# Frontline Community Health Summit

**May 7-8, 2018**

## May 7, 2018 - Day 1

**All Plenary Sessions Will Be Held in the Theatre**

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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Session</th>
<th>Speaker(s)</th>
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<tr>
<td>8:00 - 8:10am</td>
<td>Welcome</td>
<td>Gerold Dermid, MBA, Director, Nevada Public Health Training Center</td>
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<td>Quinn Cartwright, MPA, Manager, Nevada Community Health Worker Association</td>
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<tr>
<td>8:10 - 8:30am</td>
<td>Plenary Session 1</td>
<td>Julie Kotchevar, PhD, Administrator, Nevada Division of Public and Behavioral Health</td>
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<td>Why We Need More Superheroes: Fighting for Better Health Outcomes, What the Data Shows</td>
<td>Christi Mackie, MPH, Chief, Community Health and Prevention; Mary Ann Cooney, RN, MSN, MPH, Chief, Center for Population Health Strategies, Association of State and Territorial Health Officials (ASTHO) and Masako Berger, MPH, RD, Health Systems Manager, Nevada Division of Public and Behavioral Health</td>
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<tr>
<td>8:30 - 9:45am</td>
<td>Plenary Session 2</td>
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<td>Nationwide Impact: The Population Level Health Outcomes -- Recipes for Success</td>
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<td>9:45 - 10:00am</td>
<td>Break</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:00 - 10:50am</td>
<td>Breakout (Micro)</td>
<td>Judy Henderson, MEd and Sara Hanafi, MPH(c), Nevada Coalition to End Domestic and Sexual Violence</td>
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<td>Building Superpowers: Intimate Partner Violence: A Public Health Priority</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:00 - 10:50am</td>
<td>Breakout (Macro)</td>
<td>Elizabeth Christiansen, PhD, Director, Center for Program Evaluation, University of Nevada, Reno, Masako Berger, MPH, RD, Health Systems Manager, Nevada Division of Public and Behavioral Health</td>
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<td>Investing in Superheroes: Return on Investment of a Community Health Worker Program for Super-Utilizer Medicaid Members in a Nevada Managed Care Organization</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:55 - 11:45am</td>
<td>Breakout (Micro)</td>
<td>Jenni Wilson, Director, Business Intelligence at Nevada Health Centers</td>
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<td>Building Superpowers: Burnout and Self-Care</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:45 - 1:00pm</td>
<td>Lunch (on your own) and Networking - The Joe</td>
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<tr>
<td>1:00 - 1:55pm</td>
<td>Plenary Session 3</td>
<td>Patricia Toffenhart, MPA, Executive Director, New Jersey Coalition Against Sexual Assault</td>
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<td>The Fight Continues: Engaging Frontline Public Health Workers in the Prevention of Sexual Violence -- Advocating for Change</td>
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<tr>
<td>1:55 - 2:50pm</td>
<td>Plenary Session 4</td>
<td>Larry Bryant, Support Programs Coordinator, National Alliance on Mental Illness of New York City</td>
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<td>The Fight Continues: Mental Health Matters -- Reducing Stigma, Providing Support</td>
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<td>2:50 - 3:05pm</td>
<td>Break</td>
<td>Kristen Power, Communications Director, Nevada Cancer Coalition</td>
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<td>3:05 - 3:55pm</td>
<td>Breakout (Micro)</td>
<td>Beto Plascencia, CHW, Community Health Alliance</td>
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<td>Building Superpowers: Cancer Management, Screening, &amp; Prevention</td>
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<tr>
<td>3:05 - 3:55pm</td>
<td>Breakout (Macro)</td>
<td>Quinn Cartwright, Dana Walburn, Healthy Communities Coalition</td>
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<td>Investing in Superheroes: Medicaid Reimbursement and Fiscal Opportunities</td>
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<td>4:00 - 5:00pm</td>
<td>Plenary Session 5</td>
<td>Shawnta Jackson, MPH, Communications Director, Cause Engagement Associates</td>
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<td>Engagement Matters: Effectively Engaging Diverse Populations for Community Health</td>
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<tr>
<td>5:15 - 6:45pm</td>
<td>Networking event</td>
<td>Craft Beer and Wine, 22 Martin St.</td>
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# May 8, 2018 - Day 2

