

SECOND ANNUAL COLLOQUIUM ON POPULATION HEALTH AND HEALTH EQUITY: IMMIGRANT HEALTH

STEERING COMMITTEE & SPEAKERS



Kirsten Bibbins-Domingo, PhD, MD, MAS is the Lee Goldman, MD Endowed Chair in Medicine, Professor and Chair of the Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics, and Professor of Medicine at the University of California, San Francisco. She is the inaugural Vice Dean for Population Health and Health Equity in the UCSF School of Medicine. She co-founded the UCSF Center for Vulnerable Populations at Zuckerberg San Francisco General Hospital, a research center focused on discovery, implementation, policy, advocacy, and community engagement for communities at risk for poor health and inadequate healthcare. She is one of the Principal Investigators for the UCSF Clinical and Translational Sciences Institute. Dr. Bibbins-Domingo is a general internist and cardiovascular

epidemiologist who uses observational epidemiology, pragmatic trials, and simulation modeling to examine the impact of clinical and public health approaches to cardiovascular disease prevention in the US, in US population subgroups, and in other countries globally. She is an expert in prevention and previously served on the US Preventive Services Task Force as a member (2010-2017) and as vice chair and chair (2014-2017). She is an inducted member of the American Society for Clinical Investigation, the Association of American Physicians, and the National Academy of Medicine.



Claire D. Brindis, Dr. P.H. is Professor of Pediatrics and Health Policy, Department of Pediatrics and the Department of Obstetrics, Gynecology and Reproductive Health Sciences at the University of California, San Francisco (UCSF). She is also Director of the Philip R. Lee Institute for Health Policy Studies (IHPS) at UCSF and Co-Director of the Adolescent and Young Adult Health National Resource Center. She is also a Founding Director of the Bixby Center for Global Reproductive Health in the Department of Obstetrics, Gynecology and Reproductive Sciences and IHPS, UCSF. Incorporating a variety of quantitative and qualitative methodologies, as well as community participatory research, Dr. Brindis' research focuses on program evaluation and the translation of research into policy at the local, state, and national

level. As a bilingual, bi-cultural researcher, Dr. Brindis' research and personal commitment focuses on ameliorating the impact of social, health, and economic disparities among ethnic/racial populations, with a particular focus on women, young adults, and adolescents and reproductive health.



Jessica Davidman, MPH has 10 years of experience in non-profit and governmental healthcare and social service program administration in Oakland and Los Angeles. She attended San Francisco State University for her BS in Health Education (with an emphasis in Holistic Health), where her commitment to improving health through social justice, was born. After receiving her MPH in Community Health Science at University of California, Los Angeles, she returned home, to the Bay Area, to apply her skills acquired through diverse experiences in the community and academic settings.



Lariza Dugan-Cuadra, BA is a passionate, creative and effective immigrant rights advocate, working to achieve safe, healthy, welcoming and equitable communities. As Executive Director, Lariza continues to build on CARECEN's 33-year commitment and mission of responding to the needs and aspirations of the Central American diaspora and greater Latino community. CARECEN's core areas of focus include excellence in social service programs; advocacy for immigrant rights, restorative justice and Latino health; and a transnational vision for Latinos to thrive in the U.S. and in countries of origin. She has a BA in Humanities with an emphasis in Community Development and a Minor in La Raza Studies. She attended City College of San Francisco, San Francisco State University, and New College of California.



Alicia Fernández, MD is Professor of Medicine at the University of California, San Francisco and a practicing general internist at Zuckerberg San Francisco General Hospital. Her research focuses on the treatment of chronic disease in vulnerable populations, with an emphasis on diabetes and the role of language and cultural barriers in healthcare. Dr. Fernández leads the Latinx and Immigrant Health program at the UCSF Center for Vulnerable Populations and directs the newly established UCSF Latinx Center of Excellence. She is a member of the UCSF Academy of Medical Educators, a recipient of the Arnold P. Gold Foundation Professorship Award in Medical Humanism, a Fellow of the American College of Physicians, and has served on the Council of the Society of General Internal Medicine. Dr. Fernández is a member of the Board of Governors of the Patient Centered Outcomes Research Institute. She received a BA from Yale and her MD from the Albert Einstein College of Medicine and completed her medical training at UCSF.



