

MARCH 28, 2023



Accessing Resources that Address
Social Determinants of Health
A Continuing Education Webinar

Bio Sketches of Webinar Presenters and Panelist

Health Data Overview

David Mann, M.D., PH.D., Epidemiologist

Pronouns: he, him, his

Presenter

Dr. David A Mann is the Epidemiologist at the Office of Minority Health and Health Disparities (MHHD) in the Maryland Department of Health, at 75% FTE. His other 25% FTE is spent as an Instructor in the Department of Epidemiology and Public Health at the University of Medicine School of Medicine. Dr. Mann received his BA in Biology from The Johns Hopkins University in 1978, his MD from Harvard Medical School in 1982, and his PhD in Epidemiology from the University of Maryland, Baltimore in 2007. Before coming to Maryland for epidemiology and public health training in 1998, Dr. Mann practiced primary care medicine in the greater Boston area for 14 years. At DHMH Dr. Mann was a co-author of the Maryland Plan to Eliminate Minority Health Disparities, released in 2006 by MHHD; and principal author of the Maryland Chartbook of Minority Health and Minority Health Disparities Data, released in 2007, 2009 (2nd Edition) and 2012 (3rd edition) by MHHD. He has been an invited speaker on health disparities data at several venues. At DEPH in UMB SOM, Dr. Mann is the faculty co-leader of the Departmental Journal Club, participates in the Department's epidemiology teaching for medical students, and teaches the summer course in Chronic Disease Epidemiology for graduate students.

Panel: Cultural Diversity and Competency in Patient Encounters

Mark Martin, PH.D., MBA, Director

Panelist

Dr. Mark Martin currently serves as the Director for the Office of Minority Health and Health Disparities for the State of Maryland. He has a passion for improving patient-centered care and for strengthening the continuum of care in communities through public and private

partnerships. Dr. Martin brings over 25 years of combined professional experience in public health, hospital operations, financial services, and community and faith-based organizations.

In addition to earning a PhD in Leadership and Change from Antioch University where his seminal research focused on the role of servant leadership characteristics in developing an environment of empathic care in a primary care setting, Dr. Martin has earned an MBA and MHA from Pfeiffer University and an MA in Leadership from Antioch University. His combined academic and professional experience continues to fuel Dr. Martin's efforts to research and develop innovations to improve patient-centered care and the patient experience.

Elizabeth Chung, MS

Pronouns: she, her, hers

Panelist

Mrs. Elizabeth Chung is a native of Hong Kong, China and immigrated to the United States since 1970. She has been a strong advocate for minority health for the past 45 years. Mrs. Chung completed her graduate study in public health from the Pennsylvania State University in 1981 and has dedicated her professional work to issues surrounding health equity since then. She has been a founding member of four community-based agencies since the early 1990's. Currently, she is the founder and Executive Director of the Asian American Center of Frederick (AACF), whose mission is to support immigrants with essential skills to be independent and successful contributors to the community. Under her leadership, AACF is a leading entity in addressing health disparities through partnership with collective impact. Her primary focus has been health equity through cultural competency and language access for the Limited English Proficiency population. Mrs. Chung has served on a variety of advisory committees, boards, and commissions in various capacities with the Health Services Cost Review Commission, Maryland Health Benefit Exchange and multiple others. Through her volunteerism and active public service, Mrs. Chung has received numerous awards, including the Jefferson Award – Ohio; Friends of Foreign Language – Maryland Association of Foreign Languages; and many more within Frederick County, Maryland and Washington D.C. In 2020, Mrs. Chung was a national recipient of the New York Life Foundation – Love Takes Action Award. Most recently, Mrs. Chung developed the Community Health Worker Program in western Maryland, expanding the public / community health workforce development to address health disparities for the most vulnerable populations in the community. Ms. Chung has devoted half to her career to volunteerism promoting social justice and improvement of the lives of immigrants.

