities and in community counseling centers. She joined OEI to be a part of larger systemic change that works towards removing barriers to mental health care for vulnerable populations in Oregon. She believes that all people, regardless of their diverse backgrounds and needs, deserve to be treated with respect and

receive care in a safe and welcoming environment. Through OEI, Nina is the Diversity Liaison for the Oregon State Hospital. The OSH Diversity Liaison's role is to facilitate OHA's diversity and inclusion initiatives as overseen by OEI to meet the unique needs of OSH, which is the largest division of OHA. Those needs include promoting an increased understanding of the relevance of cultural competence, culturally appropriate care, and diversity in building an organization that effectively meets the needs of its diverse patient population and employees.

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 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.