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<th>Time</th>
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<td>8:00 - 8:45am</td>
<td>Plenary Speaker 1: Transforming Public Health: Community Transformational Promoter Model and its Role in Building Health Equity</td>
<td>Melinda Cordero-Bárzaga, Associate Director, Visión y Compromiso</td>
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<tr>
<td>8:45 - 9:30am</td>
<td>Plenary Speaker 2: Impact Matters: The Vital Role of Community Health Workers and the Impact They Have on Community Health Programs</td>
<td>Lourdes Montez, Health Center Enrollment &amp; Workforce Lead Coordinator, Arizona Alliance for Community Health Centers.</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:30 - 9:45pm</td>
<td>Break</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:45 - 10:35am</td>
<td>Breakout (Micro): Building Superpowers: Suicide Prevention in Nevada: The State of the State</td>
<td>Misty Vaughan Allen, Program Coordinator, Office of Suicide Prevention</td>
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<td>9:45 - 10:35am</td>
<td>Breakout (Macro): Investing in Superheroes: Using Social Media and Effective Marketing Techniques to Tell Your Story</td>
<td>Gerold Dermid, MBA, Director, Nevada Public Health Training Center</td>
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<td>10:40 - 11:45am</td>
<td>Panel: Superhero Academy 101: Innovative Stories from the Field Promoting a Pipeline of Success</td>
<td>Wendy Madson, HCC; Luz Castro, CSN CHW Program; Andraya Dickens, AHEC; Melissa Deadmond, TMCC; Kelly Coleman, Reed High School</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:45 - 1:00pm</td>
<td>Lunch (on your own) and Networking - The Joe</td>
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<tr>
<td>1:00 - 1:55pm</td>
<td>Plenary Session 3: Changing the Landscape of Opioid Response Through Policy and Education</td>
<td>Corey Davis, JD, MSPH, Deputy Director and Staff Attorney, The Network for Public Health Law</td>
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<td>1:55 - 2:50pm</td>
<td>Plenary Session 4: Superhero Spyglass: How Do We “See” Individuals &amp; Communities? The Need for Critical Contextual Reflection</td>
<td>Sherria Taylor, PhD, CFLE, CFSW, Assistant Professor, San Francisco State University</td>
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<tr>
<td>2:50 - 3:00pm</td>
<td>Closing &amp; Networking</td>
<td>Gerold Dermid, MBA, Director, Nevada Public Health Training Center; Quinn Cartwright, MPA, Manager, Nevada Community Health Worker Association</td>
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## Conference Services

Provided by:

**Nevada Public Health Training Center**

and **Nevada CHW Association**
IMPACT SESSIONS

FOOD OPTIONS

JCSU 2nd Floor
- Theatre
- Box Office
- 324
- 323
- 320
- 317
- 341a
- ASUN Center for Student Engagement
- The Center for Student Diversity

JCSU 3rd Floor
- Entrance
- Stairs
- Las Vegas Wolf Shop
- Blue Fish Bistro
- Pack Power Charging Station
- Del Lobo Mexican Grille
- Great Full Gardens Express
- Panda Express
- WolfCard Office
- Stairs
- Elevators
- ATMs

Entrance
- Entrance
- Stairs
- Elevators
- Nevada Wolf Shop
GREETINGS FROM THE CITY OF RENO!

On behalf of the “Biggest Little City in the World,” it is my pleasure to welcome the attendees to the Impact Frontline Community Health Conference as you convene at the University of Nevada, Reno on Monday, May 7 through Tuesday, May 8, 2018.

Impact, the inaugural health summit, is bringing together frontline health workers, such as Community Health Workers, Community Paramedics, Patient Navigators, Medical Assistants, Case Managers, and Health Educators to the University to encourage breaking down silos and promoting the innovative use of community-based practitioners for improving community health outcomes, reducing healthcare costs, and innovating health systems. Community-based practitioners are essential to coordination of care for optimal health outcomes and they are instrumental to bridge the gap between mainstream health care and community health. As such, I hope this conference serves to inspire you, rejuvenate you, and imparts something new for you to use in your work!

As you locals already know, Reno is a vibrant, progressive community with something distinctive to offer everyone: entertainment, fine dining, performing arts, museums, beautiful parks, shopping, and the incomparable beauty of our surrounding high desert, and the grandeur of the nearby Sierra Nevada Mountains. Please take some time to enjoy yourselves while in town!

Good luck and my best wishes for a very successful conference! Your dedication and passion for breaking down walls, increasing culturally competent health care, and creating collaborations that work towards a healthier population is commendable. I hope you will experience a most enjoyable conference, and for those of you from outside the area, that you will return again and again.

Sincerely,

Hillary L. Schieve
Mayor

One East First Street, 15th Floor, P.O. Box 1900, Reno, NV 89505
May 7, 2018

Dear IMPACT attendees,

Welcome to the Inaugural IMPACT conference for front line public health workers! We are thrilled to have you attend this relevant and exciting meeting put together by the Nevada Public Health Training Center at the School of Community Health Sciences at the University of Nevada, Reno.