Kerry Hawk Lessard, MAA, Medical Anthropologist

Panelist

Kerry Hawk-Lessard, a descendant of the Shawnee tribe, is an applied medical anthropologist working in Urban American Indian Health. While an undergraduate at Florida Atlantic University, Kerry completed fieldwork with HIV+ Haitian immigrants living in South Florida. It

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was in the course of this work that she became aware of the importance of culture, both in the ways it shapes our understanding of health and wellness, but also how deeply held beliefs impact decision making and behavior. Ms. Lessard currently serves as the executive director of Native American Lifelines, a Baltimore-based Urban Indian Health Program that serves Urban Indian Americans and Alaska Natives in the Mid-Atlantic and Northeast regions of the United States. The organization focuses on the "health and well-being of native people" who often have to deal with "the way we've been disenfranchised from Indian culture." Kerry and her team work to educate, support, empower, and protect Native Youth. Applying decolonization theory and engaging culturally informed practices such as talking circles, traditional arts, and indigenous foodways, Native American Lifelines seeks always to honor and strengthen cultural identity, thereby building resiliency and creating opportunities for better health outcomes. Kerry's vision remains guided by words attributed to Tecumseh, a great leader from her tribe: "A single twig breaks, but the bundle of twigs is strong." Above all else, it is Lifelines' desire to grow a strong bundle.

Lucia Zegarra, B.S., Biology

Pronouns: she, her, her

Panelist

Ms. Zegarra, born in Peru, earned an International Baccalaureate degree from the German Peruvian School, Alexander Von Humboldt and advanced her education in the United States earning a baccalaureate degree in Biology at the University of Maryland, Baltimore County. Ms. Zegarra has held a broad range of positions wherein she focused on improving community health through educating, mentoring, and counseling. Her roles include but are not limited to Community Health Programs Director, Health Coach, and Rehabilitation Counselor. She is also certified by the Maryland Department of Health as a community health worker and a certified Health Minister from Wesley Theological Seminary in Washington D.C. Ms. Zegarra's multilingual abilities have allowed her to use her language skills to assist limited English proficiency populations. Her understanding of the complexities of behavior helped her to successfully manage Montgomery County's first Food is Medicine program for food insecure patients with type 2 diabetes. Her passion to serve communities, especially those most at risk for social injustice and health inequality, led her to managing covid-19 vaccination clinics in underserved areas in Montgomery and Prince George's County. Currently, she serves as the Community Impact Director in the Greater Washington Region for the American Heart Association. Her role focuses on improving health outcomes in diverse communities by developing and implementing strategies to prevent or manage cardiovascular disease, hypertension and stroke.

Ms. Zegarra finds time to serve on several boards and councils such as Community FarmShare board of directors, the Montgomery County Food Council Alumni Circle, and the Latin American Advisory Group to the Montgomery County Executive among others. She has offered many

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presentations and publications addressing the needs of vulnerable populations such as food insecurity, social and mental health dilemmas among teens, and promotion of upward mobility strategies among Latin populations. Ms. Zegarra has shared her expertise in many trainings including but not limited to topics addressing community health worker training, diabetes, and mental health.

D Magrini, Director, External Training

Pronouns: she, her, hers

Panelist

D. Magrini is proud to call Whitman-Walker her work home. Whitman-Walker provides the type of health care that not only offers healing for the body but healing and care for the spirit. My time at the health center has allowed me to connect directly with clients during my time in the Community Health department, demonstrating daily, what true patient centered care looks like. In my current position, I have the opportunity, to share tools with medical professionals and their staff to successfully engage the LGBTQ community, through cultural competency trainings and technical assistance.

Benjamin Brooks, J.D., M.P.H.

Pronouns: he, him, his

Panelist

Mr. Benjamin Brooks works with Whitman-Walker because of his passion for bringing quality healthcare to the LGBTQ community. He believes that inequality in our health is a reflection of the inequity in our society. He works with Whitman-Walker researchers and providers to respond to potential challenges and opportunities that arise from changes in the law.

Before joining Whitman-Walker, he worked training providers in LGBT cultural competencies and providing technical assistance and capacity building to HIV providers across the country. Mr. Brooks graduated from Northeastern University with a law degree and Tufts University School of Medicine with a master's degree in public health in 2016. His undergraduate studies earned him a Bachelor of Science in Biochemistry and Bachelor of Arts in Sociology from Berry College in Rome, Georgia

Medical-Legal Partnerships - Strategies to Overcome Barriers to Care

Mallory Legg, Esquire

Pronouns: she, her, hers

Presenter

Mallory Finn Legg is the director of Project Heal (Health, Education, Advocacy and Law) community-based program of the Maryland Center for Developmental Disabilities (MCDD) at Kennedy Krieger Institute. Project HEAL is Maryland's only comprehensive medical-legal

