



CLASP's Mental Health Advisory Board



Lashon Amado is the national coordinator of community action teams for Opportunity Youth United, a national grassroots movement of opportunity youth and their adult allies seeking to alleviate poverty in their community through civic engagement. After being "pushed out" of high school, Lashon received a second chance to get back on track by attending his local YouthBuild program. After completing the program, Lashon went on to receive his master's degree from Northeastern University. He is now an emerging social entrepreneur, with a vision to empower young people across the globe to be change agents in their community.

Lashon is also the founder of an international project, Projecto Mas Um Chance (Project One More Chance), an emerging social enterprise seeking to address the youth unemployment crisis in Cabo Verde.



Irán Barrera is an associate professor at Fresno State in the Department of Social Work. Dr. Barrera is also the Chair of the Cultural Competency Track for the Council of Social Work Education and newly elected NASW-CA region D Committee on Nominations and Leadership Identification. Dr. Barrera has extensive clinical experience working with minority communities in California and Texas.

Dr. Barrera has provided behavioral health services to these populations in the most poverty stricken and vulnerable which has provided him with great understanding of optimal practices that can best serve these communities. He has developed unique seminars, webinars and other educational materials that are described as "cutting edge" in its evaluation.



William Beardslee, M.D. is a research scientist at Judge Baker Children's Center and the Gardner Monks Professor of Child Psychiatry at Harvard Medical School. Dr. Beardslee has a longstanding research interest in the development of children at risk because of severe parental mental illness.

He developed Family Talk, a preventive intervention for families facing depression that received high rankings in the National Registry of Evidence-based Programs and Practices and has been used widely in this country and abroad. He served on three National Academy of Medicine committees recently, addressing mental illness prevention for children, youth, and families; parental depression; and interventions for young children. He co-chairs the National Academy of Medicine's forum on promoting children's cognitive and affective and behavioral health.



Clelie Choute, is a born and raised Detroit native. Born into a Caribbean family, she was raised with many diverse family-oriented values. She is a mother of 2 young children and mentors young women to empower them through their day-to day hardships and works to eliminate every day mental health disparities. Clelie is a graduate of the University of Michigan, a previously licensed social worker, a former executive account manager and worked as a loan underwriter for a large financial firm. Before leaving the corporate world in 2017, she battled her second encounter with post-partum depression and faced financial, medical and emotional struggles as a young single mother.

After undergoing proper treatment from caring healthcare professionals, she was able to regain control of her life. Through family support, social support, intervention and selfwill power Clelie was able to maintain her life and regain the path of living a well-balanced life. She has endured many obstacles and overcame an incredible amount of hurdles to become a voice for women. She now dedicates her life helping other young girls and women who don't have access to resources for post and pre-maternity care. As the founder of "Raw Uncut Woman", she has built wavelengths in social media for young women to be inspired by the average everyday woman. Her goal is to help more women, especially women of color, fight the statistics and systemic barriers impacting women access to pathways of SUCCESS.



Bowen Chung, MD, MSHS is an associate professor-in-residence in the department of psychiatry and biobehavioral sciences at the UCLA David Geffen School of Medicine. Dr. Chung is currently an attending child and adolescent psychiatrist for the Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health at Harbor – UCLA Medical Center in Torrance, CA. His research has focused on studying approaches for the financing and delivery of health services to improve health outcomes for adult chronic diseases such as depression in partnership with under-resourced, minority communities. Dr. Chung's research has focused on studying approaches for the financing and delivery of health services to improve health outcomes for adult partnership with under-resourced, minority communities. He was a member of the data committee, and as the prinicpal investigator of a Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute Demonstration focused on evaluating depression quality improvement approaches to improve depressive symptoms for racial / ethnic minority lesbian, gay, and bisexual patients.



Donna Cohen Ross is a senior advisor at the Center for the Study of Social Policy (CSSP) in Washington, D.C. She leads work focused on designing and promoting strategies to optimize how Medicaid can be used to help finance new ways of delivering pediatric care and other critical services for young children and their families. Donna has devoted her career to reducing poverty and improving access to public benefits for children and families through policy, advocacy and outreach. Before joining CSSP, Donna was a principal at Health Management Associates where she consulted with states, local governments and nonprofit organizations on opportunities to secure Medicaid support for maternal and child home visiting, early literacy, school nursing, and community health worker programs.