There is much to learn from our speakers and from each other. Plan to participate not only in the scheduled talks but in networking opportunities throughout the conference. This conference is designed with you in mind and brings nationally known speakers to Reno to share their expertise and experience working in a multitude of areas. We will learn about addressing disparities in our clients and agencies. We will learn about addressing culture and connecting person to person to advance health. We will share our speakers’ motivation to make a difference.

Our communities thank you for making the time to enhance your skills and your commitment to healthy communities throughout Nevada.

In health,

Trudy Larson, MD
Dean, School of Community Health Sciences
University of Nevada, Reno
CONTINUING EDUCATION HOURS AND SIGN IN REQUIREMENT
The Impact Conference is not preapproved for Formal Continuing Education Units (CEUs); however, a certificate of completion will be given to all conference attendees via email after the completion of the event. Attendees seeking CEUs as part of their professional licensure must apply on their own to his/her Board. Be sure to keep your program plan and agenda. If you need further materials to apply for CEUs, be sure to contact Kelly Morning, kmorning@unr.edu.

CERTIFICATES
Printed certificates for Continuing Education Units (CEUs) will be provided via email immediately following the conference. No paper certificates will be available at the event.

NAME BADGE POLICY
Please wear your name badge throughout the conference. For security and safety reasons, we cannot admit you to sessions or meals without it. If you have lost your name badge, you may get a replacement at the registration/check-in desk.

PARKING
Parking for all conference attendees will be in the West Stadium Garage. Daily Permits are $5, dispensers are located on the top level of the West Stadium Parking Complex. These machines take cash & debit or credit cards.

ONLINE CONFERENCE EVALUATIONS
There will be an online evaluation sent to all participants via email following the conference. While evaluations are not mandatory, we appreciate any and all feedback from our conference participants.

SUPERHEROES ON THE TOWN:
A PUBLIC HEALTH COMMUNITY NETWORKING EVENT
Craft Wine & Beer, 22 Martin Street, Reno, NV 89509
May 7, 2018: 5:15pm – 6:45pm

Network with your fellow conference attendees. Craft Wine & Beer is a bottle shop located in the up-and-coming Midtown area of Reno, Nevada. They carry many bottles of wine, beer, spirits, sake, cider, and even some sodas. Their favorite bottles come from small farmers or brewers who ferment good things grown by themselves or people they know well. They are very good at what they do and they are proud to offer their produce to the thirsty folks in Reno.
Julie Kotchevar, PhD,
Administrator, Nevada Division of Public and Behavioral Health

Julie Kotchevar has extensive experience working within the field of health and human services programs, particularly in the field of children and adults with disabilities. She has worked nationally and internationally for over 15 years to create efficient and agile systems that can skillfully respond to the changing needs of consumers while also ensuring that services are person centered, ethical, appropriate, and evidence-based. Within Nevada and nationally she has worked with state programs to identify and repair broken and inefficient systems. Internationally she worked to develop systems in several countries including primary and maternity care in central China, basic health and assessment services in rural parts of Indonesia, and early intervention systems for children and families in the southern Sudan.

Dr. Kotchevar has served in the Nevada state system as an Executive Branch Auditor, the Clinical Program Manager of Nevada Early Intervention Services, and as the Deputy Administrator of Aging and Disability Services Division before joining the Director’s Office as the Deputy Director.

Dr. Kotchevar has recently completed her Doctorate in Social Services Policy Planning and Analysis, has a Master’s degree in Organizational Management and a Bachelor’s degree in Elementary and Special Education.

Christi Mackie, MPH,
Association of State and Territorial Health Officials

Christi Mackie, MPH, Chief Program Officer for Community Health and Prevention, at the Association of State and Territorial Health Officials is an executive team member at ASTHO who is responsible for conceptualizing the integration of population-based strategies and developing collaborative projects to improve public health through capacity building, technical assistance, and thought leadership to maximize the impact and effectiveness of state public health agencies. As chief, she guides, directs and influences a multi-programmatic area comprised of: Social and Behavioral Health (including the opioid and substance misuse & addictions epidemic), Family and Child Health, and Chronic Disease Prevention & Health Improvement. Ms. Mackie serves as a liaison with State Public Health Officials and their leadership teams and fosters collaborative relationships with officials at the CDC and HRSA, other federal HHS agencies, national organizations, and affiliates to bolster collective impact relating to current and future public health priorities.
Mary Ann Cooney, RN, MSN, MPH,  
*Association of State and Territorial Health Officials*

Mary Ann Cooney, RN, MSN, MPH, Chief of the Association of State and Territorial Health Officials (ASTHO) Center for Population Health Strategies oversees and provides strategic direction for the Centers three Pillars of Population Health - Clinical to Community Connections, Health Equity and the Social Determinants of Health, and Public Health Data Analytics and Informatics. Mary Ann previously worked for 14 years at the New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services where she was Deputy Commissioner for the Department and Director of Public Health.