Jessica Fields, BA is a Research Program Manager at the Center for Vulnerable Populations (CVP) and has been with CVP since 2016. Jessica works with CVP faculty Dr. Kirsten Bibbins-Domingo in her role as the Vice Dean for Population Health and Health Equity, helping create a structure to foster collaboration and greater visibility for health equity work across UCSF. Jessica also works with CVP faculty Dr. Courtney Lyles to coordinate community-based research on health information technology and accessibility to vulnerable populations. From 2017-2018 Jessica managed the Research in Implementation Science for Equity (RISE) program, an NIH-funded training and mentoring program for junior faculty underrepresented in the biomedical sciences. Jessica graduated with honors from Brown University in 2014 with a bachelor's degree in Health and Human Biology. In addition to her interest in health equity, she has extensive experience in science education and communication, through teaching and curriculum development at various levels. Before joining CVP, she worked as a teacher at a bilingual public high school in Madrid, Spain through the Fulbright Program.



Alice Fishman, MSc is a Senior Program Manager in the Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics working primarily on population health and health equity initiatives. Her UCSF experience includes department management, project management for campus-wide initiatives, and evaluation and process improvement. Ms. Fishman received her Masters of Science in Health Policy and Management from Harvard University School of Public Health and her undergraduate degree in Sociology from UC Santa Cruz.



Estela García, DMH, a second generation Chicana and the daughter of farm workers, is currently the Executive Director of Instituto Familiar de la Raza, Inc. (IFR). Dr. García has over 30 years of progressive leadership experience in a community-based behavioral health and social service organization. She has been recognized as a leader in advocating for and participating in public policy planning processes in mental health, HIV, and social services to improve access and promote healthy communities. Dr. García's role in the development of prevention, promotion, early intervention and direct services for vulnerable populations including people living with HIV, immigrants, LGBT community, substance users, women, youth, victims of domestic violence, and individuals with chronic mental illness, has been

recognized by different groups and organizations. Dr. García provides leadership in community-based collaborations in San Francisco to improve the social and emotional health, wellness and quality of life for the Latino community in San Francisco.



Raul Gutierrez, MD, MPH is a native of the South Texas border town of Brownsville. Growing up in this binational, bicultural, bilingual area of the country not only helped define him as a person, but also laid the foundation for his career in immigrant health. He graduated from the University of Michigan School of Medicine and did his residency training in the Pediatric Leadership for the UnderServed (PLUS) program at the University of California, San Francisco (UCSF). Before working at the Zuckerberg San Francisco General (ZSFG) Hospital, he served as lead clinician for La Clinica de la Raza's School Based Health Centers in Oakland, CA. There, he developed guidelines for intentional and thoughtful healthcare for immigrant students within the school based clinic setting. He is the co-founder and

co-director of the ZSFG BRIDGES clinic, a multidisciplinary team committed to a holistic and community supported approach to wellness among recently immigrated children and their families. He also on the steering committee and co-founder of the newly formed Center for Child Immigrant Health and Wellbeing through the Benioff Children's Hospitals. He is currently the co-chair of the Council on Immigrant Child and Family Health for the American Academy of Pediatrics. From translating for patients at a free clinic at Stanford University, to working with migrant farmworkers in Michigan, and now advocating for asylum seeking families in the Bay Area he has made a commitment to serving resilient communities who deserve to be seen. He has always found inspiration in his abuela's journey and carries her strength as an immigrant woman with him daily.



Sandra R. Hernández, MD is president and CEO of the California Health Care Foundation. The Foundation is an independent nonprofit philanthropy, which works to improve the complex health care system so that it works for all Californians. It is especially focused on improving access to — and quality of — care for Californians with low-incomes. In 2018, Sandra was appointed by Governor Jerry Brown to the Covered California board of directors. She also serves on the UC Regents Health Services Committee, which provides strategic direction and oversight for all of the UC's health professions schools, academic health centers, health systems, non-hospital clinics and student health centers.