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partnership, which provides advocacy and civil legal services for low- and moderate-income children with disabilities who receive clinical services at Kennedy Krieger. Ms. Legg earned a bachelor's degree in sociology from the University of Delaware and a Juris Doctor at the University of Maryland Francis King Carey School of Law. She interned at Project HEAL during her second and third years of law school and started as a staff attorney in August 2014. Mallory is on the development committee and is a co-chair of the membership committee for the Council of Parent Attorneys and Advocates. In April 2015, Mallory received an award for dedication to her law school's public interest organization, the Maryland Public Interest Law Project. Mallory received *The Daily Record's* Leading Women Award in December 2017 and the Association of University Centers on Disabilities (AUCD) Young Professional Award in November 2017. Mallory served on the board of directors of the Collaborative Project of Maryland from 2016-2019.

Maureen van Stone, Esquire
Pronouns: she, her, hers

Presenter

Maureen van Stone is the director of the Maryland Center for Developmental Disabilities (MCDD) at Kennedy Krieger Institute and the founder of Project HEAL (Health, Education, Advocacy, and Law), a MCDD community-based program. Maureen is an associate in the department of mental health at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health and affiliate faculty in the Wendy Klag Center for Autism and Developmental Disabilities. Maureen serves on Kennedy Krieger's ethics program. Maureen is appointed to the Maryland Developmental Disabilities Council and the immediate past-chair of the Council of Parent Attorneys and Advocates, Inc.

Maureen earned a bachelor's degree in psychology at the University of Southern California, a master's degree in developmental psychology at The Johns Hopkins University, and a Juris Doctor at Whittier Law School, with a concentration on children's legal issues. Prior to law school, Maureen worked as a clinician on the Neurobehavioral Unit in the Department of Behavioral Psychology at Kennedy Krieger for six years.

State Resources:

Edward Soffe, LCSW-C
Pronouns: he, him, his

Presenter – 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline

Mr. Edward Soffe is a Program Coordinator within the office of Early Intervention and Wellness Services for the Behavioral Health Administration. He is responsible for Screening, Brief Intervention, & Referral to Treatment (SBIRT) initiatives and is also the agency lead for both the state crisis services hotline (211 Press 1), and most recently, efforts related to 988. Ed works

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closely with statewide behavioral health leaders and stakeholders in the development of both our statewide crisis hotline system and now our support of 988 initiatives. Currently, he supervises a team of two full-time employees and manages multiple federal and state program budgets.

Prior to his work with the Behavioral Health Administration, he was the Director of the Catoctin Summit Adolescent Program (Washington County Maryland Health Department). His background also includes serving as a Regional Social Work Supervisor (Maryland Department of Juvenile Services), as a Social Work Supervisor (Washington County Maryland Department of Social Services), and as the Director of the Shoemaker Center men's program (Carroll County Maryland Health Department).

Ed is a retired law enforcement officer. He attended the Montgomery County Maryland Police Academy and served as a sworn police officer for that agency. He later became a certified police officer in Pennsylvania and worked on a part-time basis with the Mercersburg Police Department and the Washington Township Police Department.

Mr. Soffe graduated from the University of Maryland at Baltimore School of Social Work in 1999 with a Master's degree in Social Work and from Wake Forest University in 2005 with a Master's degree in Business Administration. He received his Bachelor of Science degree in 1996 from Towson University and is currently licensed as a Clinical Social Worker in Maryland. In addition to his full-time with BHA, he provides outpatient psychotherapy services on a part-time basis at his private practice location in Hagerstown, MD.

Quentin Askew

Pronouns: he, him, his

Presenter – 211 Maryland

Quinton Askew has spent the past 15 years in executive leadership positions with nonprofits and state and local governments. He is currently president/CEO of 211Maryland. During his time as a director with the government of Howard County, Maryland, he oversaw the strategic planning and implementation for the first co-location of fourteen human service agencies in Howard County that provided overall coordination of strategic community initiatives to reduce poverty and promote individual and family self-sufficiency. Quinton is also a National Trainer for aha! Process; an award-winning training and publishing company providing workshops, publications, and consulting services to help improve lives and build sustainable success in communities, schools, and higher education.

Quinton is also the founder of Conscious Minds Foundation, a community-based training and mentoring program whose mission is to strengthen families, improve youth outcomes, and engage the community. Quinton grew up in the city of Baltimore and has worked in nonprofit, government, and correctional institutions, giving him a keen understanding of growing up in an

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underserved, under-resourced community, navigating systems, as well as engaging community members from all demographics and economic backgrounds.