In addition to her role at DHHS, Mary Ann has served as adjunct faculty member for the Master of Public Health Program at the University of New Hampshire and recently received UNH’s 2016 Distinguished Alumni Award. She was School Health Director for the City of Manchester Public Health Department and President of the New Hampshire Public Health Association. She received her baccalaureate in nursing from Saint Anselm College, a Master of Science in nursing administration from University of New Hampshire, and Master of Public Health from the University of New Hampshire.

Judy Henderson, MEd,  
*Nevada Coalition to End Domestic Violence*

Judy is currently the Training Coordinator for the Nevada Coalition to End Domestic and Sexual Violence (NCEDSV). She is responsible for the supervision, implementation and evaluation of education strategies that support the mission of the Nevada Coalition. Since joining the NCEDSV in 2005, Judy has conducted over 220 presentations for advocates, allied professionals and the general public.

Judy Henderson holds two bachelor’s degrees in Sociology and Social Science Education and a master’s degree in Education Management from the University of LaVerne in California.

Sara Hanafi, MPH(c),  
*Nevada Coalition to End Domestic Violence*

As the current Training Program Specialist for the Nevada Coalition to End Domestic and Sexual Violence (NCEDSV), Sara assists in development, execution, and evaluation of education and outreach efforts to domestic and sexual violence advocacy programs and other service providers throughout the state. Having joined the Coalition in July 2017, she focuses on supporting statewide outreach to healthcare providers and youth educators. Sara holds a bachelor’s degree in Community Health Sciences and will complete her Master’s in Public Health in May 2018 from the University of Nevada, Reno.
IMPACT SPEAKERS

Elizabeth Christiansen, PhD,
Director, Center for Program Evaluation, University of Nevada, Reno

Dr. Elizabeth Christiansen is the Director of the Program Evaluation Lab of the Nevada Center for Surveys, Evaluation, and Statistics (CSES). Dr. Elizabeth Christiansen has over 18 years of experience in program evaluation, working with numerous local, state and national evaluation projects in the areas of education and youth development, health and wellness, and community and family services. Dr. Christiansen received her Ph.D. in Social Psychology from the University of Nevada, Reno in 2002. She has been a UNR faculty member since 2003 and director of the Program Evaluation Lab (formerly the Center for Program Evaluation) since 2009. Through her work PEL, she has worked on many evaluation projects with a variety of agencies and organizations, including the Nevada Division of Public and Behavioral Health, the Washoe County Family Resource Centers, the Washoe County School District, University of Nevada Cooperative Extension, Nevada Training Partnership, Turning Point, Inc., Great Basin Institute, Family TIES of Nevada, and the Nevada Division of Children and Family Services.

Masako Berger, MPH, RD,
Health Systems Manager, Nevada Division of Public and Behavioral Health

Masako is the Health Systems Manager at Nevada Division of Public and Behavioral Health, and she oversees Connecting Kids to Coverage, Diabetes Prevention, and Heart Disease and Stroke Prevention programs. She played tennis for the UNR women's tennis team and obtained a Bachelor of Science in Nutrition. She is a Registered Dietitian and holds a Master of Public Health from UCLA Fielding School of Public Health. As a Clinical Dietitian, she has worked in acute care hospitals, skilled nursing facility and outpatient clinics, including Renown Regional Medical Center, Barton Memorial Hospital and Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center. She has also worked for Los Angeles Unified School District to develop an obesity prevention program for students and communities and has managed a diabetes program at Indian Health Services Urban Clinic. She is passionate about improving the health status of Nevadans, especially the vulnerable populations including minorities, low incomes and youths by using both of her clinical and public health trainings. As a researcher, she has worked and collaborated with multiple academic and research institutions, including UCLA Center for Cancer Prevention and Control Research, USC Norris Cancer Center, School of Medicine at University of Tokyo, Institute of Health Metrics and Evaluation at University of Washington and School of Community Health Sciences at UNR.
**Linda Anngela-Cole, PhD, LCSW, MSW, Associate Professor, School of Social Work, University of Nevada, Reno**

Dr. Linda Anngela-Cole is an Associate Professor in the School of Social Work at the University of Nevada, Reno. She also practices as a Licensed Clinical Social Worker (LCSW) with a private practice specializing in grief and loss. For the past fifteen years, Dr. Anngela-Cole’s professional social work career has been focused on gerontology and hospice care. She received her doctoral degree at the University of Hawaii, where she had an interest in cross-cultural social work research and where she got her start in hospice care. She completed her post-doctoral fellowship at the Cancer Research Center of Hawaii. Since being back in Reno, she has become involved with the adult guardianship community, has developed studies identifying quality-of-life indicators for those in guardianship, and continues to study family care giving, end of life psycho-social issues, and the impact of culture.