Robert A. Hiatt, MD, PhD is Professor of Epidemiology and Biostatistics at UCSF and also the Associate Director of Population Sciences for the Helen Diller Family Comprehensive Cancer Center. He was the first deputy director of the National Cancer Institute's Division of Cancer Control and Population Sciences (1998-2003), where, among other things, he oversaw the extramural cancer epidemiology, health services research, and surveillance programs. He has been the Director of Population Sciences at the HDFCCC since 2003 and served as Chair of Epidemiology & Biostatistics from 2006-2017. He is a past president of the American College of Epidemiology and the American Society of Preventive Oncology. He has a demonstrated record in breast cancer, health disparities, environmental health

research, global health science, and in leading successful and productive large-scale, multi-component research projects. This includes the Bay Area Breast Cancer and the Environment Research Center, and now the BCERP Coordination Center for the last 12 years. He is strongly interested in the conduct of and training in transdisciplinary, team, and translational science.



Fatima Karaki, MD is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Medicine at the University of California, San Francisco. She is the founding director of the Refugee and Asylum seeker Health Initiative, an organization at UCSF that aims to foster academic activity and research in refugee health. She serves as founding member and board member of the North American Society of Refugee Health Providers (NASRHP), and is co-chair of the NASRHP research subcommittee. Her research focuses primarily on needs assessment and quality improvement in refugee healthcare, particularly in the context of the Syrian refugee crisis. She has extensive volunteer experience providing medical relief in refugee camps in the Middle East, Europe, and South Asia. Dr. Karaki works closely with the Newcomers Health

Program, which provides care to refugees and asylees through the San Francisco Department of Public Health. She is also a member of the steering committee reassessing the workflow of asylum evaluations in San Francisco. She is course director of a graduate level course at UCSF entitled Global Health and Conflict in the Middle East and North Africa: Refugees, Migration, and Human Rights Beyond Borders. Dr. Karaki earned her Bachelor of Science from the American University of Beirut, and her medical degree from the University of Michigan. She then completed her internship and residency in internal medicine at Washington University in St. Louis. She currently serves as a teaching attending and hospitalist at Zuckerberg San Francisco General Hospital.



Coleen Kivlahan, MD, MSPH serves as the Executive Medical Director for Primary Care Services at UCSF and Professor of Family and Community Medicine. She practices Family Medicine in the Laurel Village clinic site and is the faculty coordinator for the M1 elective in forensic medicolegal asylum documentation. She also served as the Senior Director of the Alternative Payment and Health Systems Innovation group at the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC), Washington D.C, as well as Chief Medical Officer (CMO) at Aetna, Inc. Medicaid program, and the CMO at both the University of Missouri health system and the Cook County Health System, Chicago. She has worked in public health settings, academic health centers, state and county government, and in multiple international

settings training on medical documentation of human rights violations, with a recent focus on the Middle East.



Dan Lowenstein, M.D. is the Executive Vice Chancellor and Provost, and the Robert B. and Ellinor Aird Professor and Vice-Chairman of Neurology at UCSF. He received his BA in Mathematics from the University of Colorado and MD from Harvard Medical School, and completed neurology residency training at UCSF. Dr. Lowenstein is a clinician-scientist who cares for patients and studies both basic science and clinical aspects of epilepsy, and he is actively involved in a wide variety of educational programs across the UCSF campus. He has been a strong advocate for diversity, equity and inclusion here at UCSF and more broadly for many years, has championed the historic accomplishments of “The Basement People” (see: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HlkuaFY1VRY>), and, in recognition of these

various activities, is the recipient of the UCSF Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Award, the Black Student Health Alliance Faculty Award, and the Chancellor Diversity Award for Disability Service. In recognition of his academic accomplishments and leadership in medicine, he has received many national and international awards, including election into the National Academy of Medicine.