From 2010 to 2016, Donna served as a senior policy advisor and director of enrollment initiatives in the Center for Medicaid and CHIP Services at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. She directed the first-ever federal campaign to enroll eligible children and parents in Medicaid and CHIP, and also crafted ground-breaking guidance on Medicaid coverage for maternal depression screening conducted during pediatric visits. Prior to her federal service, Donna directed the outreach division at the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities.



Nathaniel Z Counts, is the associate vice president of policy for Mental Health America, where he works on innovative federal and state policy solutions for problems in behavioral health. In particular, he focuses on issues in incentive alignment and sustainable financing in behavioral health care, as well as issues in population health. Nathaniel is an expert member of the Forum on Promoting Children's Wellbeing at the National Academies of Science, Engineering, and Medicine, and he serves on the board of directors for the One Circle Foundation, The Anne Frank House, and the National Prevention Science Coalition.

Nathaniel received his J.D. cum laude from Harvard Law School, where he was a Petrie-Flom Center for Health Law Policy Student Fellow, and his B.A. in biology from Johns Hopkins. His most recent publication was "Expected value-based payment: from total cost of care to net present value of care" in *Healthcare: The Journal of Delivery Science and Innovation*.



Caitlin Cross-Barnet had a twelve-year career as an English teacher before returning to graduate school to earn a PhD in sociology. She graduated from Johns Hopkins in 2010, worked briefly as a professor, then joined the research and rapid-cycle evaluation group at Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation in 2012. At CMMI, among other endeavors, she led the evaluation for Strong Start, a prenatal care initiative, and leads current evaluation efforts for the Integrated Care for Kids (InCK) and Maternal Opioid Misuse (MOM) models. She is particularly interested in mixed methods evaluation.

Dr. Cross-Barnet's research has been published in *Maternal and Child Health Journal, Family Relations, Women's Health Issues, Health Affairs,* and *Health Services Research*, among others. She is passionate about social inequality and social determinants of health; health equity; and evidence-based, patient-centered care. She has three young-adult children and lives in Baltimore City with her husband and adopted pit bulls.



Kelly Davis, is the director of peer advocacy, supports, and services at Mental Health America. Kelly's lived experience with mental health diagnoses and trauma are at the center of her passion for transforming how we support individuals and change systems and services. In her current role, she is involved in promoting peer support, peer certification, youth and young adult leadership, and college mental health.

She is passionate about trauma-informed care, peer support, consumer-led transformation, positive psychology, and civil rights. She has spoken at many events, including The White House Making Health Care Better Series on Mental Health, and has been featured in media outlets including NBC Nightly News, The Mighty, Thrive Global, Yes! Magazine, and Mashable.



Angela Diaz, MD, PhD, MPH is the Jean C. and James W. Crystal professor in the department of pediatrics and department of environmental medicine and public health at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai. After earning her medical degree at Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons, she completed a master's in public health from Harvard University and a PhD in epidemiology from Columbia University.

Dr. Diaz is director of the Mount Sinai Adolescent Health Center, a unique program that provides comprehensive, interdisciplinary, integrated, medical care, sexual and reproductive health, mental health, dental and optical services to young people. Under her leadership, the Center has become one of the largest adolescent-specific health center in the U.S., serving more than 13,000 young people free of charge every year. The Mount Sinai Adolescent Health Center is a major training site in the field of adolescent health and medicine, with research funded by NIH.



Larke Nahme Huang, Ph.D., a licensed clinical-community psychologist, is director of the office of behavioral health equity at the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration. She is also a senior advisor in the office of policy planning and innovation, where she leads policy work on trauma, children, youth and families, and policy initiatives at the interface of behavioral health and criminal and juvenile justice. She has worked across multiple sectors, including behavioral health, education, primary care, and criminal and juvenile justice.

She has developed federal policy documents with the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services addressing behavioral health service delivery and financing for mental health and substance use prevention and treatment; developed policy and programs based on research connecting trauma and health/behavioral health disorders; and crafted policies to reduce disparities in access to quality care.



Tammy Mann has been involved in work at the national, state and local levels for the past 25 years focused on addressing the needs of children and families, especially those living in economic and socially challenged environments. A practitioner at heart, Dr. Mann has had a longstanding interest in effectively translating research to practice. Prior to her work at The Campagna Center, she served as executive director of the Frederick Patterson Research Institute and as deputy executive director at ZERO TO THREE.

Dr. Mann has played an active role in the the field of early childhood development through numerous service and professional endeavors. She has served on numerous national committees and authored articles and books on issues that address the emotional well-being of young children and the role of culture in development.