**Jenni Wilson, Director, Business Intelligence at Nevada Health Centers**

Jenni Wilson is the director of business intelligence at Nevada Health Centers, the largest Federally Qualified Health Center program in Nevada. She has worked in the healthcare field for more than 24 years, in California and Nevada, and has expertise in operational support, clinical support, provider relations, network management, managed-care contracting, system evaluation and configuration, project management, and data analysis. She has worked for medical offices, hospital-based health networks, managed-care organizations, and a health insurance provider. Prior to joining Nevada Health Centers in January 2015, Jenni was a configuration analyst and project manager at Prominence Health Plan.

**Patricia Teffenhart, MPA, Executive Director, New Jersey Coalition Against Sexual Assault**

Patricia Teffenhart is the Executive Director of the New Jersey Coalition Against Sexual Assault (NJCASA). NJCASA elevates the voice of sexual violence survivors and service providers by advocating for survivor-centered legislation, training allied professionals, and supporting statewide prevention strategies that work to address and defy the socio-cultural norms that permit and promote rape culture. Under her leadership, NJCASA has a record of success, including successfully advocating for the passing of the Sexual Assault Survivors Protection Act of 2015, which increased access to protective orders for survivors of sexual violence; creating and Co-Chairing the Governor’s appointed Campus Sexual Assault Task Force; and increasing appropriations for sexual violence services in the New Jersey State Budget by over 450%.

Patricia is a proud graduate of Douglass College and holds a Master’s in Public Administration from the Rutgers School of Public Affairs and Administration. Patricia has dedicated her career to the promotion and advancement of women and girls, having worked for county-wide, statewide, and national feminist organizations.
Larry Bryant,
Support Programs Coordinator, National Alliance on Mental Illness of New York City

Mr. Bryant has been both personally and professionally committed to community engagement & organizing, as well as strategic planning around many social justice issues including mental & physical health and educational disparities among minorities, economic injustice, and housing instability. Mr. Bryant is also an advocate for Black men accessing mental health services and support, urging Black men of all ages to take a leadership role in educating communities about the impact of mental illness in Black communities.

Previously, as a team member of the Housing Works Advocacy Department and Volunteer Program Manager, Mr. Bryant had the responsibility and privilege to have a lead role in the creation and development of grassroots advocacy networks across the United States. These grassroots networks - including the Campaign To End AIDS - were primarily composed of individuals and communities representing the HIV & AIDS epidemic where they live, brought about attention, understanding, as well as targeting policy change that ultimately lead to positive health outcomes for those most impacted.

Mr. Bryant has also written and published articles, blogs, and photos to Poz Magazine, The Body, multiple local, regional, national online and print publications including White House Office of National AIDS Policy publications. An accomplished photographer, Larry uses photography as a means of social and creative expression, specializing in portraits, profiles, and social justice.

A native Washingtonian now calling Brooklyn NY home, Larry was diagnosed HIV positive in 1986 while a freshman Black College All American at Norfolk State University. Since then Larry is extremely proud of his commitment and to both cultural and gender diversity and inclusion in issues and actions connected to, advocating for legislation, eliminating stigma and improving access to quality health/mental care systems.

Kristen Power,
Communications Director, Nevada Cancer Coalition

Kristen has nearly two decades experience in public relations, marketing, community outreach, and nonprofits, applied in both the health care and tourism industries. She graduated University of Nevada, Reno and has lived and worked in both Reno and Las Vegas, Nevada. For the past five years she has served as communications director at Nevada Cancer Coalition where she has spearheaded and partnered on outreach and educational campaigns for colorectal, breast, and cervical cancers, HPV vaccination, skin cancer and tobacco prevention, and cancer survivorship.
**Beto Plascencia, CHW,**  
*Community Health Alliance*

As Cancer Screening Care Coordinator at Community Health Alliance, Beto is responsible for the population health management and patient engagement for the screenings of cervical, breast and colorectal cancers. He provides clear guidance and support to educate patients on the importance of such screenings. Beto is relentless towards his pursuit of providing the best quality, affordable and comprehensive health care to his patients, which is the shared mission of Community Health Alliance.

**Quinn Cartwright,**  
*Project Manager for the Nevada Community Health Worker Association*

Quinn Cartwright is the Project Manager for the Nevada Community Health Worker Association. Quinn has focused her work on training, supporting and, advocating for Community Health Workers across Nevada. A University of Nevada, Reno alumni, Quinn earned her Master’s degree in Public Health from UNR and a Bachelors of Science in Nutrition from UNR.