Courtney Lyles, PhD is an Associate Professor in the UCSF Division of General Internal Medicine at Zuckerberg San Francisco General Hospital and the Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics. She is also a core faculty member of the UCSF Center for Vulnerable Populations and an Adjunct Associate Professor at the University of California, Berkeley School of Public Health. She is co-PI of the UCSF Population Health Data Initiative and an Associate Director of the UCSF program in Implementation Science, also based in the Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics. Dr. Lyles is a health services researcher who focuses most of her work on digital health interventions conducted in under-resourced healthcare settings. This includes developing new technologies, such as machine learning

algorithms and mobile apps, as well as broader efforts to spread and sustain evidence-based innovative solutions at a population level.



Sayoni Maitra, Esq. is a Staff Attorney at the Center for Gender and Refugee Studies (CGRS) at UC Hastings College of the Law. At CGRS, Sayoni develops practice advisories, provides technical assistance and trainings to attorneys, and engages in impact litigation on issues facing asylum seekers. Before joining CGRS, Sayoni worked at Sanctuary for Families as a Staff Attorney in the Immigration Intervention Project, where she represented survivors of gender-based violence and mentored pro bono lawyers in asylum matters. Sayoni first joined Sanctuary as an Equal Justice Works Fellow to advance protections for individuals facing child and forced marriage through representation in asylum and other humanitarian claims, community outreach, and legislative and policy advocacy. She has also interned

with the U.S. Executive Office for Immigration Review at the Newark Immigration Court and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) in Beirut, Lebanon. Sayoni received her B.S. in Foreign Service from Georgetown University and her J.D. from Columbia Law School.



Carolina Martin Ramos, Esq., Director of Programs & Advocacy at Centro Legal de la Raza in Oakland, CA is a human rights and immigration attorney with years of experience in nonprofit organizations, government, and private practice in California and New Mexico. Carolina is known as a fierce advocate for immigrants and recognized for her work with indigenous migrants and women including, transwomen fleeing gender violence. Prior to joining the leadership team at Centro Legal de la Raza, Carolina served as the Supervising Attorney with the American Bar Association (ABA) Immigration Justice Project (IJP) and the Director of the Victims of Crime Program at Casa Cornelia Law Center (CCLC) in the Kumeyaay Territory, San Diego - Tijuana Border Region. Carolina also managed an important

Human Trafficking Program funded by the U.S. Department of Justice that served noncitizen victims of human trafficking, served as an Asylum Officer with USCIS, RAO, and was a public defender attorney in New Mexico. Carolina's years of advocacy experience includes work with asylum seekers in the U.S., Tijuana, Mexico, and Guatemala. She is also proud of her participation in guerilla lawyering on the border, in detention centers, and with the Red Owl Legal Collective at the Standing Rock Sioux Nation. Carolina is a Mexican Mestiza with ancestry and kinship ties to indigenous peoples in Mexico and the U.S. and she is deeply committed to protecting and advancing the rights of migrants, international indigenous peoples, LGBTQTS, and low-income communities of color in the U.S. Centro Legal de la Raza is rooted in the Fruitvale District of Oakland, CA and serves resilient communities facing structural and systemic violence and inequity through providing free critical legal services and supporting diversity pipeline programs.



William Martinez, PhD is an Assistant Clinical Professor in the Department of Psychiatry at UCSF and Director of the Child and Adolescent Services clinic in the Division of Infant, Child, and Adolescent Psychiatry at Zuckerberg San Francisco General Hospital. He completed his doctoral training through DePaul University in Clinical-Child Psychology, an APA-accredited internship in the UCSF/ZSFG Multicultural Clinical Training Program, and a NIH-funded postdoctoral fellowship at UC Berkeley in the School of Public Health. He is faculty in two APA-accredited internship programs at UCSF/ZSFG - the Multicultural Clinical Training Program and the Clinical Psychology Training Program. Dr. Martinez is also a member of the steering committee for the newly launched UCSF Health and Human Rights