Brianne Masselli, (YMN) is director of technical assistance and evaluation for Youth M.O.V.E. National. Ms. Masselli serves as a lead for children's mental health Initiatives, coordinates technical assistance to providers, organizations and communities seeking to become youth guided and trauma informed in order to better serve the needs of family and youth who are experiencing challenges with behavioral and emotional health issues.

In her current role Ms. Masselli serves as an expert in youth engagement, youth peer support, youth voice in evaluation, and policy. Additional roles include the provision of technical assistance, curriculum development, quality improvement and facilitation of local and national trainings Ms. Masselli is a key member of the national CMHI leadership team for the design and implementation of national evaluation protocols, serves as trauma survivor and content expert on the development of trauma informed curricula, organizational change and self- care.



Aisha Mays, MD is a family physician who focuses on Adolescent Medicine. Dr. Mays is an assistant clinical professor at the UC Berkeley/UCSF joint medical program, clinical researcher with the University of California at San Francisco's Advancing New Standards in Reproductive Health (ANSIRH). She is also medical director of the Dream Youth Clinic in Oakland, California. Dr. Mays' work centers on adolescent reproductive health care and the health risks associated with childhood commercial sexual exploitation.

She is currently the principal investigator of a study to create a CSEC informed and inclusive sexual and reproductive health education program. Dr. Mays is also co-onvestigator on the HeR study to assess young women's choices to choose or forgo contraception.

She received her bachelor's in biology from Clark Atlanta University and her MD from Case Western Reserve University. Dr.Mays completed her family medicine training at the residency program in family and social medicine at Montefiore Medical Center.



Jeanne Miranda is professor of psychiatry and biobehavioral sciences at UCLA, a clinical psychologist, and an expert in depression treatment and preventive interventions for minority and low-income populations. Dr. Miranda is an expert in the area of prevention and treatment, particularly depression care for underserved groups. Her career has focused on bringing mental health care interventions to low-income and minority communities.

Dr. Miranda's intervention work has spanned mental health, primary care, and community settings. She has led several major studies of treatment in primary health care settings and community-engaged care. In the past few years, she has become much more involved in the field of substance use prevention.



Lena O'Rourke is founder and Principal at O'Rourke Health Policy Strategies. She is an experienced health care advocate and strategies with an emphasis on issues that impact vulnerable populationsHer work specializes in legislative and regulatory strategy and she has extensive experience in building and maintaining coalitions, particularly those that bring together strange bedfellows to further legislative goals.

Lena spent over a decade at Families USA where she was the co-director of government affairs. She directed their legislative campaigns during federal health care reform and worked closely with key health staff in the Obama Administration and in the U.S. House and the Senate. She successfully ran a broad coalition of disparate organizations dedicated to achieving affordable and high-quality care.



Cara Page is a Black feminist queer cultural/memory worker, curator, and organizer for the past 20 plus years through her movement building and cultural work in the reproductive & racial justice, transformative justice and LGBTQI liberation movements. She is the former executive director of the Audre Lorde Project, an organizing center for, by, and about lesbian/gay/bisexual/two spirit, transgender, & gender non-conforming people of color in New York City. She is also the co-founder of the Kindred Southern Healing Justice Collective, a southeastern network of healers, health practitioners, and organizers responding to and intervening on incidences of violence & generational trauma.

She is a recent recipient of the Soros Equality Fellowship (2019-2021) and former Barnard Center for Research on Women activist-in-eesidence fellow (2016-2018) for her body of work and curation of public discourse and installations on policing, surveillance, and experimentation in the medical industrial complex, seeking to transform and interrupt medical violence and exploitation of Black/people of color as well as Indigenous, migrant, and LGBTQI communities as an extension of colonialism and state violence.



Kimá Joy Taylor, MD, MPH, is the Managing Principal of Anka Consulting, a health care consulting firm. She most recently served as the National Drug Addiction Treatment and Harm Reduction Program Director at the Open Society Foundations. She oversaw grantmaking that supported education, advocacy, systems reform and innovation to expand access to a full continuum of integrated, evidence informed and culturally effective substance use disorder services and supported programming that developed non-punitive public health not criminal justice responses for people with substance use disorders.

Prior to joining the Open Society Foundations, Taylor served as Deputy Commissioner for the Baltimore City Health Department where she created more cohesive and integrated public health services for citizens at risk. Before Baltimore, she served as the health and social policy legislative assistant for Senator Sarbanes, with issue areas including Social Security, TANF, pharmaceuticals, Medicare, Medicaid, and other health care policy and women's issues.