**Dana Walburn, LCSW,**  
*Clinical Social Worker III, Nevada Division of Public and Behavioral Health, Rural Clinics*

Dana Walburn has worked for over ten years as a clinical social worker, in outpatient and residential settings, specializing in adolescent and family therapy. Recently she has been working as a clinical program planner and manager with the Division of Public and Behavioral Health Rural Clinics, working on innovative projects such as Tele-Behavioral Health services statewide, Juvenile Diversion Programs, Prison Re-Entry Service Coordination and program development for Psychiatric Caseworkers.

**Gerold Dermid, MBA**  
*Director of the Nevada Public Health Training Center,*

Mr. Dermid has worked in the field of public health for the past 17 years, focused on accreditation, quality improvement, workforce development, social marketing and community engagement. Mr. Dermid has provided leadership and strategic direction to communities throughout the world in communicable disease prevention, with a special focus on HIV/AIDS, chronic disease prevention, substance use services, health equity, social justice, and international development. He currently manages workforce and student training programs locally, nationally, and internationally, with a special focus on the development of trainings within traditionally underserved communities.
Shawnta Jackson, MPH,  
*Executive Director, Cause Engagement Associates*

Shawnta Jackson began her public health career as a front-line community health worker when she taught nutrition education to 700 students at five Clark County School District schools as an intern with the Southern Nevada Health District (SNHD). This opened the door for her to provide comprehensive sexual and reproductive health education to youth in group homes, halfway houses, juvenile detention, foster care and other non-traditional settings as a health educator with Planned Parenthood of Southern Nevada and SNHD. In addition to serving the greater Clark County community, Shawnta worked collaboratively with her peers across Nevada by serving as the Southern Nevada Vice President of the Nevada Public Health Association where she actively sought opportunities to advocate for and advance the health of all Nevadans. She has over 100 family members in Nevada.

Today, Shawnta Jackson is Founder & Chief Executive of Cause Engagement Associates, a Maryland-based boutique agency that provides community engagement and integrated marketing communications services for socially conscious initiatives that address public health, health care and the social factors that influence health outcomes. Since 2009, she has worked with providers, researchers, businesses, public and nonprofit organizations to plan, implement, evaluate and publicize community-engaged programs such as the nationally recognized black barbershop initiative, Health Advocates In-Reach & Research (HAIR), an initiative where the University of Maryland Center for Health Equity transforms barbershops into health information portals to create opportunities for health dialogue, research, education and services. Shawnta holds a MPH degree in social and behavioral health from University of Nevada, Las Vegas, and a BA in public relations from Columbia College Chicago.

Melinda Cordero-Bárzaga,  
*Associate Director, Visión y Compromiso*

Melinda Cordero-Bárzaga has dedicated most of her professional career to working with Promotores in several capacities including, designing and directing programs, developing curricula, training, mentoring, evaluating projects and is approaching 26 years of service. She is one of 5 co-founders of Visión y Compromiso and joined the organization in 2004 as the Director of its California Network of Promotoras and Community Health Workers (CHW’s). Currently she serves as the Associate Director of the organization and in this capacity oversees their statewide programmatic work and operations including its Network statewide annual conference, annual legislative day in Sacramento, CA and the development of the Promotores Institute.

Ms. Cordero-Bárzaga has been recognized for her work with women and girls as well as with Promotores. She is the recipient of the 1999, Los Angeles Women’s Foundation Mentor Award and 2001 received an award from Comision Femenil de Los Angeles for her work with Latinas and health. Ms. Cordero-Bárzaga was also recognized in 2009 by the California Assembly for her work with Promotores in the state and and in 2011, she received the Helen Rodriguez-Trias award from the California Office of Women’s Health for her dedication to the health of women in California. Most recently, June 2013, she was awarded the MENDing Poverty Nonprofit Leadership Award which recognized her effective organizational and community leadership in Southern California on behalf of individuals living in poverty.
Lourdes Montez,  
*Health Center Enrollment and Workforce Lead Coordinator, Arizona Alliance for Community Health Centers*

Lourdes Montez is the Health Center Enrollment & Workforce Lead Coordinator for the Arizona Alliance for Community Health Centers, her scope of work includes facilitating and developing coalitions and networks that include academic and health care organizations to help recruit Primary Care Providers to Rural & Underserved Communities in Arizona. Ms. Montez also works with Community Health Center Eligibility and Enrollment Staff to help improve access to care for rural and underserved patients and consumers. She has been working with Rural and Underserved Communities for over 20 years.