Initiative, a collaborative of UCSF departments, hospitals, and community partners whose primary goal is to increase the health and well-being of those seeking asylum in the United States. He is also a co-founder of the Bay Area Health and Legal Partnerships for Immigrant Families (BAHLI), a consortium of health and legal experts from Bay Area medical schools, law schools, legal agencies, and the SF Department of Public Health, who focus on policy and advocacy issues impacting Bay Area immigrant families, as well detention center conditions at the U.S.-Mexico border. Dr. Martinez's research program is concentrated on reducing behavioral health disparities among Latinx youth, with a specific focus on immigrant populations. Dr. Martinez takes a socio-ecological approach to understanding these concerns across three areas of inquiry: 1) the impact of social determinants on behavioral health disparities; 2) implementation and dissemination of evidence-based prevention and intervention programming for traumatic stress; and 3) policy and advocacy focused on improving conditions for juveniles in immigration court proceedings.



Tung Nguyen, MD is the Stephen J. McPhee, MD Endowed Chair in General Internal Medicine and Professor of Medicine at UCSF, where he provides primary care to a diverse patient population and teaches students, clinicians, and researchers. He is Director of the Asian American Research Center on Health (ARCH), Leader of the Cancer Control Program at the UCSF Helen Diller Family Comprehensive Cancer Center, and UCSF Dean's Diversity Leader for Research Diversity. Dr. Nguyen's research focuses on achieving health equity using community-based participatory research (CBPR) methods. He has led intervention research with Asian American populations on breast, cervical, and colorectal cancer screening as well as tobacco control, hepatitis B and C screening, nutrition and

physical activity, and end-of-life care. Dr. Nguyen was Chair of President Barack Obama's Advisory Commission on Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders from 2014 to 2017.



Zarin Noor, MD, MPH is a pediatrician at UCSF Benioff Children's Hospital Oakland Primary Care clinic. She is the Director of International Clinic within the Primary Care clinic, which provides a medical home for immigrant and refugee pediatric patients. Through her work at the clinic, she teaches and mentors residents and medical students. Dr. Noor has a US Civil Surgeon designation and provides medical exams for immigration purposes. She is part of a cross-bay team to develop a Center of Excellence in Immigrant Child Health and Wellbeing at UCSF Benioff Children's Hospitals. This Center will develop research, training, education, advocacy, and policy specific to the immigrant pediatric patients. Dr. Noor is on the steering committee for the new UCSF Health and Human Rights Initiative as well as

the UCSF Benioff Children's Hospital's Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee. She completed her Master's degree in Public Health at Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health with a focus on International Health and Humanitarian Health. Given her own experience as a refugee, she focused her thesis on the Afghan refugees living in Pakistan. She received her medical degree from Drexel University College of Medicine and completed her pediatric residency at Children's Hospital Oakland.



Liliana Osorio, MPH is the Deputy Director of the Health Initiative of the Americas (HIA), at the School of Public Health, University of California Berkeley. She has over 20 years of experience working on migration and health issues, engaging communities and collaborating with national and international institutions. Some of the programs she coordinates include the Annual Summer Institute on Migration and Global Health, Binational Health Week, the Research Program on Migration and Health (PIMSA), and the Binational Promotores Program. Liliana has also contributed in the development of several publications related to migration and health, and the "English - Spanish Dictionary of Health Related Terms."



Alberto Perez Rendon, MD, MPH is the director of Asociacion Mayab, a non-profit organization serving Maya speaking and other Indigenous and immigrant families in the Bay Area and beyond. Alberto is a co-founder of the organization and has been involved with it in different capacities since 2003. Alberto was born and raised in Mexico where he studied and practiced medicine before moving to California in 2001 to pursue a degree in public health at SFSU. Alberto has served in a number of organizations as staff or a volunteer including El Concilio of San Mateo County, Instituto Familiar de La Raza, the Central American Resource Center (CARECEN) and Asociacion Mayab. Alberto has worked in public and community health for the past 15 years in both the public and non-profit sectors mostly serving immigrant

families, homeless individuals and other linguistic and underserved populations. His experience ranges from direct service provision to program planning, program operations and organizational development. He is also a facilitator with the Latino Equity Project training Latino leaders in California in issues of racial, gender and otherwise equity in the Latinx community. Alberto's personal interests include drawing and dancing.