Andrea Lavine, LMSW, NRP

Presenter – Medical Transportation

Andrea Lavine joined the Maryland Department of Health (MDH) in 2016 after a 24-year dual career as a licensed master social worker (LMSW) and Nationally Registered Paramedic. She is currently a health policy analyst for the Medicaid Administration. As part of the MDH Office of Long Term Services and Supports, Andrea jointly oversees the administration of the state-wide Maryland Medicaid Non-Emergency Medical Transportation (NEMT) Program. In her role, Andrea is responsible for compliance with and updates to programmatic policy, guidance and procedures that ensure transportation services to eligible and qualified Medicaid participants.

Today, Andrea combines her social work and critical care paramedic skills with her analytical and writing skills to impact community wellness at a macro level. To that end, she acts as a liaison between diverse stakeholder groups working to lessen gaps that exist between regulation and procedure and the citizens we serve. Andrea is known to create order out of chaos, motivate resolution of difficult situations and facilitate change.

Andrea has a passion for improving the health and wellbeing of Maryland residents by improving access to healthcare, increasing understanding of health wellness and disease prevention and empowering families and patients to be active participants in their care team.

Andrea received her Master's degree in Maternal and Child Health from the University of Maryland School of Social Work and holds a bachelor's degree from Notre Dame of Maryland University with a dual major of religious studies and psychology. Andrea is a certified instructor through the Maryland Fire and Rescue Institute, remains a National Registered Paramedic (NRP) and formerly practiced EMS as a Critical Care Paramedic CCEMT-P.

Andrea is a dedicated volunteer throughout the community, including with her local volunteer fire company. When not volunteering, she finds great pleasure reading to and playing with her five grandchildren.

Kirsten Robb-McGrath

Pronouns: she, her, hers

Presenter – Disabilities

Ms. Robb-McGrath serves as the Director of Health and Behavioral Health Policy within the Maryland Department of Disabilities, where she is charged with coordinating and improving the delivery of health and behavioral health services to individuals with disabilities in the state of Maryland. Through collaboration and advocacy, reviewing legislation, and identifying best practices the Department ensures equality of opportunity, access, and choice for Marylanders with disabilities.

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Prior to joining the state Ms. Robb-McGrath spent five years working as an independent living specialist at a Center for Independent Living. During that time she worked with individuals with disabilities acquire, maintain, or increase their independence. Teaching independent living skills, individual and systems advocacy, and providing benefits counseling helped her to better understand Maryland's public health system which has informed her work today. Ms. Robb McGrath has served as a member on a variety of Maryland committees focused on behavioral health, nursing facility and assisted living quality of care, trauma informed care, health equity, and disability inclusion. The Department of Disabilities is committed to the promise of a Maryland in which all people with disabilities have the knowledge and influence to make a difference in their lives and the lives of others.

Social Care Technology Resource

Colton Naval, MSc., Environmental and International Development

Pronouns: he, him, his

Presenter – findhelp.org

Mr. Naval is a results-focused professional engagement specialist dedicated to enhancing programs that advance positive outcomes for people and the planet. He has been with findhelp.org for 1.5 years performing project and relationship management. Mr. Naval actively manages a portfolio of 30+ private, public and non-profit sector customers, and supports the development and implementation of community engagement strategies for health and social care providers. He has managed the implementation of 40+ projects totaling more than \$1 million (USD) across operations, communications, and project management work streams. In the performance of his duties at findhelp.org, Mr. Naval has developed expert skills in maintaining relationships with a variety of internal and external stakeholders. He uses these skills to provide program coordination and project management to support community partners across the District of Columbia, Kentucky, Maryland, and Virginia. He assists these partners to leverage the free tools available on the findhelp.org social care platform and connect people in need with programs that serve them with dignity and ease. Prior to joining findhelp.org, he worked at Pew Charitable Trust as a research coordinator.

Mr. Naval is also a sustainable development practitioner. Prior to joining findhelp.org, as a United-Kingdom/United States Fulbright Scholar, he earned an MSc Environmental and International Development Degree at the University of East Anglia in Norwich, United Kingdom. This educational preparation allowed him opportunities with sustainable development efforts at the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (Phnom Penh, Cambodia), the National Wildlife Federation, and the World Resources Institute.