Ms. Montez has been trained as a Trainer for Training of Trainers (TOT) Models for several Community Health Curriculums and Trainings. While serving for the AmeriCorps for National and Community Service Program, Ms. Montez was trained as a Community Health Advisor for the Santa Cruz County School District Wellness Clinic in Rio Rico, Arizona where she worked with students from k-12. She was then hired by the Southeast Arizona Area Health Education Center (SEAHEC) where she provided training for Community Health Workers using the Core Competencies Training Curriculum funded by the US Department of Education FIPSE Program for over 10 years.

Ms. Montez continues to provide training for Community Health Workers statewide for AACHC and is also a member of the Arizona Department of Health Services CHW Advisory Council, the Arizona CHW Workforce Coalition, Helping Other Promotores Excel (HOPE) Network & the Arizona Community Health Outreach Workers (AZCHOW) Coalition. Most recently Ms. Montez provided a Training of Trainers for CHW Supervisors & CHW Leads on Core Competencies Skills in partnership with the Arizona Department of Health Services & the Arizona State University SNAC Program.

Ms. Montez attended Nursing School in Dodge City, Kansas and is now working towards a Master's degree in Counseling. She lives in San Tan Valley, AZ with her husband Gus and her son Jesse.

Misty Vaughan Allen, MA,  
*Suicide Prevention Coordinator, Division of Public and Behavioral Health*

Misty Vaughan Allen, MA became the Suicide Prevention Coordinator of Nevada in December 2005. She works together with local advisory groups and community coalitions, providing oversight and leadership to launch new suicide prevention programs in communities across Nevada. Ms. Allen is currently part of the Safe Schools Healthy Students Commission with the Washoe County School District and is staff to the Committee to Review Suicide Fatalities. Ms. Allen is currently exploring avenues to bring the Zero Suicide Initiative to Nevada’s healthcare organizations. Zero Suicide is an aspirational goal supported by robust patient safety activities, quality improvement, and staff support. As the Suicide Prevention Coordinator, she facilitates the development of Nevada’s Suicide Prevention plan consistent with the National Strategy for Suicide Prevention. Ms. Allen graduated with her Master’s Degree in Counseling from the University of Nevada, Reno. She began her journey to prevent suicide as the coordinator for the Suicide Prevention Hotline of Nevada, a program of the Crisis Call Center in Reno. Ms. Allen advocates for suicide prevention resources to help create change.
Wendy Madson,  
*Healthy Communities Coalition, Executive Director*

Wendy Madson is Healthy Communities’ Executive Director. Former director Christy McGill described her as “Healthy Communities’ own Mother Nature,” and wrote that, “Wendy has a fierce love for all things growing including people. You’ve seen Wendy at Community Roots, the community gardens, school gardens, and at many of the free dental events HCC organizes. Yes, both plants and teeth have roots and she feels quite comfortable beside a dental chair or a daisy."

Luz Castro,  
*Healthcare Specialist, College of Southern Nevada, Division of Workforce and Economic Development*

Luz Castro is a long-time adult educator, program developer, advisor and mentor. She was an integral part of the CSN team who delivered Nevada’s first Community Health Worker class, as designated by Governor Sandoval. She leverages her professional background to help people find career opportunities in the healthcare field. She currently coordinates and oversees the Community Health Worker Training Program at CSN’s Division of Workforce and Economic Development.

Andraya Dickens,  
*Sierra Nevada AHEC*

Andraya Dickens has worked in public health for over 4 years, beginning first as a volunteer intern during her undergraduate years. Having recently graduated from the University of Nevada, Reno, Andraya continues to work with local partners with a focus on improving the upcoming generation of healthcare professionals and educating those already in practice. With an emphasis on community, she believes that together, we can improve the health outcomes of Nevada.
Melissa Deadmond,  
*Truckee Meadows Community College*

Melissa earned her B.S. in Biology and French from Albertson College of Idaho and Ph.D. in Cellular and Molecular Biology from the University of Nevada, Reno. She joined the Biology Department faculty at Truckee Meadows Community College in 2005 after realizing her love of teaching. Seeing the need to broaden students’ perspectives and opportunities in health, Melissa co-developed the Associate of Science in Community Health Science degree and returned to UNR to earn a MPH, Epidemiology so that she would have expertise in the discipline. Melissa has since transitioned to administration and serves as TMCC’s Associate Dean of Assessment and Planning, but still insists on teaching part time.

The Associate of Science in Community Health Science degree was designed and is regularly reviewed for alignment to both the Public Health and Kinesiology tracks of UNR’s B.S. in Community Health Science and is feasible for students pursuing TMCC’s AS Nursing to double major in CHS. Since its initial implementation, 27 students have graduated with their AS in Community Health Science, and 379 students are currently declared CHS majors.