Eliseo J. Pérez-Stable, M.D. is Director of the National Institutes of Health's National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities (NIMHD), which seeks to advance the science of minority health and health disparities research through research, training, research capacity development, public education, and information dissemination. Dr. Pérez-Stable practiced general internal medicine for 37 years at the University of California, San Francisco (UCSF) before moving to NIH in September 2015. He was professor of medicine at UCSF and chief of the Division of General Internal Medicine for 17 years. His research interests include improving the health of racial and ethnic minorities and underserved populations, advancing patient-centered care, improving cross-cultural communication skills among

clinicians, and promoting diversity in the biomedical research workforce. For more than 30 years, Dr. Pérez-Stable led research on Latino smoking cessation and tobacco control policy in the United States and Latin America, addressing clinical and prevention issues in cancer screening, and mentoring over 70 minority investigators. He has published over 250 peer-reviewed articles and was elected to the National Academy of Medicine in 2001.



Karthick Ramakrishnan, PhD is professor of public policy and political science at the University of California, Riverside, and founding director of the Center for Social Innovation. He holds a BA in international relations from Brown University and a PhD in politics from Princeton.

Ramakrishnan is also a Board Member of The California Endowment, Chair of the California Commission on APIA Affairs, and Director of the Inland Empire Census Complete Count Committee. Ramakrishnan directs the National Asian American Survey and is founder of AAPIData.com, which publishes demographic data and policy research on Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders. He has published many articles and 6 books, including most recently, Framing

Immigrants (Russell Sage, 2016) and The New Immigration Federalism (Cambridge, 2015), and has written dozens of opeds and appeared in over 1,000 news stories. He was recently named to the Frederick Douglass 200 and is currently writing a book on state citizenship in the United States. He is also on the National Advisory Committee for Policies For Action (RWJF), and he previously served on the National Academies of Sciences consensus panel on immigrant integration. More information at <http://karthick.com>.



Rob Rodriguez, MD grew up in the border city of Brownsville, Texas. After Harvard Medical School, Dr. Robert Rodriguez completed an Emergency Medicine residency at UCLA and a critical care fellowship at Stanford. He is a former Department of Emergency Medicine Diversity Director and recipient of the 2013 UCSF Martin Luther King Jr. Award. As a Professor and Associate Chair of Research in the Department of Emergency Medicine at the UCSF School of Medicine, his current research interests include barriers to emergency care for undocumented immigrants.



George W. Rutherford, M.D., is the Salvatore Pablo Lucia Professor of Epidemiology, Preventive Medicine, Pediatrics and History; Head of the Division of Infectious Disease Epidemiology and Vice Chair of the Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics at the University of California, San Francisco. Educated at Stanford University and Duke University School of Medicine, he is board certified in pediatrics and general preventive medicine and public health. He has worked primarily in public health, with a emphasis on the epidemiology and control of communicable diseases, both domestically and internationally. His academic interests focus on the epidemiology and control of infectious diseases of public health importance, and more specifically on HIV infection in low- and middle-income countries. He is

Principal Investigator of a group of cooperative agreements with CDC to support its Center for Global Health and works on projects in Brazil, Croatia, the Dominican Republic, the Eastern Caribbean, Ghana, Haiti, Iran, Kenya, Mozambique, Namibia, Rwanda, South Africa, Tanzania, Uganda, Ukraine, Vietnam and Zambia. Dr. Rutherford serves as an advisor to the World Health Organization, UNAIDS and the Global Fund, is the past chair the American Academy of Pediatrics Section on Epidemiology and was the first Chair of the Department of Veterans Affairs Research Advisory Council. He has served on the Institute of Medicine's Board on the Health of Select Populations and has chaired Institute of Medicine committees on traumatic brain injury in Iraq and the readjustment needs of military personnel and reservists returning from Iraq and Afghanistan and their families.