Kelly Coleman,  
*Reed High School*

Through a varied journey of experiences Kelly Coleman has come to be the teacher for the Biomedical Pathway of the Reed High School Enterprise Project Signature Academy. Growing up near the Hudson River in New York, she earned a BS in Biology from the State University of New York at Binghamton in 1994. After graduation she worked in veterinary hospitals and a research lab at the University of Delaware. She earned a MA in Biological Anthropology from Northern Illinois University in 2001 then continued study at UNLV for the next four years researching Neanderthal growth and development. Upon deciding not to complete this PhD, she spent the next few years practicing a variety of skills as a reading instructor, standardized test scorer, sea kayak guide, and over-the-road truck driver. Realizing that her favorite part of every job had been when she was teaching, she returned to Las Vegas to earn her teaching license in 2010. After teaching biology in Las Vegas for two years, she and her husband settled in Reno where they enjoy rafting the Truckee, hiking and snowshoeing in the Sierras and exploring the desert.

The past five years have been spent developing the Biomedical Pathway of the Reed High School Enterprise Project Signature Academy. Students in the pathway study disease patterns, career pathways, medical terminology, how organ systems maintain homeostasis, DNA laboratory methods, cancer research and ethics. Through the program students can earn 9 to 12 college credits in preparation for further career training. Mrs. Coleman’s goal is to continue to foster relationships between the Biomedical Pathway at Reed HS and the community through mutually beneficial partnerships. Bringing students and professionals together through guest speaking visits and field trips allows connections to be built to future employment opportunities and strengthens our community.
Corey Davis, JD, MSPH, EMT-B, Deputy Director and Staff Attorney, The Network for Public Health Law

Corey Davis is a Senior Attorney with the National Health Law Program in Los Angeles where his work focuses on public health, particularly on identifying and leveraging legal and policy initiatives to address the opioid epidemic, including increased access to naloxone, overdose Good Samaritan laws, overdose reporting requirements, and opioid prescribing prescriptions. Corey has served as both a member and Chair of a county board of health, and is Deputy Director at the Network for Public Health Law, where he provides assistance to states and localities on interventions to reduce drug-related harm. He also holds several academic appointments and regularly publishes in the areas of drug policy and overdose prevention.

Sherria Taylor, PhD, CFLE, CFSW, Assistant Professor, San Francisco State University

Dr. Sherria D. Taylor is an Assistant Professor of Child and Family Studies at San Francisco State University. She earned her doctoral degree in 2013 from Loma Linda University in Family Studies with a concentration in Systems-Organizational Consultation. Her dissertation was titled: A Family Resilience Model of Behavioral Health for Low-Income, Ethnic Minority Families. Dr. Taylor attained her M.A. in 2003 in Counseling and Educational Psychology with emphases in Community Counseling from the University of Nevada, Reno. She completed her bachelor’s degree in Psychology from Oral Roberts University. She has been involved in research funded by HUD and the Family Process Institute related to family resilience and family support services among low-income families. As the former Executive Director and current Director of Program Development and Evaluation for the nonprofit agency Access for Community & Cultural Education Programs & Trainings (ACCEPT) she was successful in securing over one million dollars in grant funding. Dr. Taylor and colleagues have produced peer-reviewed publications and reports related to low-income families, mental health, substance abuse, and resilience. She has made many presentations at national conferences of the National Council on Family Relations of which she is an active member. Her research interests include: family, community, and cultural resilience, mental health, substance abuse prevention, family life education, and the buffering effects of spirituality and religiosity among ethnic minority families.
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The mission of the Nevada Public Health Training Center (NVPHTC) is to improve the competencies of aspiring and current public health professionals by researching, designing, implementing, and evaluating training programs which target prioritized educational and skill-based needs in the public health workforce. NVPHTC is part of the Western Region Public Health Training Center, which is a larger coalition of training centers in Arizona, California, Hawaii, and the Pacific Islands.

The Nevada Community Health Worker Association’s mission is to unify, strengthen, and grow the presence of a diverse, collaborative network of Community Health Workers and Community Health Worker employers in Nevada by providing advocacy, promotion, education, support, and professional development opportunities focused on increasing access to health care and social services, and improving community wellness.

Visión y Compromiso (VyC) is a non-profit organization in Oakland and Los Angeles, California. Established in 2000, VyC is a nationally respected organization dedicated to improving the health and well-being of underrepresented communities. Today, they are the only organization in California providing comprehensive and ongoing leadership development, capacity building, advocacy training, and support to over 4,000 Promotores and Community Health Workers.