Jaime Sepulveda, MD, DSc, MPH the Haile T. Debas Distinguished Professor of Global Health, is the Executive Director of the UCSF Institute for Global Health Sciences. A member of the UCSF Chancellor's Cabinet, he leads a team of over 300 faculty and staff. Dr. Sepulveda was a member of the Foundation Leadership Team at the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, where he contributed to increase access to vaccines and other effective health solutions in low-income countries. Sepulveda worked for over two decades in the Mexican government, including Director-General of Epidemiology, Vice-Minister of Health, Dean of the National School of Public Health and Director of the National Institute of Health of Mexico. Sepulveda designed Mexico's Universal Vaccination Program, achieving universal

childhood immunization coverage. He also founded Mexico's National AIDS Council. Sepulveda is an elected member of the National Academy of Medicine and of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.



Jacqueline Torres, Ph.D., M.P.H. is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Epidemiology & Biostatistics. She holds a PhD in Public Health from UCLA, completed post-doctoral training with the Robert Wood Johnson Health & Society Scholars program at UCSF/UC Berkeley, and is an inaugural UCSF Population Health & Health Equity scholar. Her research focuses on the social determinants of health and aging in the context of international migration and the health impacts of policies of exclusion and inclusion for US immigrants and their family and community members across the lifecourse.



Janice Tsoh, PhD is Professor in Residence and a practicing clinical psychologist in the Department of Psychiatry at UCSF. Her research interest centers on developing and testing culturally and linguistically appropriate interventions for reducing cancer health disparities, particularly in tobacco control targeting vulnerable populations. She is a bilingual and bicultural psychologist originally from Hong Kong, China, her research and clinical specialties are in the areas of behavioral medicine and health psychology, and in individual and group cognitive behavioral treatment in diverse populations, including Asian American immigrants. She has extensive training and research experience in questionnaire design, qualitative methods, intervention development, clinical research methodology, and

treatment outcome evaluation. Her current research is funded by NIH and the California Tobacco-Related Disease Research Program (TRDRP), which targets tobacco use among Asian Americans. In addition to leading a current NIDA R01 study testing a family-focused intervention targeting Asian American smokers, she has led or co-led more than 14 smoking cessation clinical trials combining the use of psychological and pharmacological treatments, including interactive multi-media intervention systems targeting smokers with comorbid disorders such as depressive disorders in outpatient psychiatric settings, smokers with substance use disorders in drug treatment settings, pregnant smokers in prenatal care settings, and Asian American smokers in the community and primary care settings. She has extensive experience in developing and testing interactive computerized tailored intervention programs such as the “Pathways-to-Change Expert System” and “Video Doctor” in both clinical and community settings. In summary, she has expertise in designing and implementing culturally and linguistically intervention program targeting multiple Asian American communities on tobacco use reduction and other health related areas. In addition, she has extensive experience in conducting community-based participatory research (CBPR).



Roberto Ariel Vargas, MPH is the Associate Director for Community Health Planning & Policy Development, and Economic Inclusion. Roberto participates in—and sometimes leads—multi-stakeholder health initiatives that provide opportunities for UCSF to leverage its research and science expertise and resources. Roberto also helps disseminate evidence-based practice nationally, leveraging the experiences of UCSF’s research, science and public health partnerships to inform health initiatives broadly. Roberto has focused in recent years on building partnerships for the reduction of cancer and metabolic disease disparities, including in the development of policy, systems and environmental change. He loves this work because he is passionate about health and social equity, sees tremendous value in

partnering academia with community, for the benefit of both, and toward more equitable health outcomes. Roberto’s under-graduate training is in Sociology, Ethnic Studies. His graduate training is in public health, with a focus on community health education and equity, including community-based participatory research. Roberto enjoys traveling and making connections between people and concepts. He stays grounded by way of his family, community and native traditions.



Kate Wood, LCSW, MPH is the Health & Wellness Manager at the International Rescue Committee in Oakland. Kate supports a skilled and passionate team in delivering wellness and case management services to particularly vulnerable refugees, asylees, and immigrants living in the Bay Area. Kate has been in the social work field for 11 years, and has focused her work on alternative wellness services for survivors of trauma, displaced communities, incarcerated individuals, and folks living with HIV. Kate received her MSW and MPH from Boston University in 2013, and is licensed as a Clinical Social worker in both California and Connecticut.